

October 21, 2014 MINUTES FOR THE VALLEY COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH LAC

Present: Colleen Forrester (NCILS), Melanie Fisher (Mental Health Center), Pamela Dance (FMDH), Pam Lee (FMDH), Antonia Klein (Community Program Officer) via speaker phone, and Vern Buerkle (Valley Co Sheriff's Office) who came in at the end of the meeting.

The Mental Health Local Advisory Council met on October 21, 2014 at 12 Noon in the South Wing conference room at FMDH. A motion was made by Pam Lee to accept the minutes from the July 15, 2014 after the corrections had been made; seconded by Melanie; carried.

The Mental Health First Aid training held September 22nd at FMDH was a success. 55 people from a diverse cross-section of the community attended. We will look into having another session next September. Discussion was also held on having a similar training that would focus on children's issues. Antonia gave a name of a contact in Billings to pursue this. Perhaps this could be co-sponsored with Youth Dynamics.

There is now a new nurse practitioner at the Mental Health Center. Melinda Truesdell is a board certified psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner who comes to Glasgow about one and a half days every two weeks. She is based out of Miles City.

Colleen announced that the FMDH Health Fair is November 8th. Colleen will be able to have some literature there on mental health issues at her table.

Antonia reported on her various activities, including attendance at a recent vocational rehab conference. Grant funding may be available for the eastern part of the state to assist those with mental health disorders in the work force.

Colleen informed us that Esther Kramer from Scobey who has been so active in the LACs of eastern MT has relocated to Utah to be nearer family and medical services.

Vern Buerkle told us that he was at a meeting in Sidney recently that was set up to discuss the various issues associated with the Bakken. He was able to talk with the Lieutenant Governor of the need for some type of mental health facility in the eastern part of the state. He said that it costs the county about \$12,000 from the time a person is brought in to the hospital until they can be transported to Warm Springs by local law enforcement officers. Roosevelt County had been taking people to ND, but noted that court orders are not in effect once the state line is crossed so a patient can just asked to be let out of the vehicle.

Next ESAA Board meeting is on October 28, 2014. The next LAC meeting will be on January 20, 2015 at 12 Noon in the South Wing conference room (old Board Room) at FMDH.

Submitted by: Pam Lee, RN

