



**COLORADO**

**Behavioral Health  
Administration**

## **Behavioral Health Administration Advisory Council Minutes**

10/26/2022 9:00 am

Members			
Karyn ReNae Anderson	X		Jessie Pocock
Ash Annan	X		Tina Rowe
Robert Archuleta	X		Noor Shafi
Robert Bob Dorshimer	X		Rana Shaner
Racquel Garcia	A		Andrea Sivanich
Carolyn Hall	X		Jamie Ulrich
Tasha Koncar	X		Cameron Vigil-DeTello
Dr. K. Ron-Li Liaw	X		Kathryn Washington
Maria Martinez	X		Seth Watkins
Dr. Stacey Oberly	A		Selwyn Whiteskunk

**Called to order:** Robert Bob Dorshimer, 9:03 am

### **Introductions and Overview**

Bob Dorshimer, Chair of BHAAC, called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

Yumiko Dougherty, BHA staff, did a roll call of BHAAC members.

Bob Dorshimer reviewed the agenda to include the requested training today on trauma and secondary trauma; vote for the co-chair (chair in training); update from Commissioner Medlock; council responsibilities.

Public comments will be heard and then answers to public comments will be posted on the BHAAC website instead of answering live to ensure adequate time to research and answer.

Bob Dorshimer discussed group agreements for meeting operations. All meetings are recorded for note taking purposes and BHAAC members who are unable to attend. Reminder to explain acronyms. Make space, take space.

## **Public Comment**

Public comment from Elizabeth Newman, Public Policy Director at Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault. This is a statewide membership organization of agencies and individuals who are committed to preventing and ending sexual violence across our state. Want to ensure that the Council is aware that sexual violence contributes to behavioral health issues. Survivors of childhood trauma; sexual abuse is complex and needs to be recognized, understood and healed through our behavioral health systems. Survivors struggle to find support and services. It is the hope that this behavioral health council remembers these groups as they are imagining what the behavioral health system supports.

## **AGENDA:**

### **Training on Trauma, Triggers and Boundaries**

Training from Kelly Reidford, BHA Program Manager for Trauma Informed Care. Training included definitions of trauma (community, historical, organizations, etc.), primary and secondary trauma, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration principles, and triggers and boundaries.

BHAAC members had a discussion about their reaction to the definition of “trauma informed system” and different types of trauma.

### **BHA Updates/Commissioner Briefing**

Commissioner Medlock reviewed the foundations of the BHA and the six pillars. BHA is currently at 20% operational which means we are at 20% capacity to begin to build (not 20 % of our staff). Hope to be at 100% capacity by July 1, 2024. Explanation of the BHA functional organization chart is about people, process, and performance and not who reports to whom.

Update on the one year timeline since the last meeting. The “Lived Experience Council” is the BHAAC so has been checked off. The BHA Interagency Cabinet Council has also begun.

The Learning Academy is a place where we hope that all Coloradoans can join this platform to learn about topics such as trauma-informed care, Native American health, spiritual issues in care, etc. Commissioner Medlock will give updates on this if the group would like more information.

The BHA has created a new licensing designation called Recovery Support Services Organizations (RSSOs) which are peer run entities that provide recovery support services in a variety of settings.

Commissioner Medlock highlighted a few findings from two major reports released recently.

The first report is “Strengthening the Behavioral Health Workforce in Colorado: An Approach to Community Partnership” can be found on the BHA website. Highlights include expanding peer support and piloting a behavioral health aide model in communities who have been historically marginalized, development grants for rural Colorado, The Learning Academy (suggested that this council could co-create a few modules that could be included here), retention grant strategies and community engagement with workforce program efforts.

The second report is the “General Assembly Report, 2022 Behavioral Health Plan.” Commissioner Medlock would like to ensure that the presentation of this report in January 2023 includes thoughts and feedback from this council.

Update that the BHA will be moving to a new office space called a Collaboration Center. Would like to invite BHAAC members, the communities you represent, to the grand opening. This will be a space for you to collaborate as well.

Commissioner Medlock invited BHAAC members to attend and present at a future BHA all-staff meeting.

### **Council Member Updates From Across Colorado**

Bob Dorshimer, chair, requested to build time for Council Member updates in future agendas to share what is going on in your communities around Colorado.

Updates were given by members Seth Watkins, Jamie Ulrich, Ron-Li Liaw, Tasha Koncar, Bob Dorshimer, Carolyn Hall.

Vote to continue the Council Member updates in future meetings. Majority voted “yes” to add this section to future meeting agendas.

### **Council Business**

Yumiko Dougherty, BHA staff, reviewed the role of the BHA Advisory Council. The main responsibility is to make recommendations to the Commissioner and the State Board of Human Services on ways to improve our behavioral health system. You are here to ensure that everything we do at the BHA is guided and informed by the lived experiences of people within the behavioral health community.

Review of the three primary duties in state statute. Will receive routine Commissioner briefings. Submit an annual report of recommendations to the BHA which will be included in the report to the General Assembly.

Bob Dorshimer reviewed governance and developing by-laws. Bob put forth a motion to create the first working group today; the governance by-laws subcommittee. Tasha Koncar seconded the motion. Tasha Koncar volunteered to lead the subcommittee (via speaking). Vote by raise of hands to secure the subcommittee; subcommittee is created. Bob requested volunteers to be on this subcommittee. Governance subcommittee will be Tasha Koncar, Andrea Sivanich, Kathryn Washington, Rana Shaner, Seth Watkins.

Bob Dorshimer gave an overview of other committees and the relationship to the BHA Advisory Council.

Co-Chair (also referred to as Chair in training) will also be a part of the governance by-laws subcommittee. Nominations for co-chair are ReNae Anderson, Racquel Garcia, Tina Rowe. The council submitted electronic ballots and elected Racquel Garcia as Co-chair.

**Meeting Adjourned: 12:00 pm by Robert Bob Dorshimer.**