

BENTON-FRANKLIN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes | March 9, 2023

Call to Order: 2:00 PM

Introduction of Members: All voting and non-voting members introduced themselves.

Approval of January 12, 2023, and February 9, 2023, Minutes: The committee members reviewed the January 12, 2023 and February 9, 2023 committee meeting minutes. BJ Olson moved to approve both minutes as presented, Carla Prock seconded. Minutes approved.

Public Comment: None.

Discussion Items:

1. Report on Trip to Spokane to Review Behavioral Health Facilities:

A group from the committee went to Spokane to get an overview of provided services, challenges, and facility lay-out of their behavioral health facilities. Two facilities were visited.

- a. STARS-Spokane Treatment and Recovery Services
 - i. Basic facility-mat on the floor, concrete room, easily cleaned
 - ii. Staffing is a 7 to 1 ratio where no meds are administered
 - iii. Reimbursement is on an hourly rate
 - iv. Main goal is to get these people off the streets for at least 23 hours and hopefully on to the next step of either a SUD assessment or into a withdrawal management service
- b. Spokane County Crisis Stabilization Unit
 - i. Simplistic but efficiently ran facility-basic, clean, open concept. It's set up like an ED with the nurse's station at the hub.
 - ii. Provide 3 levels of service-Crisis Stabilization Unit (16 beds), Withdrawal Management Unit (14 beds), and a 28-day In-patient Program (16 beds)
 - iii. Reimbursements attained through MCOs
- c. The group was impressed with the facilities. They felt the stabilization unit facility was a good model to look at for future reference, and the 23 hour sobering services would be something attainable now since this type of service has less requirements and licensing demands.

2. RFP Discussion-path forward:

Two RFP proposals/letter of interest were received. One being Aristo Healthcare Services and Three Rivers Therapy LLC. In order to expand the provider pool, Matt suggested reaching out to those providers who would be interested in the administrative side of the deal such as Pioneer, RI, and Comprehensive.

- a. Have the interested providers fine tune their proposals
- b. Have a small group from the committee reach out to the providers' references
- c. **Motion:** Chad Michael moved and Sindi Saunders seconded to have the Board of County Commissioners move forward with the proposals for Aristo and Comprehensive and to make a recommendation. Motion carried.
- d. **Motion:** Becky Grohs moved and Jason Bliss seconded creating a sobering services work group. Motion carried.

- e. Those interested in joining the sobering services work group contact Chad or Bob.
- f. Matt and some of the committee met with United Family Center. They may be interested in facilitating sobering services. They have a facility that could be converted with low brick and mortar costs, lower licensing costs, and less intensive. This would be a good starter service that could potentially be transitioned to the permanent facility or operate separately.
- g. Goal is for the permanent facility to be a one stop shop for behavioral health needs.

Public Comment:

1. Jim, Kennewick City Council, would like for our communities to come together and address the growing homelessness problem.
2. Britney mentioned legislation, Senate bill 5120, regarding the 23-hour crisis stabilization and that it will be a costly service to prop up.

Other Business:

1. Becky and Joel were unsuccessful in their meeting with the telemedicine behavioral health provider, Eleanor Health. They will be reaching out to additional telemedicine providers to get a better idea of their capabilities and availability for around the clock acute needs and prescribing ability.
2. Matt mentioned that United Family Center may be a provider to reach out to. They may be interested in that type of service.

Adjourned: 3:07 PM