



**Citizens Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**  
**February 22, 2019**  
**Room 326, City/County Building**  
**12:00 p.m.**

**Mission: The CAC exists to provide citizen input into the safety of the citizens of Lewis and Clark County, the efficient and just treatment of defendants and offenders, the protection and healing of victims, and to work toward prevention of crime and the reduction of recidivism.**

**1. Call to Order and Attendance**

Curt Chisholm called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

Members present: Curt Chisholm (Chair), Gene Prendergast, John Wilkinson, Judy Rolfe, Kiley Gage, Marshall Gingery, Mike Mahoney, and Teresa Charlton.

Members excused: Abigail J. St. Lawrence, Gary Mihelish, Moffie Funk, Carolyn Belling, Tom Cordingley, John Lytle, and Theresa Ortega.

Members absent: Kim Leighton.

Others in attendance: Jillian DeAmicis-Danesi, Kate Wandel, Matt Bugni, Melissa Higgins, Jean Steber, Stephanie Ballenger-Brooks, Colleen Kochwar-Baker, Jennifer Preble, Tauna Kultgen, Brandy Vail, Kellie McBride and Gloria Soja.

**2. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the January 25, 2019 meeting could not be approved because there was no quorum.

**3. Membership Update – John Wilkinson**

John Wilkinson recommended that the Council leave the membership at 25 potential members. Gloria Soja will provide an updated membership list and information on attendance.

**4. Dashboard Update on Criminal Justice Services – Kellie McBride**

Kellie McBride reviewed the dashboard update, e-mailed prior to the meeting (and attached to these minutes). Ms. McBride informed the Council that the Standard Operating Procedures for the Pretrial Services Program will be sent to the County Attorney's Office for review.

Ms. McBride shared a couple success stories from the Behavior Health Coordinator.

Ms. McBride also shared that the Healthy Together Steering Committee met to select their priorities for the next three years. The two top priorities are mental health, specifically access and stigma, and early childhood intervention. The Steering Committee will work closely with the Mental Health Local Advisory Council (LAC) to implement the mental health

goals and objectives. Ms. McBride invited the Council to attend the next Healthy Together meeting on Monday, March 4, 2019 from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon at St. Peter's Hospital, and to coordinate efforts with the LAC.

**5. JMI Data Contract Update – Kellie McBride**

Kellie McBride informed the Council that JMI would be presenting their initial draft report on March 6, 2019 from 12 noon to 2:00 pm, at the main floor conference room of the court house. Curt Chisholm reminded the Council that JMI was here because of their efforts, which the Council should be proud of.

**6. Discussion on Mental Health Issues and Specialty Court – Curt Chisholm**

Curt Chisholm gave an overview of the Stepping Up Initiative and expressed the need for the Council to refocus efforts on mental health reform in the criminal justice system. The Council and the various service providers in attendance discussed services available and the need to reduce institutional silos, improve collaborative efforts, and create a system of connection. The mental health service providers for this area of Lewis and Clark County agreed to meet separately after this meeting at the request of Dr. Mihelish to see if they can define and commit to provide a range of services to potentially releasable arrestees under the provision of the Pre-trial services program or the Stepping Up Initiative, and who have mental health service needs in order to successfully and safely be released. Their findings will be provided when completed to the Judges of the courts of initial appearance and subsequently to the district court judges. It is hoped that their findings will fill a void that we suspect is the basis for their reluctance to release some detainees under the provisions of the Pre-trial services and Stepping Up Initiative programs.

**7. Public Comment**

Curt Chisholm shared information, on behalf of Gary Mihelish and NAMI Montana, that Carol Kiver would be speaking about "Overcoming Anxiety & Depression" at Carroll College on Monday, March 18, 2019 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

**8. Next Meeting:      March 29, 2019**

**9. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Minutes approved April 26, 2019.