

# Hill County Local Advisory Council

## Special Meeting Minutes April 2, 2014

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Present: Crystal Laufer, Vice Chair; Amber Spring, Treasurer; Cindy Smith, Secretary; Debby Knudson, Jessie Bergren

Crystal called the meeting to order.

No treasurer report

Discussion was held about Mental Health First Aid Training by Suzanne Lockwood. Crystal Laufer made a motion to approve dollars be allotted to make posters for the training and to be distributed across the community. Debby Knudson seconded. Motion passed. The group chose some of the poster examples to be printed. Amber will be in charge of getting the posters printed and will bring invoices to be paid.

The members reviewed the list of contacts and strategized who to send invitations to.

Crystal said that she had contacted Jim Haney about Peer Trainings available. A suggestion was made to form a subcommittee at the larger meeting with the consortium to identify peer training topics and resources available for trainers.

Amber Spring has been contacted by a Pharmaceutical Company that wants to set up training and provide lunch. Cindy Smith was contacted by Jack Shifflett who represents NAMI Montana's "In Our Own Voice Program". This program consists of one-hour presentations by trained speakers who share their experiences of living with mental illness. The presentations include a brief video, and they are always offered at no charge to interested groups: providers, consumers, faith groups, schools, and community groups of all kinds. He is trying to find a speaker who would schedule a presentation with our LAC at a future meeting.

The group discussed the importance of having consumers and families as an integral part of the LAC group. Stakeholder participation is a critical component to the delivery and improvement of services to persons living with mental disorders. We would like to make sure that in the larger Mental Health Committee this is a task to accomplish by sending letters to all providers about the committee and finding out if they have some patients that might want to attend and to set goals for more consumers and families to be in attendance.

April 14<sup>th</sup> is the next Hill County Consortium Mental Health Committee meeting at the Hill County Health Department meeting room at 12 noon.