

Region V Systems
Promoting Comprehensive Partnerships in Behavioral Health

Region V Level of Care Meeting

Oct. 21, 2019
1:30 p.m.
1645 'N' Street
Lincoln, NE

Present: Shala Hartmann (Touchstone), Stephanie McLeese with CenterPointe; Dina Critel-Rathje and Julie Fisher-Erickson with Lutheran Family Services; Greg Bernt, Blue Valley Behavioral Health; Tim Kennett, Lincoln Police Dept.; Sara Draus, Bryan West; Alicia Rosno, The Bridge; Jan Harms with Adult Protective Services; Reggie Bollinger and Nick Flewelling with IBHS; Kristin Nelson, Lee Heflebower, and Bridget Thompson, Region V Systems.

Welcome, Introductions, Announcements, Additions to the Agenda

- Welcome and introductions were conducted.

System Issues:

- **Concerns with low agency participation at the Level of Care meeting.** How to get more people participating. How do we address confidentiality for complex case reviews, BAA, releases? Look at day and time change. Survey Monkey to find new day and time.
- Region V Rental Assistance Program has about 12 vouchers available. Please fill out the application and return to Lee Heflebower at Region V Systems. Applicants must have SMI (Serious Mental Illness), “Very low income” \$16500 annual income for a single, \$18500 annual income two person, and engagement with a Behavioral Health Provider (case management, therapy, med management).
- LFS: Block funding grant, will resume funding after forms are signed
- Length of stay for Crisis Center has increased significantly. Causes backlog and overcrowding of other systems, Bring back Bed Allocation Plan across the Regions. New proposal being to “unbottle neck” system. If there are individuals being served from “out-county” please alert Kristin. Try to keep commitments in their “home county”.
- BETA Trainings coming up: Youth: Dec 5, Regular BETA: Oct. 22, BIG BETA: now a two-day training no longer 4-day. All School Resource officers through LPS will attend

Specific Case Discussion:

- **Case Staffing:** Reminder to reach out to the County Atty about concerns for people in the community experiencing a mental health crisis, reach out to Mental Health Board, especially if it is a high utilizer.

Updates:

- Integrated Behavioral Health: New program adult residential, 5 beds, referrals are being accepted, Medicaid only, average stay is 3-9 months,
- Centerpointe: Psych Res: 15 beds average year stay; long wait for AR; Touchstone is full, 4-8 week waiting list; Outpatient: Open Access M-F 8-4; Fully staffed, CABHI ending allows Peer Support for Crisis. Some peer support is Medicaid billable; but most does not fit Medicaid requirements;
- Adult Psych Rehab: full
- Adult Protective Services: Discharges to homelessness has risen, nursing homes have closed adding to the crisis,
- Blue Valley: Fully staffed. Hired a Dr. Beau Heart, Psychiatrist, Out County offices full but waitlists are moving quickly; Comm Support openings in Lincoln, can accept people for med management and outpatient therapy.
- Touchstone: no updates
- Bryan LGH: Inpat. Beds full, 6 youth beds open, Mental health assessments live and through telehealth, added Beatrice and Saunders County.
- LPD: Changes with Jail Standards, including a brief assessment to be completed by a licensed counselor
- Lutheran Family Services: Comm Support: fully staffed, openings; Med management still available through Open Access: Tuesday mornings, Friday afternoon; Other Open Access times are available too, Dina will get the exact days/times
 - ACT Team almost fully staffed,
- The Bridge: full but some male opening coming up in the next weeks
- Crisis Center: length of stay continues to increase
- Region V Systems: Dave Campbell is opening a 62-bed facility to serve SMI population using Medicaid funding. "Hope Cooperative." He has a similar facility in Plattsmouth that has been successful.

Trainings and Events:

- Dr. Reid Malloy will be in Nebraska on October 8-9 for Threat Assessment. Kristin will send out the link for this when she receives it.
- Youth BETA is November 21, 2019. This is a one-day workshop free to Law Enforcement and 25.00 dollars for non-officers.

Bed / Capacity Availability Update:

- Please see above

Next Meeting

- The next meeting date is **February 24, 2020**, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. (*Febr. 17 is Presidents' Day*) (3rd Monday every other month)