

**Gilliam County Local Community Advisory Council (LCAC)
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 3, 2020**

Teddy Fennern called the Local Community Advisory Council (LCAC) Regular Meeting to order, at 12:04 p.m. and noted that Jennifer Bold, Chair had an emergent appointment and could not attend the meeting. Lisa Helms and Neil Freidrich reported they cannot be present today.

Present via video conference and telephone were:

Marci McMurphy, EOCCO/GOBHI

Teddy Fennern, Family Services & LCAC Coordinator, Gilliam County

Amy Nation, Juvenile Director, Gilliam County

Ashley Danielson, Expanded Practice Dental Hygienist, Advantage Dental

Eileen Flory, GOBHI

Audrey Egan, Medicaid Services Coordinator, Moda

Courtney Valenzuela, Equity Team, Moda

Gracen Bookmyer, Age+ Circles of Care, Moda

Astrid Sosa, Equity Team, Moda

Stephani Hooper, Equity Team, Moda,

Scott McKay, Director, The Dalles Senior Meal Site

Nadja McConville, ODHS

Lisa Atkin, Chief of Staff, Gilliam County

Estella Gomez, Innovator Agent, Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

Add in under New Business:

- Gracen Bookmyer, Scott McKay & Stephani Hooper for a presentation Age+ Program
- LCAC Selection Committee

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments at the meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF PRESENTATION:

Audrey Egan, Moda stated that Courtney Valenzuela and Astrid Sosa will be working on all things Health Equity at Moda and are happy to answer any questions or concerns.

Audrey Egan, Moda, introduced a new Health Plan, "Summit Health", that Moda will provide in Eastern Oregon. It is a new venture that CCO owners are forming and it is a Medicare Advantage line of business. It will help support care coordination for members with dual eligibility and function similarly to EOCCO.

In October Summit Health Representatives will join LCAC to share specific details. Emily Camp, Senior Project Manager and Walter Burkhartsmeier, Director of Medicare Programs will be taking questions.

IN THE MATTER OF COVID – 19 UPDATES:

Updates were requested pertaining to new services being provided that may have changed due to COVID-19.

- Nadja McConville, ODHS, advised that many households are still waiting for the EBT Pandemic Benefits. Nadja has a link to check if households were registered through the school district. There have not been sufficient resources to wrap this up yet. The program will expire at the end of September and hope to complete by then, before people lose benefits.
- Nadja also advised that the Department of Human Services, (DHS) is re-naming themselves to ODHS, Oregon Department of Human Services to avoid being mistaken with the Department of Homeland Security, (DHS).
- The rental payment moratorium has been extended to December 31st. Tenants that are facing eviction due to non-payment of rent, cannot be evicted by landlords, due to Covid-19 laws. It is highly encouraged to refer tenants to the local housing authority and to Community Action Programs, where some funding assistance may be available. For up to 9 months.
- Recipients of the \$500 relief funds cannot count that funding as income towards the ERDC, (Employment Related Day Care) SNAP, (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) or TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) eligibility. For those receiving ERDC, the co-pay is being waived through September. For new intakes, the requirement to provide pay stubs has also waived and the interview process and eligibility determination extended also through September.

IN THE MATTER OF MEETING MINUTES

Ashley Danielson, Advantage Dental, made a motion to approve the June 2020 minutes as presented. Eilene Flory seconded the motion. None opposed. **The motion carried.**

August Minutes were tabled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

IN THE MATTER OF ADVANTAGE DENTAL UPDATE

Ashley Danielson, Advantage Dental updated that she will be providing screenings to the children in Condon School who have returned a consent form. Advantage Dental has worked very closely throughout this pandemic with OHA, Oregon Health Authority, to create a workflow that all three parties feel comfortable with. There will be some minor changes to reduce the number of children to 5 being screened at one time in a room, for social distancing. All services are still being provided but will be done individually making it a little bit slower of a process. Condon Child Care and Head Start are also on the calendar and time is held open for these in November. Arlington is distant teaching, so no updates for these schools.

Advantage Dental does have a one-day-a-month Community Clinic Day starting September, and open to Gilliam County residents. They are offering this in The Dalles providing the same

services offered in schools to anyone who would like to come in that day. Appointments are required. Ashley will be sharing this information with all the schools that she provides services to. Ashley is also still present at the clinic in Arlington providing tele-dentistry services.

IN THE MATTER OF FRONTIER VEGGIE Rx UPDATE

Marci McMurphy, EOCCO, reported the FVRx is going surprisingly well. Gilliam County was the forerunner in getting all the Veggie Rx booklets mailed out to participants and Sherman County has joined in on that. Marci reported that they are at capacity for the program. Gilliam had approximately 860 total prescription booklets for the year. The EOHLA (Eastern Oregon Healthy Living Alliance) booklets are also being distributed. \$2500 has been raised to assist with 10 more families a month, for up to four months and will end October 31st or end of November. It is questionable whether there will be capacity for those people to continue being recipients when the temporary funding stream is exhausted.

A question on how to ensure the program reaches those recipients with the highest need was raised. Amy Nation, Gilliam County Juvenile Director also asked if the program is advertised and if there are any time limits for how long someone can be on the program. Due to being at capacity, advertising is not taking place, but if anyone is working with a family who could use more support, refer them to Teddy Fennern, Gilliam County Family Services Coordinator for possible upcoming spaces in the program.

Teddy Fennern, Gilliam County Family Services Coordinator asked Marci to clarify when the number for maximum capacity was determined, by whom, and whether this was by county. Marci stated the determination was made strictly off the funds provided. The cost of the booklets, divided by the number of months, determined how many booklets can support the program. Gilliam County is approximately slated for 860 plus the temporary EOHLA ones. Gilliam County is currently over the amount, but with reimbursement rates, or people losing booklets, or not turning them in, we are on target for the year. Gilliam County household capacity would be approximately 71 households at the rate of two booklets per household. Screenings of existing recipients are undertaken annually and when anyone new comes onto the program. After the screening evaluation, the prescription is made and refilled monthly, much like going to a doctor.

The ending of this grant period will be March 15th, 2021, then in April or May screenings for the new year will commence. October will be when the next CBI (Community Benefit Initiative) funding application comes out, and it will be decided whether to continue to be a yearly prescription or a six-month prescription. Gilliam County will need to participate due to the impact on Teddy's time in doing those evaluations.

Teddy Fennern, Gilliam County Family Services Coordinator reported that for August:

- 93 households were served
- 220 people were assisted
- 152 total voucher booklets were given out.

NEW BUSINESS:

IN THE MATTER OF LCAC SUPPORT FUNDS:

Marci McMurphy, EOCCO/GOBHI, reported that EOCCO provides through GOBHI the LCAC Support Funds. These funds are meant to support the LCAC's pay for meeting coordination, meals, meeting supplies, (CBI) Community Benefit Investment reporting and coordination, member engagement and FVRx support. It started out minimally at \$4,000, increased to \$10,000, and the last two years it has been \$12,000. This has required reductions, and this year there will be less funding for the operation of LCAC programs.

GOBHI wants to review the LCAC budgets and expenditures, together with the annual carry-over that each LCAC has. Programs that have funding remaining and carry-over, may not receive the full allocation this year. Each LCAC is required to fill out a budget form to show GOBHI their financial status. Teddy Fennern presented two budget forms, one showing status at June 1, 2020 and another showing status at August 31, 2020. The end of the actual fiscal year, for Gilliam County was a considerable amount of money, differing almost \$1,000. Troy Soenen stated that the county should be able to receive the full \$5,000, providing approximately \$2,604.00 in the carry-over budget ending on 8/31/2020. The budget was put together with the same funding streams as it had been in the last year, but with reductions.

Marci requested a motion to approve the budget.

Eilene Flory, GOBHI, made a motion to approve the budget for Fiscal Year 9/1/2020 through 8/31/2021 as presented. *Ashley Danielson, Advantage Dental*, seconded the motion. None Opposed. The **Motion Carried**.

Going forward EOCCO will be providing 1% of the hold back dollars to go to the funding of the LCACs.

IN THE MATTER OF THE AGE PLUS PROGRAM PRESENTATION:

Gracen Bookmyer, Age+ Circles of Care, who serves Wasco County, The Dalles and Mosier, connects older adults with volunteers. Stephani Hooper stated that Scott McKay, The Wasco County Senior Center Director had to step away into another meeting.

As part of the CARES Act money through the Oregon Health Department, they applied on behalf of Hood River, Wasco, Gilliam and Sherman Counties and received funds to do education and outreach specifically to older adults around COVID -19.

Age+ is an organization that the sole mission is to improve the lives of older adults and work with communities to strengthen this population. Age+ is looking for information from the LCAC on who they should be working with in the county. Age+ has reached out to Sabrina Wagenaar, Gilliam County Senior Services Coordinator, and will be providing information through the meal sites. Scott McKay has a good working relationship with Sabrina already.

Age+ want to make sure that the Senior Population has all the latest information available to them on COVID-19, including:

- Knowing what the symptoms are;
- How to get help if they get symptoms;
- Total isolation prevention because the older adults are being told to stay put and isolate;
- They have a cadre of volunteers from the senior centers that will be doing phone follow ups to reach out to older adults;
- OHA to review if any funding available after the first of the year to be able to continue the program.

Ashley Danielson requested clarification if this was different than the “Grace Model” and yes, it is just Covid-19 related education and outreach.

Teddy suggested putting information into the food boxes that go out through the food pantries. Teddy would be happy to connect with the appropriate people to make that happen. Churches were also mentioned, which is one of their key strategies. There could be a connection made with the Catholic and Baptist churches in Condon, which seem to be well attended in our community.

Astrid Sosa, GOBHI, wanted to be very careful about the messages that are being sent. She was asked how well wearing a mask has been received and if people were getting complacent with it or not. Feedback showed it depended on which businesses people were going into and that some people are compliant, and some are not.

There will be a direct mailing sent out to all households that have people who are 65 or older. They are going to be large, 11’ x 6’, so that they can do larger text. The plan is to do this three times and hope that they will become a reference for people to recognize symptoms. Teddy suggested hanging up some posters in key community areas also.

IN THE MATTER OF THE LCAC SELECTION COMMITTEE:

It consists of two people who review the Gilliam County LCAC roster for accuracy and make corrections as needed. EOCCO Board member – Karen Wheeler will serve to fill the EOCCO position. The other participant must be a Gilliam County employee. The meeting for Gilliam LCAC Selection Committee would probably be quarterly and last about 30 minutes. Marci reported that she did receive an e-mail from Judge Elizabeth Farrar and could work with her in identifying who to fill the other position. Teddy suggested Marci go ahead. There was a clarifying question if we also needed a consumer to work with the group and it was determined just the two members were required.

IN THE MATTER OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marci McMurphy, GOBHI, noted the following:

- RCAC Meeting on Tuesday, September 22, 9:00 a.m. to noon. This meeting will look at the day care crisis as well as the early childhood learning crisis and will view the *No Small Matters* documentary. Two viewings of the full documentary will be provided before the RCAC meeting and one after the RCAC meeting also. Viewing it beforehand is preferable if possible. It can also be viewed on Amazon Prime for \$3.99 and is between 70 – 90 minutes long. It talks about how undervalued the first few years of a child’s life can be and how this can be addressed in our communities. If anyone is interested in inviting people to view this, let Teddy know. Everyone will receive the invitation to the RCAC meeting next week sometime.
- The next Gilliam LCAC meeting will be held Thursday, October 1st and to please hold the full 1.5 hours from 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. for the meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF MEETING ADJOURNMENT

It appearing to the LCAC Board that there was no further business to be conducted at this time, Teddy Fennern, Gilliam County LCAC Coordinator, adjourned the meeting at 1:05 P.M.

Jennifer Bold JB (Verbal)
 LCAC Chairperson

Date: _____

Teddy Fennern Teddy B Fennern
 LCAC Coordinator

Date: 10/1/2020