

**PIERCE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

3:05 – 4:23 p.m.

July 19, 2021

Members: Chris Ladish, MultiCare
 Dana Orr, Pierce County Aids Foundation
 Danelle Reed, Kwawachee Counseling
 Elizabeth Grasher, JBLM
 Hayley Smith, Metropolitan Development Council
 Jodi Castle, Elevate Health (standing in for Kimberley Bjorn)
 Chief Lauren Wallin, Pierce County Sheriff's Department
 Lovey Offerle, NAMI
 Ronald Brightmon, Recovery Innovations - absent

Non-Voting Chair: Heather Moss, Director, Pierce County Human Services
Members: Dr. Anthony Chen, Director, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department
 Tiffany Speir, City of Lakewood
 Vicky McLaurin, City of Tacoma - absent

Staff: Richard VanCleave, BH Manager, Pierce County Human Services
 Arrika Rayburn, BH Program Specialist, Pierce County Human Services
 Becki Foutz, Administrative Assistant, Pierce County Human Services

Guests: Andrea Kelley, Pierce County Superior Court
 Bill Vetter, Pierce County Council Legislative Analyst
 Elizabeth Hickman, Pierce County District Court
 Jim Friedman, Co-Occurring Disorder Specialist
 Joe Contris, Community Health Plan of WA
 Kristy Lysell, Pierce County Human Services
 Nathan Schumer, Pierce County Council Policy Analyst
 Steve O'Ban, Pierce County Executive's Office

MINUTES

TOPIC/ WHO	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Call to Order/ Welcome	Heather welcomed all to the meeting! She noted that last week Arrika sent the group the meeting agenda, a BH Tax Update PowerPoint, an email from Dr. Chen and the minutes from the last meeting. Heather called the meeting to order. Roll was called.	Welcome!
June Minutes Approval	Lovey moved that the 6/21 minutes be accepted as submitted. Chief Lauren seconded the motion. Heather asked if there were any questions or comments? None. Members voted and the motion was passed.	Minutes of the 6/21 meeting were approved.

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Agenda	Heather reviewed the agenda and asked if anyone had anything to add? No.	
Membership Update – Council Ordinance Adding Two Members	It’s anticipated that the Ordinance to add two additional members to this Board will pass at tomorrow afternoon’s Pierce County Council meeting. Heather asked if there were any questions about this - none.	
Mission Statement	<p>Richard VanCleave is now officially BH Manager! Arrika shared the draft mission statement that was requested at the last meeting:</p> <p>Richard asked the group what they thought about it. Lovey noted that the words happy, healthy and resilient may not accurately describe many individuals with behavioral health issues; they struggle every day. Chris agreed; we need to be sure to include everyone, where they are. The group word smithed the statement together:</p> <p><i>Our mission is to build an equitable, accessible, and coordinated behavioral health system which improves the lives of all Pierce County residents to promote people toward health and resilience.</i></p>	The mission statement will be further word-smithed using Board input. More to come.
Discussion of Dr. Chen’s Concerns	At the last meeting, Dr. Chen voiced concerns re: the limited scope of the Regional System of Care Committee (RSCC) report, thoughts around the initial funding decision and some language in the Ordinance that established this Board. Dr. Chen noted that during the lengthy BH tax process, some excess constraining language was included in the final Ordinance. He hopes that this group can request that the Ordinance be amended. He encouraged the members to read his entire email to see details. From her work at the State, Heather knows that legislators don’t like to revise legislation unless absolutely necessary, so we should be careful about what we request. Heather asked if there were any questions about process. She feels that the RSCC plan does not exclude this group from “going bigger.” Any comments from people who have read the RSCC plan? Tiffany discouraged rewriting the ordinance that established this group - she recommends moving forward and if there’s still an outstanding issue in a year then consider requesting corrections. Any other thoughts and comments? Heather feels that Richard’s presentation will help clarify concerns.	

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<p>BH Tax Program Update</p>	<p>This group has a fairly significant body of work due very soon. Arrika and Richard have been mainly focusing on three important tasks: deciding what current programs to continue funding; setting funding priorities for 2022; and completing the BH Improvement Plan (BHIP).</p> <p>Currently funded programs: (all expire 12/31): \$350,000 Crisis Response/Embedded Social Workers with Pierce County Sheriff \$180,000 Crisis Co-Responder/Pierce County Sheriff \$500,000 Wraparound with Intensive Services (WISe) Program for Youth \$1,000,000 School-Based BH Navigator & Treatment \$275,000 Cohen Veterans Clinic \$148,000 Assisted Outpatient Treatment</p> <p>2022 Spending Priorities: Goal - to strike a balance between making funds available quickly and carefully considering what spending priorities should be Short timeline - if we wait until the BHIP is completed, including getting community input and being approved by Council, could delay funding to March 2022. Heather added that the Ordinance states that the BHIP will be the road map to guide the Board and should be updated every couple of years. Because of budget deadlines, may not be able to await the finalized plan. This is the ramp-up of the group and will be more consistent once established.</p> <p>Option 1 - select spending priorities now to award funds by January Option 2 - select funding priorities after BHIP is finalized to award by March</p> <p>BH Improvement Plan (BHIP) Elements: Narrative section describing existing state and future vision Listing of goals and policies Inventory of known BH programs and services Six-year forecast of BH Relevant performance and outcome measures Narrative describing data access challenges or limitations and who can help mitigate them</p> <p>The 2020 RSCC report will be the starting point for the BHIP - BHAB members and providers will be surveyed to update gaps and strategies.</p> <p>Key Questions for BHAB Does the Board recommend continuing currently funded programs through June 30, 2022? What should the process be for setting funding priorities for 2022: wait until the BHIP is complete or create interim priorities? Does the Board agree with the general process for developing the BHIP?</p>	

TOPIC/WHO	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<p>BH Tax Program Update, continued</p>	<p>The current funding comes to approximately \$2.4 or 2.5M. The new tax is expected to raise \$12M a year.</p> <p>Chris feels that some of the currently funded programs have not had a chance to take a step forward. She would hate to cut them off at the legs. Tiffany agreed; these are brand new programs that were seen as priority and should be kept going. Lovey agreed as well. Elizabeth said it would be great to have some data on the currently funded programs, for example, how many they serve. Chief Wallin pointed out that the co-responder program is extremely vital. It has many different funding sources, all ending at different times. She just found out last week that their three positions were approved, saving the program for unincorporated Pierce County. She volunteered to provide a program on the Co-responder program; they would love to share about it.</p> <p>Dr. Chen asked why the Council specified that Cohen Veterans Clinic be contracted? Do other agencies serve Veterans? Also, he also doesn't see anything earmarked for substance use disorders (SUD) yet. Arrika explained that some currently funded programs do include SUD.</p> <p>Lovey noted that many BH clients fear calling law enforcement. She was happy to learn about the co-responder program and has had them come out to speak at NAMI. She supports funding them through next June. She doesn't feel that the community is aware of them yet. She suggested having the various programs give presentations at future BHAB meetings.</p> <p>Danelle agreed with most of what's been said; she doesn't want to pull the rug out on these programs. She noted that the Tribe has had difficulty accessing WISE. What has each program done to connect with the Tribe? Chief Leschi School needs to be connected; they are the only Tribal school in Pierce County. Heather and Arrika noted that the County would love to work closer with the Tribe.</p>	<p>Heather will get more info and get back to him on that.</p>

TOPIC/WHO	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<p>BH Tax Program Update, continued</p>	<p>What should the process be for setting funding priorities for 2022? The RSCC report lists several needs and partially informed what is currently being funded. Richard plans to reach out to providers and stakeholders with a survey about needs. The Board would then vote on categories and the County would take those categories to the Council for approval. What does the group think of this proposed process?</p> <p>Chris feels that the funding priorities should not be rushed. Hayley suggested a hybrid: continuing current programs and deciding on new ones after the BHIP is completed. Dr. Chen agreed with Chris and Hayley. He explained that the Health Department has been allocating amounts of money to organizations and having them budget it themselves. For example, school districts vote to decide what to do with their TPCHD funding. He noted that if the plan is done by November, there may not be much time for community engagement, so there may need to be an interim BHIP.</p> <p>Richard reported that ultimately there will be a consistent process for allocating funds. When he worked at Kitsap County, they issued RFPs annually, conducted regular site visits, etc.</p> <p>Dr. Chen noted that there may be some infrastructure things that need to be done to create improved access, such as an online referral source.</p> <p>Tiffany suggested a voting member move to continue funding currently funded programs through June 2022. Chief Wallin abstained from voting since her Department provides some of the programs. Chris moved to extend currently funded programs through June 2022. Lovey seconded. Members voted and the motion passed unanimously (with above-mentioned abstaining vote)!</p>	<p>Currently funded programs will be continued through June 2022.</p> <p>A provider /stakeholder survey will be conducted to determine needs; results will be compiled by the next meeting for the Board's review.</p> <p>Arrika and Richard will continue to work on the BHIP.</p>
<p>Good of the Order</p>	<p>Lovey, representing NAMI Pierce County, asked if someone else from NAMI can take her place if she isn't able to make a BHAB meeting?</p>	<p>Richard will find out and report back.</p>

TOPIC/WHO	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Public Comment	The Board hasn't made an official decision about when to incorporate public comment. Richard asked if any of the attendees had comments or questions. Jim Friedman asked if his earlier chat comment had been seen by everyone? Yes. He had suggested focusing on gaps and most in-need populations and noted chemical dependency doesn't appear to be addressed and needs to be. Homeless issues require outreach with specialists/case managers with multiple skill sets.	If members chat to Everyone and not just Panelists, attendees may see the chat. Attendees may also chat.
Homework!	Please send Arrika and/or Richard suggestions of who should receive the provider/stakeholder survey.	Please send Arrika or Richard suggestions on who to include in the survey.
Adjournment	Chief Wallin moved to close the meeting and Chris Ladish seconded. The meeting adjourned.	

The next *Behavioral Health Advisory Board* meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 16, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becki Foutz
 Administrative Assistant

From Tiffany Speir to All Panelists: 02:59 PM

Apologies - I have no camera today

From Arrika Rayburn to All Panelists: 03:00 PM

No problem, Tiffany

From Dana Orr to All Panelists: 03:03 PM

Hi!

From Lauren Wallin (Pierce Co Sheriff Dept) to All Panelists: 03:03 PM

I just backpacked in the Olympics over the weekend. 50 degrees was the daytime HIGH!

From Danelle Reed to All Panelists: 03:06 PM

BRB - pup needs out (sorry)

From Elizabeth Grasher to All Panelists: 03:14 PM

Agree we could take that section out

From Danelle Reed to All Panelists: 03:14 PM

Supports those seeking to build ...

From Hayley Smith to All Panelists: 03:14 PM

aims to assist people in building happy, healthy, and resilient lives...

From Elizabeth Grasher to All Panelists: 03:15 PM

I think take happy out

From Jodi Castle to All Panelists: 03:15 PM

"and supports individual and community health and resiliency?"

From Joe Contris-CHPW to All Panelists: 03:16 PM

Not a voting member but shorter is better; remove " to build phrase through people"

From Chris Ladish to All Panelists: 03:16 PM

How about "toward health, positive coping, and resilience by providing...."

From Danelle Reed to All Panelists: 03:17 PM

@Chris I like that

From Lauren Wallin (Pierce Co Sheriff Dept) to All Panelists: 03:18 PM

If this helps, here is our mission statement at the Sheriff's Department: "Our mission is to protect life and property, to uphold rights, and to work in partnership to build strong, safe communities."

From Dana Orr to All Panelists: 03:18 PM

accessible is what I lean towards.

As someone who utilizes these systems holy heck do they not feel accessible.

From Danelle Reed to All Panelists: 03:18 PM

BRB - pup needs back in :)

From Dana Orr to All Panelists: 03:19 PM

You got it!

From Anthony Chen to All Panelists: 03:19 PM

TPCHD mission statement: "to protect and improve the health of all people and places in Pierce County"

From Danelle Reed to All Panelists: 03:25 PM

Agree!! on looking at full scope of the system

From Lauren Wallin (Pierce Co Sheriff Dept) to All Panelists: 03:34 PM

The \$350,000 for funding three of our Crisis Responders is pass-through funds from Trueblood and set to end in June of 2022. We have three additional regional Crisis Responders that are funded through grants from WASPC that also end in June of 2022. Only three of our nine Crisis Responders that are funded long-term by the county.

From Elizabeth Hickman to All Panelists: 03:40 PM

you are cutting out, can you say the estimated amount of revenue again please

From Dana Orr to All Panelists: 03:44 PM

can we get that information? That data?

From Chris Ladish to All Panelists: 03:44 PM

Outcome data metrics or summary highlights from all?

From Dana Orr to All Panelists: 03:45 PM

I agree. Asking for the metrics needed for funding and not reinventing the wheel for reporting "success"

From Chris Ladish to All Panelists: 03:45 PM

Could also ask, "how will another 6 months of funding impact each program?"

From Arrika Rayburn to All Panelists: 03:47 PM

Chris, that's a great idea. I think this is particularly pertinent for the WISe program.

From Jim Friedman to Everyone: 03:47 PM

what is being funded is a good start and they need time to develop and evaluate. May I also suggest there be a focus on gaps and most in need populations.. Chemical dependency is not addressed and needs to be; homeless issues require approaches that include outreach with specialists/case managers with multiple skill sets.

From Elizabeth Grasher to All Panelists: 03:54 PM

Lauren I don't see a way to PM you alone but can I have your contact information to reach out? I think a discussion in Steilacoom may be worth while? Thans

*thanks

From Chris Ladish to All Panelists: 03:55 PM

Could ask for a 6 month plan for continued funding with specific detail to a) supporting the tribes, b) serving other underserved groups, c) capturing and quantifying data -- what can we expect at end of 2021 to review, etc.

From Danelle Reed to All Panelists: 03:55 PM

@Chris... yes!

From Chris Ladish to All Panelists: 04:03 PM

Want to also be respectful of previous processes as there have been multiple past surveys, public testimony, etc. and some input already exists. Like a hybrid model and releasing some funds early as an option.

From Lovey Offerle to All Panelists: 04:08 PM

I agree with Chris..

From Dana Orr to All Panelists: 04:14 PM

lol- I had a dentist apnt so no video for me for chipmunk face

It may be weird for those like myself- whos an individual.