

Meeting Minutes
Community Supports Sub-Committee Meeting
Department of Family and Community Services Large Conference Room
Old City Hall; 5th Floor; Room 504
400 Marquette NW
July 10, 2018 from 5:00-7:00pm

1. Attendance

Members Present

Kathy Finch, Chair
Verner Westerberg
Melissa Beery
John Schoeppner
Robin Connell
Laura Tuzinowski
Dr. Paul Hopkins

Technical Advisors

None

Members Excused

Nancy Jo Archer, Vice-Chair
Hanson Scott

Staff Members Present

Cathy Imburgia for Ellen Braden, COA
Sun Vega BHI Advisor; Hyde & Associates
Alex Tonigan, UNM/ISR (via phone)
Joelle Jacobs, BernCo

2. Call to Order

Chair Kathy Finch called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm

Discussion to Approve Minutes

John made a motion and seconded by Laura to approve the June minutes.

Discussion to Approve Agenda

The Agenda was approved with one addition – an update of the June 21 Steering Committee. Kathy reported:

Mobile Crisis Teams – In the first month, ABQ and BernCo had 500 calls. Only one case went to jail. There was good diversion.

CET is not being utilized as much yet. UNM is going to start referring their released patients.

Supportive Housing – A proposal for transitional vouchers up to \$1 million was approved.

3. Key Items of Discussion

A. Old Business

Provider Incentives Proposal

Discussions included the following comments from subcommittee members on the updated version:

Vernon – Finds this proposal “insulting.” He is not convinced. The proposal is not specific enough about the importance and reasons why it is needed. As written, he is “absolutely opposed to it.” His specific concerns include:

- Are we talking about BH, MH, SUD? Which one? Used interchangeably.
- No evidence that there is more “bang for the buck” versus funding other services like case management, etc.
- What about patient outcomes? The measures are bad.
- Is short-term recruitment what we want? What about converting to long-term treatment.
- Is it FQHCs or county-based centers? “I’d like to see services in the South Valley, not the North Side of the Valley, but I live there.”
- Do we need more providers? There are other ways to address gaps.

Kathy – Agreed with Vernon and noted that the “Landscape of Behavioral Health” report seems to demonstrate some value. She suggested that the author come to the next meeting to hear our concerns.

John – There is no data that shows that there is a shortage of prescriptive authority. If we are subsidizing prescribers, we need to know current capacity, need, use, and access. The proposal is not specific enough to county needs.

Paul – Disclosed that he is on the board of First Choice and, therefore, would recuse himself from voting on this proposal. He noted that First Choice is always trying to expand suboxone and prescribers on staff. He has heard that there is difficulty recruiting physicians; but is not clear that there is a problem with hiring mid-level prescribers. He added:

- What loan repayments are currently being offered to prescribing providers at First Choice and UNM?
- First Choice is currently to 6 pm.
- Paul wants to hear from the First Choice medical director. He sits on the committee that keeps expanding credentials and privileges at First Choice. He indicated that First Choice could at least provide data to the author.
- A new clinic is being built in the South Valley near the movie theater at Coors/Rio Bravo.
- While the subcommittee is supportive on needing more access, the need for this proposal is “really puzzling” and currently not supported by data.
- How does this loan repayment compare to other programs?

Robin – This is the third meeting we have had and still have the same questions based on this revised version.

Alex – Share the concern of including more meaningful outcomes.

Note: Scanned copies of Vernon’s and Kathy’s comments are included as attachments with the minutes.

ACTION: Paul agreed to follow up with Dr. Will Kauffman, the Medical Director at First Choice, to further identify need from their perspective.

ACTION: Joelle to confirm author’s schedule to attend next meeting, tentatively planned for 7/31/18 for early review if needed; otherwise 8/14/18.

B. New Business

None

4. Public Comment

No Public Comment.

5. Announcements and Miscellaneous

None

6. Next Meeting and Adjourn

The next meeting for Community Supports is tentatively scheduled for **July 31, 2018, 2018 at 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm** and **will be held at the Department of Family and Community Services Large Conference Room Old City Hall; 5th Floor; Room 504; 400 Marquette NW.**

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.