

Yakima County Human Services
BHSUD Coalition
MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The **August 26, 2024** BHSUD Coalition meeting came to order at **3:00pm**.

INTRODUCTIONS

Members present: Rick Glenn (City of Yakima), Megan Tweedy (Comm. Member), Rod Myers (Lived Experience), Cassidy Leslie (TTS), Ken Braconnier (Comp. Healthcare), Commissioner Linde (YC), Preston Hopkins (Lived Experience), Paul Schneider (Comm. Member), David Elofson (Comm. Member), Whitney Gregory (Comp. Healthcare)

Zoom: Dr. Karen Trujilo (Comm. Member), Jazlin Perez (YC), Jeremy Welch (DOC), Meagan Takamori (BC), Annette Rodriguez (YNHS), Sherran Campos (NCAC), Linda Boggess (MultiCare), Angela Bazan (Nami)

Human Services staff present:

Melissa Holm, Deann Bergquist, Lance Larsen, Juan Castaneda

*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: July 22, 2024 BH SUD Coalition Meeting.

Megan Tweedy moved to approve the minutes from the July 22, 2024, BHSUD Coalition Meeting. Ken Braconnier seconded. No one abstained/denied. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Prevention,
Treatment and
Recovery RFP 2024

Cassidy Leslie discussed the priorities the group recently established: Medical Detox, 24/7 Warm Handoffs, and a service that would provide a full continuum of care with services that would include in-patient and out-patient care, detox, supportive housing, medical and dental. Some of these might be happening further down the line and we should consider looking at what providers are doing across the state.

Melissa Holm mentioned Director Welch regarding the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) approved monitoring bracelets for the jail. Commissioner Linde explained that although the bracelets were paid for out of the Opioid Settlement Fund, the intention is that next year and moving forward, the on-going costs for the monitoring bracelet program will be paid for out of the Mental Health Salse Tax fund.

Rick Glenn addressed the safety concerns for those that are homeless in the City of Yakima. He wants to find a safe place for them to get off the streets and put more emphasis on getting rid of the drug dealers.

Melissa reviewed the three main criteria for Programs that wish to apply for the RFP. Commissioner Linde discussed what gaps that exist for education and prevention, as the focus of the Mental Health Sales Tax dollars went mostly to treatment and recovery options. He explained that moving forward, more emphasis will be placed on education and prevention. She went over the Timeline, Anticipated Budget Approximately \$350,000 each year for three years total. A brief explanation on the budget was provided by Lance Larsen, including when and in what amounts the RFP dollars will be released. The details of the RFP release date will be announced by email to the BHSUD Coalition and with the Homeless Housing and Assistance as well as on

the county website, which is set to occur on Monday, September 23, 2024, which is the same date as our next meeting. Commissioner Linde mentioned that there may be a scoring committee to get community input, but that has not yet been determined. However, he intends to take it to the BOCC.

There was some discussion regarding the True Blood Funds and how this works. Jeremy Welch spoke on the jail and DCR projects and the related funding from the state for the True Blood Funds that has been discussed. He said they only learned two days prior to the expiration date that the funding would be applied to these programs for another year. Additionally, he has also heard that both the DCR and Jail programs may be funded permanently, but this has not yet been confirmed. Ken Braconnier mentioned that the funds in True Blood are specific about their use. Many in the group expressed some frustration that they don't know how the use of this funding will be allowed.

Megan Tweedy asked if moving forward, after the RFP and then the next meeting where we resolve this, then what? Basically, she was asking what the group will be doing after this piece has been completed. Melissa clarified what has been happening and how we can get to the "one thing" that the group can work on to completion. She explained the importance of Commissioner Linde's consistent participation and support of this group, and how he is making it possible for this RFP to potentially have a scoring committee involved in the process. Opioid use prevention is Megan's focus, and she thanked Commissioner Linde for mentioning the importance of addressing funding to help fight the Opioid epidemic.

Action Item: Melissa will send updates out on when Commissioner Linde has additional information on the scoring committee, on the RFP on the Opioid Settlement Funds and any other information relevant to this group.

Next Meeting

DATE: **September 23, 2024**

Adjourn

Location: Hybrid Zoom and In Person at Yakima County Resource Center Room A
With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at **4:02pm**.