

MINUTES: 1/2/22 SUICIDE PREVENTION TASK FORCE

7:30 - 8:30 AM

In person at Public Health and Online with Zoom

Co-Chairs: Matthew Daniels and Aaron Preece

Present:

Aaron Preece, Counselor, High Country Behavioral Health

Randy Belton, Priest Associate, St. Andrew's; Veterans organizations; Business; Lion's

Carolyn Normington, Counselor, Pinedale Middle School

Cassie Crumpton, Coordinator, Sublette Treatment Court

Shaun Stone, Recovery Community and Business

Bill Lehr, Marbleton Senior Center Board

Matthew Daniels, Business, My Satisfied Soul, faith community

Trisha Scott, Coalition Coordinator

Meeting notes:

Starting in February, this group will meet at St. Andrew's Church at 12 noon on the first Monday of the month and include lunch. Future meetings will be held at St. Andrew's Church, lower level.

Access to MH services: Aaron reported that High Country has a new therapist starting this month who will see clients in Pinedale and also 1 day a week at the Marbleton Clinic.

Title 25 numbers decreased by half in 2021: What is the cause of the decrease? Aaron mentioned that the clinic became the "Gatekeepers" or final stop for a Title 25 process a year ago and that may have had an impact on the numbers. Trisha will reach out to Kari DeWitt to start the info gathering process so we know if that is a factor in the 50% decrease. Matthew asked if it might be possible that community members are better trained and aware and get people to help before crisis develops.

Discussion on use of MH fund for inpatient psychiatric treatment and for substance

abuse treatment and costs: Team agreed with current practice that MH funds go into effect after all agency (HCBH, TBT, EIRMC) funding is exhausted, when funding inpatient costs.

Team agreed that any discussion about a community safety net approach to those on probation for substance abuse would require input from the state and county probation agents. Example was given of any costs (gas, vehicle) that may be a barrier to the person being able to fulfill court/probation requirements such as keeping a full time job. Team agreed that understanding how to be a community safety net for people on probation will be a case by case process and possibly a "Board" decision to take the weight of the decision off of Randy and Melinda. Team was mindful that accountability requirements are a part of treatment and rehab and all authority lies with the court.

Shaun advised that it is important to identify people who have no support system coming out of inpatient treatment. They may need extra help. Cassie spoke up about federal Opioid settlement funds available to Sublette (\$200,000.) that could be used to support sober living/housing. Team discussed how to promote the MH fund to families of people on probation for SA. Trisha will email county probation agent Shane Templar and WY state parole agent Jeannie Whinnery to offer info on the fund and invite them to the next meeting.

School MH fund report: Mrs. Normington reported that the fund is being “heavily used”. She said that family therapy would be very beneficial and that she knows it is a “big ask”. Teton Behavioral Therapy is providing telehealth counseling services to students from master’s level social work and counseling interns. The interns are supervised before and after sessions. Thank you to the school for being willing to work with interns to get services to students who need it. Thank you to TBT for finding solutions to serve the community in this way.

QPR: These people will contact these organizations before the Feb meeting:

- Trisha, Mardy, and Bill are working with Mr. Makelky and Mr. Willford at Big Piney High School to schedule the health classes. .
- Trisha and Mardy will reach out to Starla at Big Piney library for a library staff and community training.
- Randy will contact Kim at Daniel Den.
- Randy and Trisha will advocate for QPR at Jan 10 CISM meeting. Matthew asked if QPR could be part of fire department training nights.
- Cassie and Trisha will contact the county attorney and public defender’s office.
- Cassie recommended training the county treasurer and clerk’s offices.

If we can train all the above we should hit our target goal by June 2022.

Next meeting: February 7, 12-1 PM
St. Andrew’s Church, lower level.

