



## Meeting Minutes

December 13, 2022

**Attending:** Carol Hartman, Holly Peterson, Javier Zimbron, Blake White, Worth Liipfert

**Not Attending:** Linda Hoffman (She unsuccessfully attempted several times to connect virtually), Thom Hale

**Visitor:** Audra Antonacci-Ogden

- I. Meeting was called to order at 5:18pm (Technical problems for virtual meeting led to a late start).
- II. Minutes from August Board Meeting were reviewed approved (Oct meeting was cancelled).
- III. Director's Report was reviewed, and Steve highlighted reviewed (Full Report enclosed):

### Highlights:

#### A. Personnel Update:

- three vacancies:
  1. Peer for Bluffton
  2. Financial Coordinator- Beaufort
  3. Prevention Specialist for Project Mariposa (must be bilingual)- Bluffton
- Three new positions soon to be advertised:
  1. MAT Coordinator
  2. Counselor for Detention Center
  3. Peer for the ED

#### B. Financial Update:

- Department has been approved for \$296,000 to do Opiate abatement activities through the SC Opiate Relief Fund.
- A request to balance the Peer Budget was submitted to DAODAS, since expenditures will exceed the grant provided. An additional \$26k for \$26k has been submitted.
- A HOPS Budget for \$46k is expected any day to enhance indigent care.
- The E&R demonstrates we are living within our means.

- Keeping up with all the financial deliverables has been difficult, in view of the vacant Financial Coordinators position, and the state requesting duplicate reporting in both their new Grants Management System, and the former system.
- Budget season for FY 24 kicked off last week. No capital improvements, vehicles, or new positions will be requested.
- Steve indicated he was struggling with an actual vs accrual-based process of accounting. Therefore, he has plans to work with the Operations department to change the accounting methodology for E&R Reports.

### C. Project Updates/New Projects:

- **Grants-** The has no pending grants. However, the grant writing team visited and reviewed five potential grants with me. Two have promise. Community stakeholder and collaboration meetings have commenced. However, the BCADAD Capacity Expansion will take priority.
- Steve also indicated a Drug Free Community Grant would be written in the Spring.
- **First Responder Grant-**
  - Over 750 citizens have been trained in the use of Narcan by the team.
  - A new Coordinator, Sarah Holbach, started in November.
  - A new Peer, Thomas McMahon, started on 12/12/2022. He has a master's degree in counseling and is retired from the railroad industry. He was in their EAP services.
  - The new location for the First Responder Team is at the Green Street Gym.
- **Dual Diagnosis Capability in Addiction Treatment (DDCAT)-** The report was received. Given the timing of the report and other projects in development, this project is shelved until May 2023.
- **School Services-** The BCSD requested assistance with nicotine and vaping. The department responded by the director doing a listening session with all principals and school administration. Afterwards the following action:
- Requesting a meeting with the director of social work, Right Choices, and nursing. A meeting is schedule on January 13<sup>th</sup> at 10am to determine:
  - a. Mutual Roles
  - b. Additional referral protocols

The BCADAD has already obtained additional training for an Adolescent Counselor in the American Lung Association's NOT. Program development is underway.
- The Right Choices Program is underutilized. As a result of concerns with the underutilization, the department has requested a meeting with school

administration. Currently less than 25% of the students at Right Choices with an AOD have been referred. The full-time counselor's productivity suffers as a result, and so do the performance deliverables to the funder.

- **Accreditation-** The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities will be at BCADAD to do their review in April/May. No specific date yet known.
- **MAT Expansion-** South Carolina Opiate Response Fund (SCORF) board funds will be expected any day. The request for funds was made and approved by the SCORF Board on 12/08/2022.
- **Other SCORF Funds-** The county deferred the management of the opiate settlement funds to the BCADAD. A public notice of funding opportunity was sent out to the community to submit plans to assist in opiate abatement strategies for up to \$1 million in increments of \$100k, \$50k, or \$25k per year for two years. There were seven letters of intent received. The following plan will follow:
  1. Applications will be submitted in a portal by January 24<sup>th</sup>.
  2. Applications will be reviewed by *external* grant reviewers and completed by February 14<sup>th</sup>
  3. The county will review the projects recommended by the grant reviewers and make a final tally on the awards to be announced.
  4. On a date TBD awardee's will be invited to an awards event with a talking head. Press will be invited.
  5. The awarded plans plus continuation of the capacity expansion positions will be the foundation for Beaufort SCORF funds for the next two years.

#### **D. Prevention Updates:**

- Multiple Narcan giveaway events occurred. Most recently, Narcan and other prevention literature were given away at World's Aids Day on Dec 1, 2022
- Take Back the Meds Day earlier in the fall had less medications received. It is speculated that the multiple medication drop boxes and Detera Bags given away could have impacted those numbers.
- Merry Mocktail events are happening at both the County Administration and the Bluffton Government Centers in December.
- Multiple Girl's Circle groups (ongoing) have been provided to 5 different schools in Beaufort County this fall.

#### **E. Clinical Operations:**

- **Census** 259 patients
- **New Translation Service.** Services for groups can be scheduled, and virtual assistance on demand is available. This will eliminate the need for a consultant to translate.

- **ADSAP** has a bilingual male to do ADSAP courses without the need for a translator.
- **Peer Support** is offered to ALL MAT Patients at the onset of treatment. Other patients can have the service, as appropriate. The Peer will be conducting Aftercare Services, which is a new service
- **727 patients** projected to be served in FY23. 670 served in FY21. That is a **+8.50 percentage of change.**

IV. The 2023 Board Meeting Schedule- Audra recommended getting input from the board on possible meetings face-to-face in Bluffton. Steve presented a draft to the board with three meetings virtual, one in the Beaufort County Administration's Executive Conference Room, and two meetings at the Bluffton Library. The board voted unanimously to adopt. **Action:** Steve to send out the schedule.

V. Questions, comments, and Concerns:

- Blake asked questions about what the difference between a Peer and a Counselor was. Steve explained.
- Javier expressed some concerns for a lack of consistency with IOP hours and the census. Steve indicated some possible explanations for some of it but committed to following up with the Treatment Director to get more information.
- Discussion continued about community support for the jails and prison by some of the board members. It was mutually agreed that the detention center is short staffed and cannot accommodate as many supportive services in the jail for now. Steve expressed optimism regarding the position he hoped to have in the jail soon to be helping with addiction issues.

**Adjourned: 6pm.**

Respectfully submitted: swd