

## Region V Systems

Promoting Comprehensive Partnerships in Behavioral Health

Region V Systems: Level of Care Meeting

February 17, 2021

1:00 p.m.

Zoom Teleconference

Present: Present: Alex Espinoza-Andersen, Associates in Counseling and Treatment; Kim Scrivner, Blue Valley Behavioral Health; Katie Kimmerling, The Bridge Behavioral Health; Shala Heartman, Stephanie McLeese, CenterPointe; Ashely Borchers, Community Corrections; Aaron Adams, Division of Behavioral Health; Nick Flewelling, Integrated Behavioral Health; Tim Kennett, Lincoln Police Department; Heather Miller, Lutheran Family Services; Amy Rezny, Nebraska Department of Correctional Services; Jill Kuzelka, Public Health Department; Kristin Nelson, Gretchen Mills, Region V Systems

Welcomes were made followed by brief introductions.

### System Updates

- Flewelling reported that Integrated Behavioral Health Services' Secure Residential opened December 2020. Their operating capacity is at 12, after needed windows are put in the capacity will be 16. There are currently eight (8) consumers in the program. A referral form will be sent out with the minutes/invitation for the next meeting. The consumer needs to have an assessment within the last year. They must have a SPMI; dual diagnosis individuals are accepted as long as they have an SPMI as a primary diagnosis. Consumers who are appropriate for this program are high utilizers.
- Nelson discussed a recent stakeholder meeting and the challenges getting consumers a bed at the Lincoln Regional Center. There are currently four (4) males and three (3) females on the Mental Health Board waitlist. 40 men and six (6) women are on the waitlist for competency. Meinders said that the community evaluation project has lots of moving pieces and will most likely be implemented in July. The community evaluations are for people who are needing competency evaluations and it will be people who are out on bond, with no forced medication and no active substance abuse issues.

### Agency Updates

- **Public Defender's Office:** They will be adding an additional forensic social worker on staff. The position opened on Saturday and the candidates must have a LCSW and be fully licensed. Their office is dealing with an increase in felony cases. If at anytime you have a consumer interfacing with their office, or even if they have a private attorney, contact them. This sort of communication is important to best help consumers.
- **Community Corrections:** Corrections reported that there is a program in development to eventually work with consumers in the jails and LRC to come up with an action plan and connect consumers with community services.
- **Saint Monica's:** The facility has loosened their restrictions and can take in more girls and are expecting 15 within the next few weeks. There have been 33 girls on the waitlist. Additionally,

there is current construction that will expand facility capacity. They are also working on opening Project Mother/Child at the Indian Center. They are looking to hire another counselor and residential manager.

- **Lutheran Family Services:** LFS welcomed Heather Miller, the new Community Support Supervisor on their team. Miller introduced herself and she was warmly welcomed onto the LOC team. They are still remote.
- **Public Health Department:** They are currently in the midst of getting vaccines out to everyone and facing the challenges when there is not enough to go around.
- **Lincoln Police Department:** LPD is very busy and have a new recruit class. There are approximately 30 officers who have left the field due to retirement or new opportunities. It has been a challenge to recruit new hires during this period of time.
- **The Bridge Behavioral Health:** The Bridge is still seeing clients, and they've started doing in-person, in-building evaluations. Consumers need to have a funding source: insurance, Medicaid, voucher, or self-pay. They are hiring for a nurse (LPN or RN) and a recovery advocate.
- **Community Transitions:** There are currently 14 individuals in the program, there is a waitlist for males and there will be a female opening in 3-4 months. Consumers continue to do day programming at Community Transitions.
- **Department of Corrections:** Rezny will contact Nelson regarding a specific consumer. They currently have a lot of outpatient services in corrections and she reiterated her gratitude for the community programs in Lincoln.
- **Integrated Behavioral Health Services:** As well as the IBHS Secure Residential program having openings for three (3) consumers, contentment upon approval by the Region they are from, their outpatient programs all have openings.
- **Associates in Counseling and Treatment:** They are very busy.
- **Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services:** There are no current updates, but as always field any questions you have for the Division with Nelson and Adams will get back to you with any information that you need.
- **Associates in Counseling and Treatment:** ACT has begun a new sanitizing schedule due to the pandemic. Operations have been steady and consistent.
- **Blue Valley Behavioral Health:** BVBH had no new updates other than being busy and taking referrals. They are operating via telehealth and in-person.

### Specific Case Discussion

Rezny will follow up with Nelson about a specific consumer. The Bridge and CenterPointe discussed a specific consumer who reported they couldn't get into CenterPointe for a mental health assessment.

### Other Business

Nelson reminded everyone about the High Utilizer Review Team (HURT) which meets every Thursday to help folks who are re-EPC'd, not complying with medications, or are overusing emergency services. It has been a highly successful undertaking. If you have a specific consumer in mind to bring to the team, email Nelson and you will then sign a release to get on their agenda.

### Next Meeting

- March 17, 2021 via Zoom. Gretchen will send out an invitation, minutes, agenda, and the IBHS referral form.