

Behavioral Health Unit Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2015

Committee Members

*Lt. Tashia Hager, PPB; Sgt. Bob McCormick, PPB; *Sgt. Chris Burley, PPB; Ofc. Amy Bruner-Dehnert, PPB; Emily Rochon, PPB SCT; Shannon Pullen, National Alliance on Mental Illness; Bill Osborne, Multnomah County Behavioral Health; Cristina Nieves, Commissioner Fritz's Office; Felesia Otis, Volunteers of America; Floyd Pittman, Community Representative; Jan Friedman, Disability Rights Oregon; *Joe Hagedorn, Metropolitan Public Defender's Office; Kathleen Roy, Central City Concern; Beth Epps, Cascadia; Maggie Bennington-Davis, Health Share of OR; *Cpt. Mary Lindstrand, Multnomah County Sheriff's Office; *Mike Morris, Oregon Health Authority Addictions and Mental Health Division; *Melanie Payne, Bureau Of Emergency Communications; *Hiroshi Takeo, Peer Support Specialist

Guests: Mary Claire Buckley, PPB; Adrian Brown, US Attorney's Office

[* Indicates Committee Member was absent]

Updates & Notes

The BHU presented at and participated in a three-day regional CIT conference in Vancouver, WA. The training was well received with over 200 people in attendance at the conference. Shannon Pullen, Chair of the BHUAC, and Cindy Hackett, a clinician from one of the BHRT teams, both received awards in recognition of their contributions to CIT work. While Shannon was honored to be awarded, she wanted to say that everyone involved, including this committee, deserves recognition for their hard work and dedication. She pointed out that we were all making a difference and impact not just in Portland but across the country.

The committee agreed to meet on Wednesday, December 2nd as a replacement to the regularly scheduled November and December meeting days that would fall on or near major holidays.

Committee members were encouraged to participate in a Ride Along with an officer and directed to email Lt. Tashia Hager to make arrangements.

August Minutes & Monthly Report

The July report missed the recommendations that were voted on at the meeting. There was a copy and paste mistake and will be amended. Beth Epps voted to amend the July report to reflect the recommendations made at the July meeting. Floyd Pittman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

M/S/P

The August minutes will be posted on the BHU website once approved. There needs to be a change in the 4th paragraph on open meeting laws and the date of the meeting needs to change from the 30th to the 23rd. Kathleen Roy made a motion to approve the August minutes with the suggested changes. Floyd seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Behavioral Health Unit Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2015

M/S/P

The August report does not have any changes. Felesia Otis moved to approve the August report. Bill Osborne seconded the motion. The motion passed.

M/S/P

ECIT Training

There are a lot of groups who are interested in observing the ECIT training: BHUAC, DOJ, COCL and the COAB. In order to accommodate the needs and interests of those groups as well as balance the need to create a safe and comfortable training environment, Lt. Hager recommended the following:

- 1) There will be (1) one representative from the 4 groups allowed to observe the training at any given time. (This is mainly to do with space.)
- 2) The observer must be early to allow themselves time to get into the building. If the observer is late they will not be allowed to enter the building. Depending on what we are teaching they could potentially miss the entire session.
- 3) There will only be two times an observer can check in. One for the morning session and one for the afternoon session. An observer does not have to stay the entire session however a new observer will not be able to check in to take their place.
- 4) Observers are there to observe, not to participate in the class (either by comments or questions). All comments and questions can be routed back through the entity the observer is there representing.

Training is working on a protocol to observe training at the facility. This may impact this basic plan but should be fairly accurate. Shannon recommended BHUAC members should review the curriculum and determine if there is a day that would be of greatest interest. She also suggested we give priority to new members who have not yet observed any of the two previous ECIT trainings. Finally, she asked members to review their calendars and come prepared to sign up for one of the eight available slots for training observation at the October meeting.

Officer Amy Bruner-Dehnert gave a presentation on the upcoming ECIT Training in November. She provided the committee a draft schedule for the 4 days of training. This training curriculum is the product of the collaboration between the PPB BHU, PPB Training Division and the BHUAC over the last two years. It includes all the recommendations from this committee prior to and following the past two ECIT trainings. In addition, it includes new recommendations based on the Technical Letter of Assistance from the DOJ. Officer Bruner-Dehnert noted new items suggested from this committee and the DOJ to this year's training include: "Overview of Mental Health Diagnoses" and "Trauma Informed Care" and adding more community partners as trainers or co-trainers with PPB staff.

Behavioral Health Unit Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2015

Officer Bruner-Dehnert reviewed each day and talked about the architecture of the training. She also explained how the BHU and Training Division have incorporated the BHUAC's recommendation for a variety of training formats to meet different learning styles and avoid having officers sitting statically for long periods of time. For example, the critical scenario-based portion of the training will take place on Day Four using the information learned through the first three days. Day 3 with Troy King and community partner Lines for Life will contain communication exercises in the afternoon as preparation for the role playing in the full scenarios the next day. The first two "classroom" days are broken up with peer and family panels as well as site visits to mental health organizations. The goal is to have as much interactive activity each day as possible so that officers are not just sitting in the classroom and listening to information.

The committee had a discussion about the importance of providing officers what they need to be successful. A member suggested that self-knowledge, self-management and self-care should be included. The committee had a discussion about whether or not these topics would be covered in the class on Trauma Informed Care. After a robust discussion, the committee wanted to make sure these topics were addressed.

Beth Epps made a motion that the topics of Self-knowledge, Self-Management and Self-Care are included as part of the content in the Trauma Informed Care class. Jan Friedman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

M/S/P

The issue of cultural competency came up and committee members were told this topic will be part of the Advanced Academy next year. The committee discussed how topics of importance that were not in the curriculum as classes could be included in the content of the training scenarios. For example, a scenario could include a person with a co-occurring diagnosis, someone with a language barrier, someone who is a non-English speaker or a juvenile. Family engagement could also be addressed. Officer Bruner-Dehnert informed the committee that many if not all of the suggested scenario topics were already included.

The committee also discussed how mental health issues can present differently at different ages.

Beth Epps motioned that the ECIT training include information on how mental health presents in different age groups. Kathleen Roy seconded the motion. The motion passed.

M/S/P

Jan Friedman motioned that one of the scenario formats include someone with a mental health and developmental disability. Cristina Nieves seconded. The motion passed.

M/S/P

Behavioral Health Unit Advisory Committee

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There was a broader discussion on how there are still gaps in the system that are not police-based. A committee member asked if officers have what they need to support families where no hold/no hospitalization takes place yet the situation remains difficult for the family. Officer Bruner-Dehnert suggested we need to train officers to link to Project Respond and other groups like NAMI for support. Another member pointed out there is a major gap between the people's needs and the actual system and how frustrating it can be to facilitate their loved one's care. There are not any or enough ACT teams or respite beds. It was suggested that the community doesn't seem to have a ton of outreach to families in crisis. The DOJ is also working with the State on more services that should happen before the situation or crisis is at the level where the police are involved. The committee was encouraged to come back to this subject at a later time. It has been focused on the police side of the issue but to get real results, it was suggested that the committee think on how it can effect change elsewhere in the system and not avoid working on the problem because it seems so large.

Next Up:

The next BHUAC Meeting will take place on October 28th at 2:00 pm at the Portland Police Bureau's Central Precinct, 11th Floor BHU Meeting Room