

January 20, 2015 MINUTES FOR THE VALLEY COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH LAC

Present: Melanie Fisher (Mental Health Center), Pamela Dance (Glasgow Clinic), Bruce Peterson (Valley County Commissioner), Jenny Chalmers (Action for Eastern MT), Shelly Romo, Pam Lee (FMDH), and Antonia Klein (Community Program Officer) via speaker phone.

Minutes from the October 21, 2014 meeting were read. Melanie made a motion to approve these as read; seconded by Pamela Dance; carried.

Melanie reviewed the various mental health offices in NE MT and how each is staffed. Many of the employees cover more than one office. Glasgow is fortunate as we have two behavioral health staff members at the Glasgow Clinic in addition to our NE MT Mental Health Center. Many of these professionals are working on additional certifications and licensures that will benefit our community. Telemedicine is also used to connect patients to other professionals and Dr Rausche comes to Glasgow from Billings for pediatric evaluations. It was noted that Dr Swarney will be leaving Glendive in June and moving to another location in the state.

Bruce informed us of HBs 33, 34 and 35 that focus on creating stable funding sources to build new local mental health care crisis centers, add secure psychiatric detention beds and help with short-term voluntary mental health treatment. Also talked about the potential funds for mental health from the Medicaid expansion possibility.

Community Program Officer report: Antonia informed us that there would be a Mental Health 1st Aid class in Miles City on April 28th from 8am-5pm at the college. There will be two in Billings this coming week. There will be an ASSIST training in September in Miles City.

Melanie informed us of a suicide loss support group facilitator training that will be held in Glasgow at FMDH on April 4th from 8am-5pm. This is being put on by Mental Health of America out of Billings. There will be a Safe Talk session the evening before to train attendees to become suicide alert helpers.

The next ESAA Board meeting is on January 27, 2015. The next LAC meeting will be on April 21, 2015 at 12 Noon in the South Wing conference room (old Board Room) at FMDH.

Submitted by: Pam Lee, RN