

JRAC: Mental Health and Addiction Subcommittee

MINUTES OF THE MEETING - THU, Mar 7, 2024 at 12:00pm – Floyd Sup Ct 1

- I. Welcome at 12 PM.
- II. Attendance. No Proxies. All in attendance except Granger, Konkle, Moon, Stigdon, Elliott, Stocksdale. Additional members of public in attendance: Life Spring and ROCK, FCSO CWI team.
- III. Approval of Minutes: Minutes from Jan and Feb, 2024 approved unanimously after motion by Lorch and seconded by Hodges. Further discussion re Minutes: we will seek to have the subcommittee Minutes incorporated by the full JRAC. Also, in order to promote communication with other groups operating with similar goals to address mental health and addiction in Floyd County (such as ATOD and ECHO/OFR), we will suggest sharing of meeting minutes with these groups. This also led into discussion about the expansion of our webpage on the Floyd County government site which should include our Minutes and links to other groups as well.
- IV. NEW BUSINESS: Highlighting Floyd County organizations who support mental illness and addiction.
 - a. ROCK – Raising Our Children’s Kids. Charmaine Corey presented on behalf of ROCK and provided us with information about their group and the work they are doing in our community. They are working on a public FB page; work with Rita Fleming to seek change in the laws and for support; promote public awareness of the large group of individuals statewide who are raising their children’s children due to their children’s struggle with addiction/mental health related issues. They found 50,699 documented grandparents in Indiana doing so with many more undocumented since statistics are not kept for this population. The individuals in this group also typically do not receive government assistance despite the great financial burden. They need support in the form of: (a) pro bono or affordable legal services; (b) a voice at the table where decisions are being made; and, (c) scholarships for grandchildren to support their needs and costs to raise them. They seek non-income based support given the vast amounts of funds they are saving the government by taking care of these children. They are working with the school system to get a navigator to work with them. They also took information from the health department who now has a navigator as well.
 - b. LIFESPRING. Presentation by Keisha Norrington regarding the services provided by LifeSpring to FC and financials (see handout). Kimberly Pickering presented regarding forensic services offered at the various locations (see handout). Crystal presented regarding the Mobile Crisis Team and those services (see handout). They may be contacted by anyone including but not limited to the person in crisis, family members, police/law enforcement, or others. We also asked questions including what do they see as a need for FC and the response was group homes. They indicated there is room for LifeSpring to grow but they need buy-in from the community. We asked about whether there are any statistics to report and were told that they could provide us with their annual report. Daraius referenced lack of any in patient treatment available in FC but it sounds like that may be at least partially due to zoning issue or “not in my back yard” attitudes of residents.

- c. FLOYD COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. NAVIGATOR. Charlotte Bass updated us on their new navigator position provided by way of grant funding. Her name is Marianne Wiley. I asked for additional information, which I now include in these Minutes as follows: Hello Judge Stiller, I wanted to email you on behalf of Charlotte Bass. I wanted to share more information about the Social Worker and the Peer Navigator. The peer navigator will obtain new hire training and required certifications. The Social Worker and peer navigator will target the SUD population within the Floyd County area. They will both utilize evidenced based material, modalities and interventions to ensure appropriate service delivery. They will be knowledgeable about substance abuse, co-occurring disorders, relapse prevention strategies and link individuals with recovery resources in the area. Referrals will come from local community resources, providers, hospitals and law enforcement. They will support the resident's self-determination and self-sufficiency to achieve sober living goals. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

V. WORK GROUP UPDATES:

- a. Connie Moon was unable to attend but Stiller reported that the application form is complete. We await approval from the Commissioners to publish to the community. We are seeking a legal opinion to ensure we follow the required process for opioid distribution to community groups.
- b. Magistrate reported that she will have much more to report at next meeting as we ran out of time. She has been having productive meetings with local school officials and others in gathering information for the potential truancy intervention.

VI. Stiller invited any member to the Annual Reporting of JRAC to the Commissioners scheduled for March 19 at 6pm. And thanked all the agencies for the submission of reports to share with the Commissioners.

VII. Adjournment at 1:15pm.