



HEALTH SERVICES

2577 NE Courtney Drive, Bend, Oregon 97701
Public Health (541) 322-7400, FAX (541) 322-7465
Behavioral Health (541) 322-7500, FAX (541) 322-7565
www.deschutes.org

Behavioral Health Advisory Board

Date: Friday, September 19th, 2025

Time: 12:00pm – 1:00pm

Location: Stan Owen Conference Room & Zoom

Attendees: Michael Shults, Tony DeBone, Shannon Brister, Holly Harris, Melinda Thomas, Amber Clegg, Danielle MacBain, Paul Partridge, Dana Murray, Linda Nolte, Lee Butler, Mary Burns, Stephanie Itzman, and Nick Lelack

12:00 PM: Call to order, Introductions and “One Interesting Thing”- Co-Chair Melinda Thomas

12:10 PM: Approval of May Minutes- Co-Chair Melinda Thomas

- Michael Shults motioned to approve May’s meeting minutes, Lee Butler second. Motion carries to approve minutes.

12:12 PM: Director’s Report, Holly Harris

- Holly has been on the County Financial Assistance Agreement (CFAA) negotiation committee for the last 2.5 years trying to renegotiate this contract which outlines what we’re required to do as a county.
- The negotiation committee was able to pare it down to 6 core service areas and make it much easier to read. It went from 255 pages to a little over 30.
- We must have a local plan- it used to be that we could sue the Regional Health Assessment to fulfill this requirement which is no longer the case.
- Shannon, Amber, and Holly have spent a lot of time working on the local plan and were able to pull from other documents including the regional health assessment.
- Previous agreements had stated that services must be provided “subject to availability of funds”, they did remove it at one point, we were able to get it back, and now they have removed this key phrase for certain populations.
- We were supposed to have 6-year agreement but decided on an extension of the current agreement. So, DCBH is going to create a local plan first, design the system they want to prioritize prevention, outpatient, and meet needs or priority populations. This needs to be done by Oct. 1st. We’ll seek feedback from BHAB, then submit a final draft in December.
- The state is going to give us a bucket of money then we get to decide how to spend it within our 6 buckets. There are a couple buckets of money that are not flexible- these are carved out separately.
- BHAB could potentially send a letter directly to the Governor should negotiations get to that level stating that the funding is imperative for the community.



HEALTH SERVICES

2577 NE Courtney Drive, Bend, Oregon 97701
Public Health (541) 322-7400, FAX (541) 322-7465
Behavioral Health (541) 322-7500, FAX (541) 322-7565
www.deschutes.org

Local Plan

- It will need to include the budget template which is very complex and includes far more information. DCBH fought hard to have the budget template not be what it is and it includes more than just CFAA dollars.
- Shannon, Amber, and Holly were able to use other resources and documents to create this document to no recreate the wheel.
- Civil Commitment and Aid and Assist- we are leading the state in our approach. We keep them out of the hospital and treat these individuals locally, but the number is increasing. We only have two Civil Commitment Investigators covering everything without funding.
- Aid and Assist contempt payments- where do they go? They go to Disability Rights Oregon.
- DCBH decided not to bring the pre-draft but rather submit what they have to make sure OHA is happy with it and that we met the minimums, then once we have that back we can give input and that will all be added.
- The goal is to continue to advocate and address gaps to receive more funding to expand. There is also a focus on rural areas.
- Any role for BHAB with DRO? Holly will keep this in mind. There could potentially be a time where advocacy would be helpful.
- Lee asked about a recent rumor that Motivcare is bankrupt as a client was told they could not be reimbursed for rides for this reason. Shannon has also heard the rumor but hasn't heard that it's confirmed.
- What additional gaps should be included or highlighted in the Local Plan. BHAB will have another opportunity to provide feedback.
 - Please see attached PowerPoint slides for more detail on this presentation.

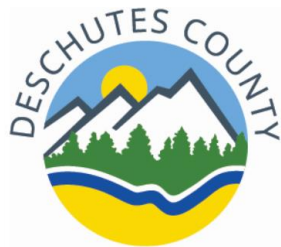
12:42 PM: Drug and Alcohol Planning Committee Update – Kristin Mozzochi and Amber Clegg

- Started pilot on the adult outpatient team.
- COSMOS – This is for level 2.1 of care for substance use. This is for co-occurring mental health and substance use.
- Youth program is in early stages of the project.
- Currently this pilot is for AOP but to expand to Hubs eventually.
- They are collecting data and so far there have been some great outcomes.
- This was a CCBHC requirement- we either had to do it or contract with someone to do it. Decided to do it in-house which was highly requested
- They are continuing to learn and Kristin will bring an update this group in the future.

12:47 PM: Outreach Committee Report – Julie McFarlane

- Julie McFarlane is planning to move to Salem so will be resigning soon.

Enhancing the lives of citizens by delivering quality services in a cost effective manner



HEALTH SERVICES

2577 NE Courtney Drive, Bend, Oregon 97701
Public Health (541) 322-7400, FAX (541) 322-7465
Behavioral Health (541) 322-7500, FAX (541) 322-7565
www.deschutes.org

- Cameron is looking for folks with lived experience to join the board. Please take time to talk to people you know.
- Cameron and other's visited the jail.

12:52 PM: Chairs' Report- Melinda Thomas and Lee Butler

- Lee and Melinda met with Public Health Advisory Board to see if there is anything we can learn from them or collaborate with them.
- They have some exciting ideas such as the housekeeping year. We made lead in this direction to change how we function and operate. The board may take a small retreat to discuss this.

Sherrif's Office

- The new sheriff, Ty Rupert, was appointed by the commissioners and will serve for a year until the next general election cycle rather than the presidential cycle where the Sherrif would typically run. Due to previous Sherrif departing early, it did change the cycle.
- Aaron Wells is the Under Sherrif, but he is looking to leave and in interviewing process with other entities.
- Sherrif Rupert will be keeping three captains and sharing duties.
- They may potentially close the Under Sherriff role when Aaron Wells leaves. Deschutes County had operated for a while without an Under Sherrif.
- The deflection program has been running well. They have had many graduations. Commissioners have approved another year of funding.
- The main benefit of this program, they are working with behavioral health professionals to help people rather than go to the hospital or jail.

PHAB/BHAB Collaboration

- More to come on this.
- Please be thinking about who would be good to join this board.

1:30: PM: Meeting Adjourned, Co-Chair Lee Butler

| Subcommittee | Members |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Membership and Onboarding Committee | Cameron Fischer- Lead Stephanie Utzman |
| Community Outreach Committee | Julie McFarlane Michael Shults |
| Advocacy Committee | Danielle McBain Lee Butler |



HEALTH SERVICES

2577 NE Courtney Drive, Bend, Oregon 97701
Public Health (541) 322-7400, FAX (541) 322-7465
Behavioral Health (541) 322-7500, FAX (541) 322-7565
www.deschutes.org