

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

3:00 – 3:56 p.m.

April 18, 2022

Members: Cameron Birk, Absolute Ministries - absent
 Chris Ladish, MultiCare
 Dana Orr, Pierce County Aids Foundation - absent
 Danelle Reed, Kwawachee Counseling
 Elizabeth Grasher, JBLM
 Hayley Smith, Metropolitan Development Council
 Jeannie Larberg, Whole Child Counselor Services
 Kimberley Bjorn, Elevate Health
 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
 Taffi Wheeldon, Program Specialist, Pierce County Human Services
 Becki Foutz, Administrative Assistant, Pierce County Human Services

Guests: Elizabeth Allen, TPCHD, Joe Contris, Community Health Plan of WA, Andrea Kelley, Pierce County Superior Court, Andy Rohr, Jessica Alvestad, L Graves, Carla Clyde, Marcella Taylor

MINUTES

TOPIC/ WHO	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Call to Order/ Welcome	Heather welcomed all!	Welcome!
February Minutes Approval	Heather asked if there were any questions or comments about last month's meeting minutes? Tiffany moved that the minutes of the 2/14 meeting be accepted as presented. Chris seconded the motion. The motion passed.	Minutes of the 2/14 meeting were approved as presented.

TOPIC/WHO	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<p>Update on RFP Review Process, Discussion and Vote- Richard VanCleave and Group</p>	<p>Richard provided an update on the RFP process and timeline. The RFP was released on February 7 and closed on March 11. BHAB members scored 32 applications. Interviews were conducted on April 4 and 5. \$30M in requests for the 18-month, \$18M budget were received.</p> <p>Factors considered: answers to application questions; applicant interviews; how well the proposals matched funding targets and unmet needs identified in the BHIP; and strengthening the BH network in Pierce County through supporting a variety of provider types and agency sizes.</p> <p>Recommendations are not a guarantee of funding and do not reflect a final decision – they go to the County Council for approval. Many proposals requested funding for multiple portions of their programs. Final decisions regarding which expenses the BH tax will fund will be determined during the contract negotiation process. Whether a contract is awarded is contingent upon the negotiation process and a fiscal risk analysis.</p> <p>Richard presented the recommendations and briefly described programs.</p> <p>24 programs are recommended, covering all six of the core funding targets: Prevention and Community Education/Early Intervention (9); Outpatient & Community Based Services (19); Crisis & Inpatient Services (4); Services for Justice Involved (7) and Housing Supports (4). Other considerations include: Peer Services Component (4); Family Supports (13); Children/Youth (11); School-Based (2); Veterans (2); Pregnant or Parenting (2), Adult Svcs (19, Cultural/Equity Focus (5).</p> <p>Next steps: Notification letters, Initial discussions around statements of work and metrics worksheets, County Council review and approval.</p> <p>Heather noted that there were eight other applications that did not reach the review committee; they were either late or didn't meet qualifications.</p> <p>Chief Wallin thanked everyone on the review committee and gave them Kudos for their hard work. Heather opened for public comment. Andrea Kelley expressed her excitement for a number of these programs to move forward.</p> <p>Chris moved and Kimberley seconded to approve the recommendations as presented.</p>	<p>Thank you to the scoring team!</p> <p>Recommendations are included at the end of these notes.</p> <p>Motion carried; the recommendations will move forward to the County Council for their approval.</p>

TOPIC/WHO	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Announcement – Heather Moss	Arrika has had her baby and mother and baby are well!	Great news!
Workforce Study RFP	<p>The Pierce County Council included in the budget funding for a BH Workforce Study. An RFP was issued, to find an organization to provide guidance on workforce issues and determine how many providers and counselors are needed. No responsive applications have been received. Dr. Chen noted that there are large wait lists; do we feel that what’s been done is still relevant in our current setting? Richard noted that the State is focused on apprenticeships, etc., and doesn’t apply much to BH. The issue is lack of adequate payment from insurance companies, and managed care organizations. Providers are not paid well enough to attract staff. It’s a statewide legislative initiative. We must be able to show an assessment of what the need is here in Pierce County, otherwise it’s anecdotal. Dr. Chen asked the providers who are participating if there’s an idea of how many, systemwide, are not getting the services they need. Chris Ladish said if people get into services in less than 10 weeks, that’s considered really good. We need to come up with a model that can take people sooner, possibly by graduating people out, etc. Elizabeth Grasher added that she’s found that providers providing services for cash only is increasing; providers don’t want to work with insurance companies. DBHR studies have shown that the number one reason for wait lists is that providers can’t hire enough staff. There aren’t clear definitions of adequacy by the state. Dr. Chen noted that it’s a problem with how the contract is defined. Richard added that there are some issues around BH parity, with diagnoses and session lengths being challenged. Insurance companies have even called families to see if the issues are correct, which would be unheard of in physical health. Dr. Chen noted that we need to determine how long it takes to get into services, get some numbers and divide by providers. If the RFP is reissued, the focus will be on getting it to providers who would be able to conduct this level of analysis. Heather asked the group to please spread the word to their networks, if the RFP is reissued.</p>	More to come.
Community Partner Updates	Lovey reported that NAMI has a MH Community Art Project that they started for the first year. They have selected nine Pierce County artists, ages ranging from 15 to 68, who have conveyed their MH journey stories via art. An Open House will be held; the artists will also be featured during May, which is Mental Health month, via an online gallery. How do we get a proclamation for May as Mental Health month?	Heather asked Lovey to follow up with Richard.

TOPIC/WHO	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Community Partner Updates, continued	<p>Kim has left her position at Elevate Health; she remains on the Board representing rural areas of Pierce County. She'll be working with Consejo as a clinical social worker, and she also has a private practice. She will continue to guest-host the Elevate Health podcast!</p> <p>Chris Ladish reported that funds have been released to support Kids MH Pierce County; it will be managed by the HCA; with four sites and three more to open in subsequent years. It's a testimony to how amazing Pierce County is!</p> <p>Jeannie did a shout-out for MH Month; Sumner School District is putting on its first Youth and Family MH Forum at Sumner High School on May 23, including a panel of community psychologists and social workers. Puyallup, Orting, White River and Dieringer school districts will be invited as well. Jeannie's looking forward to a fabulous evening of celebration, increasing awareness and destigmatizing!</p>	Informational
Good of the Order	<p>Heather invited public comment.</p> <p>Chris expressed her gratitude for all who put effort into submitting proposals.</p> <p>Heather thanked them as well; it was a big lift. Now time for the Board to tackle more difficult issues in our BH system. Richard will need Board members to support providers.</p>	More to come.
Adjournment	<p>Heather thanked everyone for their time! The meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.</p>	Thank you!

The next *Behavioral Health Advisory Board* meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 20, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becki Foutz
 Administrative Assistant

Organization	Project	BHAB Recommended Funding
PC Sheriff	Co-Responder Program	\$2,561,192
Seneca FOA	Pierce County Wraparound with Intensive Services (WISE)	\$2,350,376
Greater Lakes Mental Healthcare	Jail Diversion Program	\$1,837,626
Comprehensive Life Resources – School Connect	School Connect	\$1,773,833
Mary Bridge Children's Hospital	Mary Bridge Children's YES Pierce County	\$1,407,528
Valley Cities Counseling and Consultation	The Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic	\$1,300,000
Asian Counseling Treatment Services	Outpatient & Community Based Services	\$796,014
Seneca FOA	Pierce County Therapeutic Case Management	\$762,834
Pierce County Alliance	Wrap Around Mental Health Court	\$683,206
Perinatal Support Washington	Parent Resilience Program-Pierce County Expansion	\$628,250
Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department	Teen Mental Health First Aid	\$600,000
Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department	Nurse Family Partnership	\$560,400
Lutheran Community Services	Culturally Attuned Counseling for Humanitarian Immigrants	\$450,000
Pierce County Alliance	Family Recovery Court Treatment	\$443,435
Behavior Bridges	Preventing BH Crises for Autism and Developmental Disabilities ...	\$400,000
Comprehensive Life Resources – AOT	Assisted Outpatient Treatment	\$350,000

Organization	Project	BHAB Recommended Funding
Comprehensive Life Resources – BHSS Pilot Program	Behavioral Health Shelter Service	\$350,000
Community Health Care	Integrated Behavioral Health Program Expansion	\$324,352
Asia Pacific Cultural Center	AAPI Mental Health Community Education & Mental Health Vouchers	\$273,829
Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department	Racial Equity and Justice Behavioral Health Education and Training	\$260,000
Horses Guiding Humans Foundation	Healing with the Herd	\$250,000
Catholic Community Services	Outreach & Relationships	\$231,816
Lucid Living	Peer-Run Recovery Supports	\$186,785
Communities in Schools of Lakewood	Lakewood Youth Wellness Project	\$181,976
Multicultural Child and Family Hope Center	Expanded Therapeutic Court Services	\$137,243
For The Culture Counseling Center	Prevention & Intervention	\$0
Metropolitan Development Council	Community Mobile Crisis Team and Youth Safe Center	\$0
Metropolitan Development Council	Community Based Outpatient Services Team	\$0
Pathways of WA	Supported Strategies to Success	\$0
Ideal Option	Pierce County SUD Treatment Outreach & Expansion	\$0
Comprehensive Life Resources – HYPE Center	HYPE Center (Helping Young People Excel)	\$0
Sound Integrated Health	Mobile MAT Project	\$0

Chat from 4/18/22 BH Advisory Board Meeting

From Hayley Smith to Everyone 03:02 PM

Can you transfer me to the other meeting?

From Taffi Wheeldon to All Panelists 03:05 PM

I am not a panelist - just FYI

From Danelle Reed, PhD (she/her) to All Panelists 03:26 PM

Hands up to all the volunteers!! \o/ Thank you 😊

From Kimberley Bjorn to All Panelists 03:50 PM

Thank you Chris and Heather. I appreciate your kind words.

From Jeannie Larberg, Phd to Everyone 03:56 PM

Thank you!