

Yakima County Human Services
BHSUD Coalition
MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The **April 22, 2024** BHSUD Coalition Meeting came to order at **3:00pm**.

INTRODUCTIONS

Members present: Commissioner Linde (Yakima County), Kyle Schaefer (Lived Experience), Annette Rodriguez (YNHS), Rod Myers (Lived Experience), Lori B (Comm. Member),

Zoom: Erika Ochoa (YHD), John Schlenske (Comp. Healthcare), Lynda Boggess (MultiCare), Mary O'Brien (YVFWC), Megan Tweedy (Comm. Member), Renee Kollman (TTS), Angel Bazan (Nami Yakima), Deniele Fleming (YVCC), Elizabeth (Comm. Member)

Human Services staff present:

Melissa Holm, Esther Magasis, Deann Bergquist, Ivan Orozco, Lance Larsen

*If you don't see your name or your organization name here, please email Deann at Deann.Bergquist@co.yakima.wa.us

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of minutes

Approval of Minutes: March 25, 2024 BHSUD Coalition Meeting.

Jeremy Welch moved to approve the minutes from the March 25, 2024, BHSUD Coalition Meeting. Ken Braconnier seconded. No one abstained/denied. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

*Custody
Protect/4Sight
Labs*

Esther Magasis reviewed the topic with the group with a summary of what had happened at the last meeting. Melissa Holm asked the group for any input or questions. One topic that led to a discussion is around Fentanyl and the problems it is causing including deaths in jails, apartments and on the street. Preventing overdose is the goal of the action being taken. The wristband tool is intended to keep those incarcerated individuals from dying and to reduce liability to the county from more deaths.

Commissioner Linde spoke to the current concerns with a lack of prosecutors and public defenders, as well as the benefits of a bill that went to the legislature that was set to create a fund to pay for three things: create an internship for public services attorneys (defense and prosecution); a training program for public services attorneys (defense and prosecution); a tuition reimbursement program for attorneys going into public service. The first two passed unanimously but the legislature struck down the tuition reimbursement component.

Questions from the chat focused on Data Storage, anecdotal and case studies, and a demonstration of how law enforcement will be trained were discussed with the group. The wristbands are a relatively new tool intended to be a better solution to improve oversite of the growing numbers of incarcerated sick individuals. The goal of using this tool is to reduce or eliminate the number of deaths during the time individuals are incarcerated. The cost of the lawsuits due to deaths in the jails will

far outweigh the cost of the program implementation and ongoing maintenance. The group also wondered about the data for the number of deaths from overdoses and data on substance use related issues for those incarcerated.

Action: Melissa will work with Director Welch to get the links for the wristband monitoring data privacy laws RCWs, the data on the costs of the wrongful death lawsuits filed over the last two years and the deaths and prevention data from the DOC to be included in the email with the minutes. – Update, Research found limited information outside of what was already shared with the group.

When medical intervention is needed, it will be handled in a similar manner to what they are currently doing. In addition, officers will have electronic monitoring via a cell phone or iPad attached to their hip as they work the floors. If an alert goes off, communication via radio with the medical team including specific details will occur, and the medical team will respond to do an assessment and determine if transport to the hospital is needed.

The K-nine Unit has a new drug sniffing dog, and the dog has successfully located drugs twice in the jail so far. They will be partnering with other agencies like the Sunnyside Police Dept. and potentially some of the school districts soon to coordinate more searches. The next steps for the wristbands will be to develop a resolution and to go through the Board of County Commissioners process and start putting the wristbands into use.

RFI Submissions Presentation

Esther reviewed the Request for Information (RFI) on the Opiate Settlement Fund (OSF) dollars, the OSF Allowable Uses and agency applications and briefly explained the RFI process. Below is the link for the RFI details:

https://www.canva.com/design/DAGB9HyujW8/SJybzmdTTmZQRONR86RAKg/view?utm_content=DAGB9HyujW8&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=editor

There was discussion between the coalition members regarding the wristbands. The RFI Submission Summaries included the following 12 agency applications: Educational Service District 105, Triumph Treatment Services, Comprehensive Healthcare, MultiCare Yakima Memorial Hospital, St. Michael's Mission, Northwest Communities Education Center, Yakima County Department of Corrections, Community Health Central Washington, Supporting the Community in Recovery Fund at YVCF, Chad's Legacy Project, NAMI Yakima, and ODMAP Safe Yakima Valley. Once an RFP is released, this group will have the opportunity to provide input, based on the priorities identified by this group will be used to help create some of the questions for scoring. Both the development of the grants and the scoring will be based on feedback provided from this group. Commissioner Linde spoke to the emergency situation that brought us to this decision on the implementing the wristbands. He explained how the opiate funding has different payouts over varied time frames and this was the first use of those funds.

The top three BHSUD Priorities were reviewed by Melissa, and she explained these will be back on the agenda for future meetings. They include:

1. Increase in supportive housing availability with wrap-around services,

including BH/SUD, medical, and dental

2. Medical detox
3. 24/7 warm handoffs between providers, LE, and other partners engaging with people in crisis

Action: The link to the RFI will be sent out to the group with the minutes.

Action: Follow up on this for /Chad's Legacy Project (website traffic data was requested) it is not limited to local traffic and could be anyone from anywhere accessing the site- what are the resources and what is useful.

No Wrong Door

Bill HB 2642

Melissa touched on this and said that Cassidy Leslie will lead a discussion on this at the next meeting.

Tabled to next meeting

DATE: June 3, 2024

Location: Hybrid Zoom and In Person at Yakima County Resource Center

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at **4:41pm**.

Next Meeting

Adjourn