



**Coast to Cascades Community Wellness Network (CCCWN)  
Regional Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Coalition  
Meeting Summary  
Held virtually – Microsoft Teams  
July 11, 2022  
10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.**

**Participants:** Jennifer Beckner, Shawnee Aillo-Dixon, Maisa Athamneh, Sheila Aviles, Shelagh Baird, Stephanie Cameron, Sharee Cooper, Bryan Decker, Molly Gelinias, Marcia Harnden - Albany Chief of Police, Sara Hartstein, David Hickerson, Lalori Lager, Curtis Landers-Lincoln County Sheriff, Ursula Marinelli, Avalon Mason, Michelle Means, Liz Merritt, Jolynn Meza Wynkoop, JoAnn Miller, LaMonte Morgan, Jane Russell, Justin Thomas, Chuck True, Jef Van Arsdall–Benton County Sheriff, Earlean Wilson Huey, and Shelley Hazelton

**Guests:** Elizabeth Bauermeister and Lizzie Martinez

**Welcome/Introductions:**

Jennifer Beckner welcomed everyone to the meeting and led introductions.

**Meeting Minutes:**

The June 13, 2022, meeting minutes of the Regional Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Coalition was presented. **Molly Gelinias made a motion and Shelagh Baird seconded the motion to approve the June 13, 2022, meeting minutes as presented. The motion was voted upon and unanimously approved.**

**Human Trafficking Presentation and Substance Use Disorder (SUD):**

Elizabeth Bauermeister and Lizzie Martinez presented information on mental health, addiction, and human trafficking. Resource Lists were provided prior to the meeting. Both Elizabeth Bauermeister and Lizzie Martinez shared their email addresses – [l.martinez@caclincoln-or.org](mailto:l.martinez@caclincoln-or.org) and [ebauermeis@samhealth.org](mailto:ebauermeis@samhealth.org)

- Definition of human trafficking:
  - a. Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age; or
  - b. The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery. (22 USC 7102(9)).
- There is the trafficker, victim/survivor, and forcer.
- Less than 10% are obtained by force/bondage – Generally the individual will use coercion.

- Examples:
  - a. Homeless youth exploited for food or a place to live.
  - b. Survivor of domestic violence (DV) is coerced by partner to make extra money.
  - c. (Labor) Immigrant underpaid with poor living conditions.
  - d. Older “boyfriend” convinces youth to sell pictures/videos on the internet.
- Four facts about sex trafficking:
  - a. People under the age of 18 are minors and cannot legally consent to sex. We should view any minor involved with commercial sex as a victim of trafficking.
  - b. People over 18 can also be victims of sex trafficking. However, to prosecute their trafficker, it’s necessary to prove force, fraud, or coercion. Providers may not need this type of proof for a victim to receive services.
  - c. A victim can be trafficked out of their own home and within their own community, without ever having left the area. Trafficking does not require movement.
  - d. A “commercial sex act” occurs when a person gives something of value in exchange for a sexual act. “Value” doesn’t only mean money. It includes drugs, rent, food, higher status in a group, etc.
- There is an intersection between addiction and trafficking. A family member might traffic a child for drugs.
- Shared a Life Story video – <https://thelifestory.org/trauma-and-addiction>
- There’s a popular assumption that women enter the life to support a drug habit. According to some survivors it’s not that simple.
- Addiction in Human Trafficking – Individual:
  - a. Traffickers will use a pre-existing addiction to exploit (Example - If you do X, I can give you more drugs).
  - b. Traffickers can also create an addiction to keep survivors from leaving.
  - c. Survivors might also develop an addiction to cope with the trauma of their situation (disassociation).
- Model for violence prevention - [The Social-Ecological Model: A Framework for Violence Prevention \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/social-ecological-model/)
- Addiction in Human Trafficking – Community:
  - a. Survivors of trafficking are often criminalized for drug charges, but not identified as survivors and are released back to the trafficker.
  - b. Survivors also get looked down upon by their communities due to their drug usage, causing even more isolation.
  - c. Lack of programs in a community leave the survivor without resources to break the cycle of abuse.
- Addiction in Human Trafficking – Societal:
  - a. The “War on Drugs” has created an underground system, which has pushed trafficking and drug usage into the shadows.
  - b. We lack basic social safety nets to prevent vulnerabilities.
  - c. Vulnerable populations are also allowed to “slip through the cracks” which prevents us from seeing them as victims.
- Mental health and addiction:
  - a. Mental health, addiction, and trafficking are intersectional issues.

- b. Trafficking survivors experience symptoms such as psychosomatic reactions, psychological reactions, psychoactive substance abuse and dependence, social reactions, and psychophysical consequences (STD, pregnancy, or injury).
- Lincoln County Updates:
  - a. Task Force began in 2019.
  - b. Three prong approach:
    - Victims Services
    - Law Enforcement
    - Education and Outreach
  - c. No wrong door approach
- Within victim services there is a no wrong door approach. There are people available to help individuals in trafficking. There is education and outreach and curriculum available through the Department of Justice.
- Linn/Benton County Updates:
  - a. New Coalition.
  - b. Screening tools, protocols, data collection, and education.
  - c. Department of Justice training in the fall.
  - d. Lots of big dreams.
- There are a lot of survivors that don't self-identify.
- **Stephanie Cameron** – How can community partners get involved?
  - a. **Elizabeth Bauermeister** – You can email her directly if you would like to be involved. She also shared what you can do in the field.
- **Lizzy Martinez** – For Lincoln County:
  - a. At a professional level can get trainings with the organization.
  - b. There are so many misconceptions on trafficking from social media, etc.
  - c. Can visit life stories where it tells stories from survivors and you can listen to the survivor listed experiences.
  - d. When you encounter a survivor, it is important to have an empathy approach.
  - e. Have trafficking awareness stickers put up.
  - f. There is a human trafficking hot line.
  - g. Have conversations.
- Survivors live amongst us and are people in our society that are being overlooked. Do not overlook those that are commonly overlooked.
- What you can do - Connect individuals to services in the community such as Jackson Street Youth Services, etc. Take a trauma informed approach.
- The Department of Justice has some trainings coming out in August.
- **Jennifer Beckner** – What can we do to get training to our direct service staff?
  - a. **Lizzy Martinez** – Feel free to contact her or Elizabeth Bauermeister to discuss what you are looking for.
- **Stephanie Cameron** – So excited to see this information and education in our service area. Works with peer mentor services and has had a lot of conversations with staff. She came from an urban area and it was a common conversation on the street. When she came to Albany, the conversation is not as open. As a direct services provider, was able to discuss with others she works with. When she became a supervisor there was one on one guiding with staff.

Would love to have this topic get as much exposure to direct services staff as possible and provide resources and knowledge. Family Tree Relief Nursery holds some contract and works with people on a volunteer basis. Her agency works with adults and primarily does early childhood education.

- **Elizabeth Baumeister** – Will be rolling out materials to most organizations and they are happy to provide any training as needed.

### **Federal/State Grants Reports and Updates:**

#### **Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Regional Assessment and Implementation Disaster (RAID) Plan Update:**

A written RAID grant report along with the Work Plan Summary and Progress Updates was noted and distributed prior to the meeting.

#### **HRSA Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) Implementation Grant – Bridges to Recovery Project Update for Lincoln County:**

A HRSA RCORP Bridges to Recovery Grant written report was noted and distributed prior to the meeting.

#### **HRSA Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) Implementation III Rural Communities Supporting Women and Youth (RC-SWAY) Grant:**

A HRSA RCORP RC-SWAY Grant written report and Work Plan Highlights was noted and distributed prior to the meeting.

#### **Samaritan Treatment and Recovery Services Update:**

#### **HRSA STARS Rural Health Opioid Program (RHOP) Update:**

A HRSA STARS Rural Health Opioid Program serving Sweet Home and Brownsville written report was noted and distributed prior to the meeting.

#### **Measure 110 Access to Care Grant Report:**

A Measure 110 Access to Care Grant written report was noted and distributed prior to the meeting.

**Jane Russell made a motion and Jolynn Meza Wynkoop seconded the motion to approve the HRSA RAID Grant written report, HRSA Bridges to Recovery Grant written report, HRSA RC-SWAY Grant written report, the HRSA STARS Rural Health Opioid Program written report, and the Measure 110 Access to Care Grant written report. The motion was voted upon and unanimously approved.**

#### **Behavioral Health Resource Network Activities:**

Jennifer Beckner and JoAnn Miller reported on the Behavioral Health Resource Network.

- **Jennifer Beckner** – Met with Steve Allen at Oregon Health Authority. They had suggested having two Behavioral Health Resource Networks for Lincoln County since one of their partners weren't funded. Still in negotiations. Setting up meetings with partners and working on Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with partners.

- **Sara Hartstein** – Benton County Health Department – In partnership on the Behavioral Health Resource Network with Milestones, Family Tree Relief Nursery, Corvallis Housing First, Communities Helping Addicts Negotiate Change Effectively (C.H.A.N.C.E.), Pathfinders Clubhouse, and Benton County Health Department. They have approximately \$3.5 million and had some left over. Avalon will receive funding to coordinate the Behavioral Health Resource Network. MOUs are being filled out and routed to contracts to get signatures in place.
- **JoAnn Miller** - For Linn County – Working to get all the elements for the Behavioral Health Resource Network. Haven't qualified yet as a full Behavioral Health Resource Network because one of the key partners (Linn County Alcohol and Drug) wasn't approved and was the lead in the harm reduction piece. Working on this piece. Have sent an email to Oregon Health Authority. Harm reduction is required. Syringe exchange is recommended, but not required. Hepatitis C, HIV testing, Narcan/Naloxone are all part of harm reduction. Will meet with the state on Wednesday. Linn County – under \$1.8 million allocated amount from state. Some applied to all three counties, but we didn't get funded for all three counties. Looking at ways to extend dollars and purchase of Narcan.
- **Bryan Decker** – Will share the template that was provided to him.
- **Sara Hartstein** – Shared their process.
- **Justin Thomas** – If there is an issue with the treatment part, would they reconsider an application? Can change the application. Linn County Alcohol and Drug was denied mostly because of urinalysis testing. Proposed another tract for harm reduction.
  - a. **JoAnn Miller** – She did ask the question and was told we couldn't include Linn County Alcohol and Drug as part of the Behavioral Health Resource Network project. They are drafting a letter to the Secretary of State and Department of Justice on behalf of the Coast to Cascades Community Wellness Network that Mary Cahill will sign. Hope to have the letter completed within the next couple of weeks. She is also going through all the tapes. When reviewing the Linn County portion – Linn County Alcohol and Drug not saying urinalysis testing was part of the Behavioral Health Resource Network. She has major concern with the dismantling of the Behavioral Health Resource Network with not funding one of the partners. We want to offer comprehensive services. She hopes it is not over yet. Need Linn County Alcohol and Drug and residential services for Benton County as part of our Behavioral Health Resource Network. There was no appeal offered, no explanation, and no legal foundation to offer an appeal.
  - b. **Justin Thomas** – Part of the frustration is that they didn't define what harm reduction means.
  - c. **LaMonte Morgan** – Thought urinalysis testing didn't mean working toward abstinence for those in harm reduction.
  - d. **Molly Gelinas** – UDS is a safety measure. We look at all safety measures when working with individuals.
- **Jennifer Beckner** – Lincoln County – Lincoln County Health and Human Services submitted one proposal along with 6 collaborative members. One of those proposal for treatment was taken out and not funded. Oregon Health Authority is trying to add another treatment provider that they will need to collaborate with when they have tried to collaborate in the past and it hasn't been successful.

They were awarded \$4.6 million with a total ask of \$7.2 million. Being asked to trim out approximately \$2.5 million out of the budget. Not sure how to partner with another agency on the budget when they are asking for more than the other partner that wasn't funded was asking for. Hope to have more direction on this soon.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting is scheduled for August 8, 2022, at 10:30 a.m.

**Adjourn:**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shelley Hazelton  
Community Health Promotion