

MALHEUR COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH, LOCAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG AND DEVELOPMENT DISABILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: August 26, 2020

- **Welcome**

- **Review of meeting minutes**

- There were no changes to the minutes from last month. With no changes Bob D. moved to approve as written this was seconded.

Motion Carries. Minutes approved as presented.

- It was asked of the group if it would be preferred to look at one area on each meeting. Liz advised that the information can be provided in any way the group wishes.
- Another counties strategic plan was distributed as a reference guide. Lifeways' annual strategic plan was also sent out for review.

- **Alcohol and drug prevention and treatment services**

- **Updates/ Review of Services**

Kellie Dickinson provided an update on all services for SUD services at Lifeways.

- Lifeways hosted a victim's impact panel on Aug. 4 at FRCC. It was capped at 20 individuals, there were 14 in attendance. There is another one coming up on Nov 3. It will be offered in person and telehealth.
- Referrals are down about 20% per month from 2019.
- Have started to offer a combination of groups – in person and by telehealth. Have increased groups, are now offering a Spanish MRT group, Friday and Monday morning check in groups. Adolescents – we will be getting this started in next few weeks.
- LRC update on remodel was given. Currently in process of hiring staff. We do have 3 providers that can provide MAT at Ontario clinic. Are working through a follow through with providers to follow the clients through outpatient and back to their county of origin. Goal is to open end of September. It was asked if we are taking referrals, Kellie advised it would be a few weeks before we can begin admissions.

- **Needs**

- A question was asked if there are plans to hire a counselor that can bill private insurance. Lifeways is looking to hire a LCSW that will be able to do this.

- **Priorities**

- Stumbling block to opening is recruitment.

- **Community Mental Health**

- **Updates/ Review of Services**

- Liz Johnsen provided an update to the MH services. A power point was sent to the group for review. More detail on the charts will be provided at the next meeting. This will be broken out by program.
- Brian Wolfe is very interested in the % that are leaving AMA.
- Crisis services were looked at. It was asked if the high % of ED in crisis looks correct. From what Jenn Suzuki is seeing in the schools, it appears correct. They are looking at a Threat Assessment to possibly alleviate this. From a LE standpoint, responses for ED – when a complaint is filed it gets better for a few months. Lifeways has seen a decrease in calls lately. They will call Lifeways only on a mental hold. Lifeways has seen approximately a 15 – 20% decline in calls as of April to present. Brian Wolfe believes this may be due to COVID.

- **Needs**

- Needs are around better referral tracking and management. Better tracking on discharge outcomes, also around crisis and where we offer services. The data presented will be teased and will give more detail going forward. Would like to see on admission form for SUD if client is from jail or sanctioned to be there.

- **Developmental Disabilities**

- **Updates/ Review of Services**

- Leanne Swetland provided an update on DD services. Leanne asked what kind of information this committee wants.
- Melissa Williams would like what kind of services are available for adolescents up to age of 21. How can we get better connected for better information sent out on process of being approved for services?
- For the eligibility part, Lifeways does work side by side with MH services. Referrals do come from MH.
- Topic of PSW assisting with online schooling. This must revolve around the ADA or ADL needs of client. Parents still need to be the teacher at this time, but PSW's can assist with other items of need. There is still talk about expanding this. There are talks with the school system on this.
- Leanne offered to Lifesize with any individuals who are interested in eligibility.
- Leanne is also the licenser and certifier of the foster homes.

- **Needs**

- Need more providers for high need 24-hour residential homes for children. State is currently working on plans to help this grow. Statewide we are having to turn away 50 – 60 children.
- It was asked if there is a need for DD services in the community. A discussion ensued regarding corrections and the need for DD services.

- **Priorities**

- Community education on benefits of home services. Service called host homes – is for children. This involves an agency that provides DD services, such as Witco or Rise, they would develop host homes – would be a family home that would take in 1 – 2 children with high behavioral needs. This was talked about but not tested yet due to COVID.
- Leanne Swetland will be reaching out to the agencies to see if they would be willing to try to develop this. This is for children 18 and under.

- Questions/ Discussion/ Public Comment

- Action Items and Next Steps

- ✓ **Lifeways will bring back more detailed reports.**

- ✓ **Move to add update on schools to agenda**

- Melissa Jacobs has been meeting with Micaela Cathey and Ron Von Ausdal of Lifeways. – Lifeways has agreed to send providers into schools. 5 of the 7 schools. Still working on logistics. Jose Marquez is lead on this. School counselors in buildings will be lead in referral process. Main contact will be school counselors. Melissa Judson will be the contact at the high school. If you need names, please reach out to Melissa. Cairo and May Roberts will not have counselors. May Roberts will be served by Valley Family. This will begin now. Details are still being worked out on which providers will be at the schools. It was discussed that they wanted one person to go to for the locations. If this becomes a sticking point, please reach out to Liz. Ontario is doing all distance learning at this point. Nancy Longoria has been doing some outreach to schools around the county offering services on school grounds. Valley Family will be an LPC – focusing mainly on elementary schools. Her time will be limited in all schools. This is not just for students with Medicaid, but also private insurance.

- Adjourn

With no further business a motion was made to adjourn at 2:45 pm MT. MOTION Carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Cortright
Lifeways Compliance Specialist