



Lewis and Clark County
Behavioral Health Local Advisory Council

Tuesday, March 7, 2023 | 11:30am-12:15pm

Minutes / Video Recording

I. **Welcome and New Attendee Introductions** -Brandy

II. **Approval of Minutes from February 7, 2023**-Brandy

Approved by Kayleigh Verhelst-Brown and Dr. Jennifer Preble

III. **15-Minute Spotlight Presentation: Go to [video recording](#) for details**

Addressing Access to Mental Health services through Telehealth

Presenter: Kami Kirchberg, Director of Clinical Outreach, Charlie Health

Key Takeaways: Intensive Day Treatment Program is via Telehealth and available throughout Montana and available in 24 states.

Charlie Health works with adolescent and young adults (age 11-32) in intensive treatment.

Program includes: 1 hour of individual and 1 hour of family therapy weekly, amount other services such as 24/7 crisis care, care coaching and psychiatry med management.

Step down from inpatient, prevention or increased support for intervention beyond a monthly counselor visit.

Continuation with current counselor is encouraged to keep connected and allow a step down for care level.

IV. **City and County Behavioral Health Happenings:**

- **Opioid Settlement Funds** -Pharmaceutical Companies distributing settlement funds to State/Counties/Cities. City of Helena is planning to pool fund with Lewis and Clark County to make a bigger impact. How funds will be used will be worked thru the BHSI Leadership Team and CJS Coalition for need area and present to County Commissioner for approval. Drenda Niemann and Kellie McBride are lead contacts.
- **Several bills pushed thru the Legislature to meet transmittal deadline. Please let group know if any bills on behavioral health we should be aware of.**
- **Firearm safety liability bill SB423 passed Senate Judiciary 2.24-foundation for Suicide Prevention SCM planning. Rep. K. Bogner Transmitted to House on 3.3.23.** Jess H expanded on bill information, and it is a building block for temporarily gun hold and limiting liability in behavioral health crisis.
- **Clarify use of HEART Initiative/Funds for behavioral health crisis stabilization services HB557 passed House on 3.2.23. Rep. Carlson, Rep. Caferro, Lenz, et al. Transmitted to Senate on 3.3.23.** Increasing funding is key to stop any more closures of crisis beds in the state (as recently in news with Western Montana Mental Health Care closing 31 beds across the state due to financial loss of over \$1M) These funds are needed for providers to meet expenses for operations.

- *The Legislative is scheduled to end the first week of May and many bills going thru fast and furious- please check with Legislative Schedule to follow Behavioral Health bills of interest to you. Bills switch from House to Senate and move quickly.*

V. **Public Comments**-Brandy/All

Any events, happenings, comments???

Suicide Prevention Events: *Out of the Darkness Campus Walk, Tri-County Annual Suicide Prevention Event-April 29th for Tabling Outreach/Registration kicks off at 1:30pm at East Helena High School, LOSS Teams recruiting and Informational Sessions-contact Jess for schedule and events for Suicide Prevention at jhegstrom@lccountymt.gov for more information.*

Next Meeting: April 4, 2023 | Spotlight Presenter: Safer Communities Montana (SCM) presented by Tabreez Kara

Reference: Today's Acronym: LAC: Local Advisory Council

988 is the new 3-digit Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Crisis Lifeline in MT-Available 24/7