

# BENTON-FRANKLIN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April 11, 2024

2:00 PM

Benton County Commissioners Meeting Room  
7122 Okanogan Place – Suite E303  
Kennewick, WA 99336

## Agenda

- Call to Order
- Introduction of Members
- Approval of Minutes from 03/14/2024 meeting
- Public Comment
- Discussion Items
  - Timeline on Deliverables for the next 12-24 months
  - Sobering Center – **updates**
  - Substance Use Disorder Service Sub-Committee – **updates**
  - Mental Health Services Sub-Committee – **updates**
  - Communications Sub-Committee – **updates**
  - Behavioral Health Workforce Development Sub-Committee – **updates**
- Public Comment
- Other Business
- Adjournment

**Benton-Franklin Behavioral Health Advisory Committee**  
Matt Rasmussen, Benton County Deputy Administrator  
[Matt.Rasmussen@co.benton.wa.us](mailto:Matt.Rasmussen@co.benton.wa.us) | 509-786-5600  
[www.BentonCountyWa.gov](http://www.BentonCountyWa.gov) | [www.co.franklin.wa.us](http://www.co.franklin.wa.us)



# BENTON-FRANKLIN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes | March 14, 2024

**Call to Order:** 2:00 PM

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

**Voting Members:** BJ Olson, Kim Lettrick, Jason Bliss, Brian Ace, Kevin Crowley, Mauricio Gomez (alternate for Franklin County - Hospital Rep), Becky Grohs, Mat Clarke (alternate for Benton County - Law Enforcement), John Roach

**Non-voting Members:** Matt Rasmussen, Carla Prock, Kyle Sullivan, Jason Valentine (alternate for Franklin County), Michele Gerber, Ryan Washburn

**Virtual:** Angie Manterola

**Approval of Minutes from February 8, 2024:** The committee members all reviewed the February 8, 2024, committee meeting minutes. Jason Bliss moved to approve the minutes as presented. Becky Grohs seconded. Minutes were approved.

**Public Comment:** No Public Comments

## **Discussion Items:**

### **1. Recovery Center Updates – M. Rasmussen**

- a. Validation phase progress continues
  - i. Detailed engineering analysis underway of the preferred space we wish to occupy.
  - ii. Schematic level floor plans – toward the end of March
  - iii. Solidify the guaranteed maximum price (not to exceed a certain dollar amount).
    1. Any reduction in the estimated costs will be put toward “betterments.”
  - iv. Demolition work – end of the summer
- b. \$1.5 million Direct Appropriation – final state budget heading toward Governor’s office
- c. **Question:** K. Crowley – what phase is the engineering and architectural plans involving?
  - i. First four programs; Crisis Relief Center, Crisis Stabilization Unit, Secure Withdrawal Management (Detox), Residential Treatment Facility
- d. **Question:** B. Grohs – where will the advisory board be supporting the Counties in the building of the structure, or in the programs within the building?
  - i. After initial layout, can bring they layout back for input.
    1. Construction phase is constrained on options.
    2. Will work with Comprehensive and executive team closely.
  - ii. The committee will help more so with building out how the programming will look with Comprehensive. Ensuring what gets presented is ultimately what the community wants to see.

- e. **Question:** B. Ace – Potentially, answers will be on a future agenda:
  - i. Timeline or estimate on deliverables for the next 12-24 months?
    - Yes, can present an simplified timeline from what we receive.
  - ii. Expenses (to operate) vs. Revenue (that comes in), can we get a presentation?
    - Comprehensive will need to know the layout first before their costs can be presented to us.

## 2. Substance Use Disorder Service Sub-Committee – B. Grohs

- a. Suggest further discussion around funding for peer support specialists.
  - i. Operating dollars be used to hire/train/deploy peer support specialists.
  - ii. Engage patients, help navigate toward recovery.
  - iii. RFP for a pilot
  - iv. ED's in Spokane, outpatient is deploying a peer support specialist daily.
- b. **Comment:** M. Gomez – program already called the PathFinding program.
  - i. Papers he can share, outreach program.
  - ii. Partnering closely with the Fire Depts (navigator program)
  - iii. Need is greater than ability.
- c. **Comment:** C. Prock – Other Counties have similar programs but even more in-depth with the EDs, linkage to care
- d. **Question:** M. Rasmussen – how is it different or related to Merit Resources/Navigator Program/Field Responder Program?
  - i. Fire Dept – focused on those that overuse resources.
  - ii. CJTA – version based, (Jails, but also in community)
    - 1. All kind of doing the same thing, just different entities
    - 2. One or two navigators are in custodies trying to outreach there.
  - iii. Might not need to create something new, just need to partner and see how we can expand.
- e. **Comment:** B. Grohs – looking primarily into the emergency departments
  - i. Mauricio's program, potentially station someone in the EDs.
  - ii. Fire Depts are trying to do this already to some degree.
- f. **Question:** K. Sullivan – is the program in Spokane funded by grant/public dollars? Or is it billable?
  - i. Funds can be used for basic needs (bus passes, etc).
  - ii. Using operating dollars, not reimbursable unless its also using another service
- g. **Question:** M. Gerber – isn't there a funding moratorium in place?
  - i. County Commissioners still can make a decision whether or not the Committee recommends.
- h. **Question:** B. Ace – is there a logic map (picture of who does what currently)?
  - i. Not an existing map
  - ii. Asset Inventory concept
  - iii. Merit program is growing exponentially - State funded.
  - iv. SIM mapping – April 2<sup>nd</sup> at KPD – Senator Newhouse funded.
    - 1. Will be attended by people who have knowledge in each program.
      - Behavioral Health in general, not just substance

2. Ultimate Goal: What do we have, what services are offered, who pays for it, where are the gaps.
  - i. **Question:** B. Grohs – Can an outcome of the SIM mapping report be added to the Agenda at some point?
    - i. Probably a report in May
3. **Mental Health Services Sub-Committee** – updates
  - a. No updates
4. **Communications Sub-Committee – J. Roach**
  - a. Will be with Glenn to do Radio interviews in April and May
  - b. KONA, weekly radio cast
    - i. Anything related to this that you are interested in or want to share with the communities, reach out to Glenn Vaagen.
  - c. Breakfast was one of the better communication outreaches so far for this project.
    - i. \$112,000 was made in just over an hour for the Recovery Coalition.
5. **Behavioral Health Workforce Development Sub-Committee – J. Roach**
  - a. Checked in with Doug Hughes – waiting to hear back.
  - b. Doug Hughes will be guest speaker at the Recovery Coalition, March 19th.

**Public Comment:** No public comments.

**Other Business:**

1. **M. Rasmussen** – update on Opioid Related settlement (WA state)
  - a. Going through paperwork process to make sure we receive the County's portion.
  - b. Cities will be getting a portion as well.
  - c. Single lump-sum payment for this settlement.
  - d. Interlocal agreements have been circulated for pooling funds together so the dollars will be spent and directed toward operation for the Recovery Center. Stay tuned!
    - i. Richland, Kennewick are both interested.
    - ii. Pasco might be interested.
    - iii. Benton County will be spending the money there.
    - iv. Will reach out to Franklin County again.
2. **M. Gerber** – State legislature has passed several bills (5 or 6 new ones)
  - a. Requiring ALL schools to have Naloxone
  - b. Tightening up on discharge criteria for inpatients
  - c. Warning labels on high potency THC products
3. **J. Bliss** – Conversation about revisiting the restrictive covenants for the new center (with LifePoint)
  - a. **M. Rasmussen** - Will follow up with Lee, David, and Mark; work on proposal.
  - b. The goal is to not have people fall through the gaps.
4. **B. Grohs** – Any update on sobering services?
  - a. **M. Gomez** – Proposal submitted a month ago to Franklin County (Mike) to meet with Mark.
  - b. Current plan is Franklin County would pay, but Benton County would reimburse.
    - i. Separate agreement between the two Counties will be created.

- c. **K. Crowley** – Changes in RFP for Sobering Center – money (700k → 800k-1mil)
    - i. **M. Gomez** – Transportation to the Emergency Room
      - f. Pathfinder, working together to move people around.
    - ii. Market for salaries is increasing as well, cost increase to be aligned with salaries
  - d. **K. Sullivan** – Cost per value of the service, identifying how big that need is for each service
    - i. When inpatient is turned up, detox will increase as well.
    - ii. **C. Prock** – Health District tracks that and can get the numbers
  - e. **BJ Olson** – Is the projected \$1mil the base costs? Or would that fluctuate?
    - i. **M. Gomez** – Can ask CFO
    - ii. Request an updated from Franklin County for the next meeting.
5. **M. Gerber** – Recovery Coalition offering a series of classes on May 7<sup>th</sup> for 10 weeks.
- a. For families of people in addiction (Will take the first 30 people that sign up).
  - b. Free to participants (Grant was received from Premera)
  - c. Professional Therapist leading

**Adjourned:** [2:50PM]