

Arizona Youth Mental Health Alliance Task Force Advocacy and Policy Task Force Report

Meeting Date: November 2, 2018

Location: 655 N. Alvernon (FCM Offices)

Task Force Leadership and Membership:

Chair: Leslie Cohen (interim)

Attendees: Arcy Cornidez, Judy Keagy, Susie Huhn, Mark Person, Tammie Hille, Oyuki Ornelas, (not – Mildred Manuel, Ryan Daily, Ashley Janicki all contacted me and indicated they could not attend but want to be part of the task force).

Overall Task Force Goals & Objectives

- Develop fact sheets and resources to inform community about policy issues in youth mental health
- Advocate for policy adoption to decrease stigma and increase help seeking activity
- Engage provider community in increasing and coordinating access to care

Intermediate Task Force Objectives for October-December 2018

- Review info on AZ Complete Care for potential fact sheet
- Town Hall – investigate utilizing Town Hall Mechanism for bringing providers and youth together
- S. Arizona School Superintendents – get on agenda to discuss mental health education in schools

Meeting Agenda:

- Introductions
- Short recap Purpose of Task Force
- Review Input from Alliance meeting on October 15
- Follow up from last meeting
- Next steps

Accomplishments since last meeting:

Further input from Alliance, discussion of utilizing Town Hall mechanism, and research on implementation of Arizona Complete Care Contracts.

Highlights of Discussion:

Arizona Complete Care: discussed how much remains unknown at present and best advice to families is if services are not being continued by new provider they should appeal as services required to remain in place for 60 days. Group felt a fact sheet was premature. However, AZ Complete Care Organizations have 10 mil from AHCCCS for mental health efforts for youth.

Meeting of providers and youth/needs for mental health services and supports– group felt it was important to have a youth presence in working on this objective. Group discussed the various groups of youth working on different issues and getting them involved with the Initiative and Alliance. Also discussed utilizing the town hall mechanism for bringing together stakeholders.

Policy Issues – group would still like to concentrate efforts on getting mental health education in schools. Concentration on Southern AZ Superintendents group and looking to new State superintendent of Public Instruction. Should review what other states have done. Also, may need unique ways to reach since many youth get health curriculum on line.

Additional input/members – need pediatrician in group. Mark P. works with juvenile justice and school resource officers who would be good additions to the group. MEC works with youth group.

Assignments for next meeting:

- **Call Sydney Rice – try to get peds participation (Leslie)**
- **Advise group of meetings of juvenile justice (Mark)**
- **Set up meeting with Dustin Williams (Cindy and Judy)**
- **Talk to Town Hall AZ about issues/forum (Cindy and Judy)**

- **Review state standards for MH education / other states (Leslie)**

- **Talk to school counselors group about MH education – quarterly meeting (Tammie)**

Recommendations to the Alliance:

- Develop youth cadre, group or task force to inform and direct our work
- Provide evidence based curriculum on mental health education in schools for us to utilize in speaking to School Superintendents organization.

Next Meeting: January 18 at 2:30 pm

Location: 655 N. Alvernon, RM 221