

Mental Health Local Advisory Council

December 13, 2023

Called to order at 1405.

Attendance: Melinda Banks, Meagan Poe, Alex Larson, Mary Ellen Schnur, Stephanie Michaelson, Christina Hartmann, Ruby Taylor

Public Comments

Minutes from October 11, 2023, Minutes approved by Mary Ellen Schnur and seconded by Stephanie Michaelson

Financial Report: No changes. Total account balance of \$3,804.61

Sherriff's Report: not present

Victim's Advocate Report: not present

Townsend Public School Report: K-8 counselor has been hired. Many students are struggling with mental health. There is an increase in suicidal ideation and an increase in family concerns. They are seeing an increase in split homes and concerns stemming from that situation. There are not enough mental health professionals in the community to assist with the increase. Thoughts on parenting classes/groups? Teen peer-to-peer programs? Divorce support groups? Different online options?

Public Health Report: Meagan's working on tri-county crisis response grant from MHCF. Had a meeting last week with Jefferson County and Lewis and Clark County. Still pending Many Rivers getting into Broadwater County. New Deputy County Attorney reviewing contract to get finalized and signed. Doing a hygiene presentation with 5th grade and handwashing presentation with kindergarteners next week.

Prevention Specialist Report: Seeking more funding. Working with the school on setting up grades 7-12 sign-up for Montana prevention needs assessment.

Lewis and Clark County Public Health-received lethal means grant and can provide trainings at no cost for suicide prevention and other mental health.

Social Services Committee received town pump grant to help fund mental health training.

Family Promise Report: not present

Adjourned at 1430

Next meeting January 10, 2024 at 1400

Minutes Prepared by Meagan Poe


