



**Whatcom County Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (BHAC)
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date/Time/Location: April 18, 2021 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Virtual Zoom Webinar

Members Present: Chris Phillips, Dave Reynolds, Nick Evans, Susan Wood, Wendy Jones, Perry Mowery

Members Absent: Bill Elfo, Dac Jamison, Michael Massanari, Mullane Harrington, Todd Donovan

Health Depart Staff/Guests: Jackie Mitchell, Ann Beck, Malora Christensen, Joe Fuller, Dean Wight, Robin Willins, Amy Harley / Chris Furman

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action/Who
1. Welcome, Introductions and Announcements	The meeting was called to order. A quorum was present.	Chris
2. Approve Minutes of January 2022	Dave moved to approve the January 2022 minutes as presented. Wendy seconded the motion. The committee voted and the motion passed.	Vote to approve minutes: Ayes 6, Nays 0,
3. Health Department Staffing Update	Malora introduced herself as the manager of the Response Systems Division. GRACE and LEAD are operating under the Health Department with all of the same staff, and LEAD will be expanding by three new positions through funds from the Healthcare Authority. Perry, Jackie, and Mental Health Court staff will also be moving over to the Response System Division because of all of the overlap with the legal system, and Prevention will stay under Human Services. There will likely be more restructuring between the two divisions over time. There will be additional programs funded by state, BH-ASO, and local dollars that will also be coming in under the Response Systems Division.	Malora

4. County Boards and Committees	<p>Malora acknowledged that concerns about the role of the committee advising on Behavioral Health Funds have been heard, and that there will be more clear direction for boards and committees as we start to revisit the strategic plan. Perry added that he took the minutes and survey results from the previous meeting and discussed with Erika. Susan asked about a timeline, and Perry said he will take responsibility to find out more information and relay that to committee members. Ann and Malora answered clarifying questions about Health Department structure.</p>	<p>Malora, Perry, Ann</p>
5. Sequential Intercept Gaps Analysis	<p>A Behavioral Health Gap Analysis Group was formed as a component of the larger community Justice Project that originated in 2019. The project was recently reestablished, and the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) developed in 2020 is under review. The SIM is a uniform way to show the different points that people who have behavioral or mental disorders come in contact with the criminal justice system. The task of the Analysis Group was to update 2020 SIM by identifying 1) current programs, 2) existing programs that are needing resources, 3) programs that are not in existence but needed in the community, and 4) associated costs. Committee members were encouraged to email to Jackie with suggestions for the SIM and she will share with the Analysis Group at their weekly meeting. Nick provided feedback about the need for a single access point to behavioral health services and Malora responded with detail on some efforts, including products created for law enforcement, discussions with community organizations, alternative response teams, and 9-8-8. Chris asked a question about Intercept 4, Wendy and Jackie clarified. This new version of the SIM will be finalized in June.</p>	<p>Perry</p>
6. Healthy Youth Survey Results	<p>Joe shared results from the Whatcom County Healthy Youth Survey. In the past, the survey has been administered every other year on even years to grades 6, 8, 10, and 12. Due to COVID, the survey was not administered in 2020, and there is a new cohort of youth who participated in 2021. 5,581 Whatcom County youth in all seven school districts participated in the survey and answered questions relating to tobacco, alcohol, and marijuana use, mental health status, bullying, and adverse childhood experiences. Joe reviewed several charts displaying the data and answered questions from the committee.</p>	<p>Joe</p>
7. Public Comment	<p>There was no public comment.</p>	<p>Chris</p>
Next Meeting:	<p>July 11, 2022 3:30-5:00 Virtual</p>	