



Present: Morgan Linder, Doug Logan, Martha Lanman, Samantha Bowen, Susann Bassham, Meghan DeBolt, Peggy Needham, Shelby Paulsen, Amy Osterman, Jessalyn W Bruce, Kara Breymeyer, Ruben Peralta, Susan Leathers, Catherine Veninga, Mary Cleveland, Luis Rosales, Mike Denny, Katherine Boehm, Chris Zagelow, Liz McDevitt (phone), David Lopez (phone)

Welcome

- Morgan started the meeting at approximately 2:00 pm
- The purpose of the meeting is to review the CHIP and get all the information we need to produce a final draft. We are also hearing updates about what is happening related to each CHIP priority area to help with the selection of priorities for the Community Health Fund and creating of a CHIP implementation plan.

Community Health Improvement Plan

- Morgan gave an overview of the CHIP draft. The draft is shorter than years past because it is a more generalized process overview and the bulk of the actual plan will come after the identified groups (Council on Housing, Early Learning Coalition, new Behavioral Health structure) have compiled strategies to address each priority area.
- Meghan mentioned that there has been discussion over whether or not to include Blue Zones in the CHIP. We are not including it at this time, but because the CHIP is a living doc Blue Zones can be added later if Walla Walla becomes a Blue Zones community.
- Morgan will send out a word doc following this meeting so that BMRCHP members can give feedback about the CHIP. We are looking for general corrections and for whether or not the CHIP is accurate regarding the process BMRCHP has undergone and the future plans mentioned.
- Representatives for each priority area gave an overview of the current activities, future activities, funding available, and needs for their identified priority
 - Samantha Bowen presented on Early Learning including the activities of the Early Learning Coalition. Her presentation can be found on the BMRCHP's website.
 - Walla Walla was selected for a technical assistance grant for the purpose of becoming an Early Learning Community.
 - Meghan DeBolt spoke about Behavioral Health and the plans for a Behavioral Health Network and the Behavioral Health Council. Her handout outlining these structures can be found on the BMRCHP's website.
 - The new structure for the Behavioral Health Council and Behavioral Health Network is intended to address the siloed, scattered system of care currently in the community. The county is technically responsible for the Behavioral Health System and is working on forming a Behavioral Health Planning team to decide what is needed. This group is using the same process that was used in the creation of the Council on Housing. The goal is to produce a thoughtful plan to reduce "lag" in addressing issues and have a community that is well-informed about resources with a platform to meet the community's needs. Walla Walla has a well-funded behavioral health system, but there is a "cap" and a need for better integration of services. New groups intend to use information from the CHIP to drive local allocation of funding. Behavioral Health will be the last CHIP priority to add



- specific strategies with short-term goals forming in 2019 and long-term goals forming later.
- Meghan was asked if there are advocacy groups already in existence. There are several groups that do advocacy as part of their work, but there is a need for a thoughtful, streamlined approach.
 - Ruben mentioned that GCACH hired a project manager to work on issues related to opioids
 - Sierra Knutson spoke about Housing including the creation of the Council on Housing. She addressed the Walla Walla Housing Market Analysis which can be found on the BMRCHP's website.
 - Walla Walla is the worst-ranked county in Washington for affordable housing. She referenced the Executive Summary from the 2017 Walla Walla Housing Market Analysis.
 - Walla Walla needs about 200 additional units
 - The vacancy rate is less than 2% (not specific to low-income)
 - Walla Walla is generally aware that there is an affordable housing problem. College Place would support a tax initiative to help address this, Walla Walla might support an initiative, and Waitsburg and Prescott would not support such a tax initiative.
 - The Council on Housing will have its initial meeting at the end of January. It is intended to align efforts through a strategic process to address housing-related challenges. The Council will update the 5-Year Plan and have strategies broken down by each individual year.
 - Catherine Veninga mentioned that Community Council is currently doing a study on Affordable Housing which is ending soon. From the study, they will generate a set of recommendations to be distributed to the Council on Housing in June to be used in the creation of their plans.

Consumer Voice Survey

- Morgan gave an update on the progress of the Consumer Voice Survey. There have been 36 responses so far and there are collection times scheduled for the days following this meeting. There are also surveys being distributed by providers throughout the community.
- Ruben gave an update about the Community Health Fund Initiative. Kittitas is signing for funding this week, SEWA has identified priorities and is in the process of writing the scope and metrics for projects. Gathering the Consumer Voice is important this step should be completed as soon as possible, but gathering useful information from the Consumer is more important than rushing to spend the funding for this project. Once survey distribution is complete we will move on to writing a scope and metrics for our Third Party Administrator (Blue Mountain Community Foundation).

Charter Review and Discussion

- The charter will be discussed at the next BMRCHP meeting in the interest of time. We will be discussing it to determine if it still aligns with the purpose and activities of the BMRCHP. Morgan will send out the current charter and a template to provide feedback before the next BMRCHP meeting.



Announcements

- Ruben gave an update about the LHIN contract. GCACH has completed the updated LHIN contract for the year and will be presenting it at the next board meeting. The only deliverable left for the year is Proof of Financial Stability. Changes for the 2019 contract include funds to encourage LHIN participants and leaders to attend training opportunities and funds to sponsor events from organizations not currently receiving funding from GCACH.
- Jess gave an update about the Blue Zones site visit scheduled for January 21-23. Handouts were available and more information and registration for events is available at go.bluezonesproject.com/wallawallarsvp or you can contact Jess at jwaring@co.walla-walla.wa.us

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:00 pm

SAVE THE DATE

Next Meeting

Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Walla Walla County Training Room

314 W. Main, Second Floor

Walla Walla, WA 99362