

# GREATER COLUMBIA ACCOUNTABLE COMMUNITY OF HEALTH

## Workforce Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 26, 2020 | 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM  
Teleconference *ONLY*

ATTENDANCE			
<b>Committee Members</b>  <small>Board Member: Name Called-in: Name* Absent: Name</small>	Asja Suljic	Jac Davies	<i>Ronni Batchelor</i>
	Bevan Briggs	John Christensen	<i>Sandra Suarez</i>
	Chuck Eaton	Les Stahlnecker	Scott Koopman
	<i>Dan Ferguson (Chair)</i>	<i>Madelyn Carlson</i>	Steve Perry
	Debbie Spink	Patrick Jones	Suzanne Swadener
	Heidi Snyder	<i>Rhonda Hauff</i>	
<b>GCACH Staff</b>	Becky Kolln	Carol Moser	Chelsea Chapman
	Diane Halo	Laurel Avila	Lauren Noble
	Martin Sanchez	Brittany FoxStading	Ruben Peralta
	Sam Werdel	Wes Luckey	
<b>Guest(s)</b>	None		
WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS			
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b> Dan Ferguson	Dan Ferguson, Committee Chair, facilitated the meeting. There was a total of eight (8) voting members present (or calling in) to the convening.  Meeting items included: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. August 2020 Agenda</li> <li>2. July 2020 Meeting Minutes</li> <li>3. Behavioral Health Impacts of COVID-19 by DOH</li> <li>4. BH Internship and Training Fund – Application Analysis</li> </ol>		
MEETING MINUTES			
<b>Meeting Minutes</b> Dan Ferguson	Dan Ferguson, Committee Chair, reviewed the minutes from 07-29-2020. No revisions were recommended.		

**Thank you for your engagement with GCACH!**

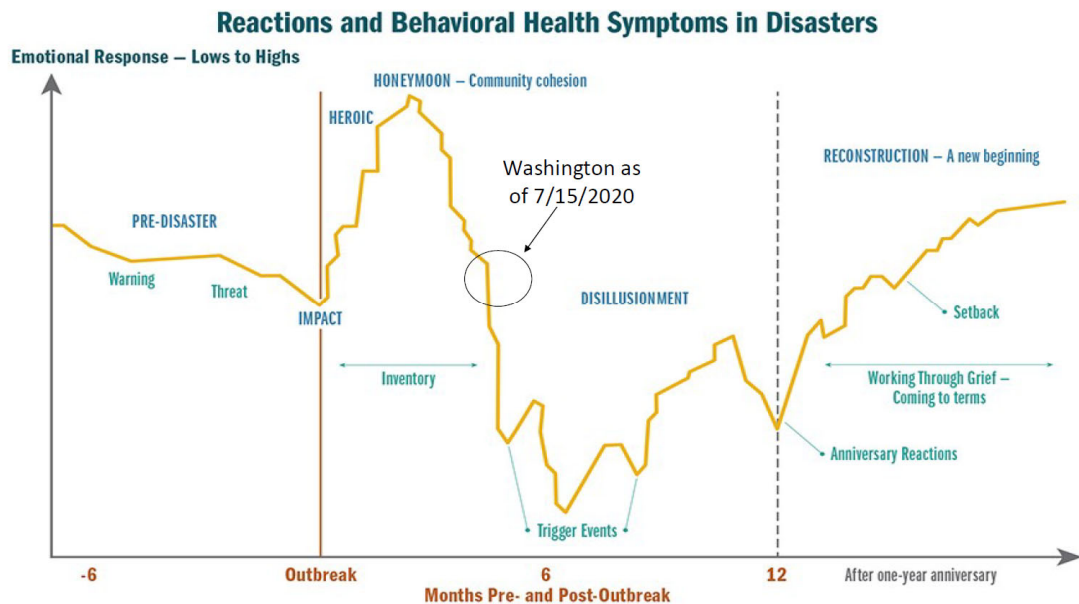
✓ **Motion by Sandra Suarez to accept the 07-29-2020 Workforce committee meeting minutes. Seconded by Ronni Batchelor. Motion passed with no additional discussion.**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**BH Symptoms on the Rise**

Carol Moser

Carol spoke to the article from the Department of Health regarding the Behavioral Health impacts from the pandemic. What does GCACH need to do? Some key highlights involved impacts of COVID on children, BH providers, and organizations. Also provided was a map that illustrated the reactions and behavioral health symptoms in disasters (below).



Carol spoke to the scarce resources for BH providers and the need to “identify and train willing behavioral health and non-behavioral health providers in a more in-depth Disaster Behavioral Health curriculum, to support and monitor their colleagues. These may be identified as people to whom their colleagues naturally turn for support.”

What should GCACH be doing to prepare for the disillusionment phase?


The group discussed what a possible training would look like. This included:

- Topic of the September Leadership Council and whether that would be an appropriate setting for a training with respect to target audience and timing.
- Interest levels by the state in how students are being impacted

**Thank you for your engagement with GCACH!**

- Disaster BH Health curriculum—what does it look like, who would provide the training? Opening it up to the broader community is a good idea.
- Ronni shared her thoughts on targeting training to Community Health Workers (CHWs) and Peer Support Specialists (i.e. those with the boots on the ground). Lack of utilization of the CHWs being a force of assistance in all of this since the beginning of the pandemic. They play a big part in not only assisting with health needs but mental health needs as well. Preference on doing this sooner rather than later. Debbie from the Department of Health shared that she too has not seen a surge in mobilizing the CHW workforce. She did note there is not a lot of infrastructure for that in the state. She also stated that they have a list of CHW in the GC region that has gone through their training.
- Structure and logistics on how to put this in place. How does a local community act on this information? GCACH would be a great community partner by bringing training to the Leadership Council and for the CHWs, but it's not our job to require organizations to hire CHWs to do mental health work. Need to look at funding and who can afford who needs to be hired. Ronni underscored that these professionals need to be compensated due to the complexity involved with assisting individuals (and their families).
- Discussion around the challenges for current CHWs and the need for outreach in the community (e.g. volunteering time, serving specific clientele).
- Whether the providers would send their employees to these trainings. Rhonda would send a lot of people to this and sees it as helpful. They have training starting next week for COVID Care Coordination in Yakima county so this is timely. Confirmation that there is a need for training for CHWs, first responders, police, etc. GCACH would like to assist the community without stepping on toes of the providers that already have CHWs within their organizations (hence why we have stepped back from that role previously but recognize this time of need for more help during COVID). Sandra shared that she would be interested but is leery given the short time frame and the trainings her staff is already undergoing these next few weeks. The group discussed the sense of urgency and being ahead of the curve, but not overwhelming people.
- Discussion around vetting curriculum beforehand and the committee members that would be willing to do that: Dan, Ronni, Rhonda, and Sandra agreed to help. Dr. Philip Hawley from YVFWC was suggested.
- Further discussion around the target audience in terms of being available to the community. Emphasis on the fact that groups are in different phases – CHWs, providers, everyone is stressed and everyone could benefit from this. Discussion around the training being hosted over a virtual platform.
- GCACH to work on coordinating training for Disaster BH curriculum and follow-up with identified subcommittee (Dan, Ronni, Rhonda, Sandra) to vet curriculum prior to September Leadership Council.

**Thank you for your engagement with GCACH!**

	No further comments or discussions.
<p><b>Additions to Workforce Committee</b> Carol Moser</p>	<p>Carol reviewed the map from the Benton-Franklin Workforce Development Council and how the ACH region includes 3 of the 12 workforce development areas in the state: South Central, Benton-Franklin, and Eastern.</p>  <p>The Benton-Franklin Workforce Development Council (BFWDC) is designated by the Governor as one of 12 local/regional workforce development areas in our state.</p> <p>Carol posed the question if the GCACH Workforce Committee should include a member from each workforce development area.</p> <p>Dan agreed that if that is their full time focus then they should be on the committee.</p> <p>Discussion around how to make connections with these individuals. Dan recommended to bring this to the LHIN meeting this upcoming Friday. That group may know who to contact.</p>
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	
<p><b>Adjournment</b></p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM. Minutes taken by Chelsea Chapman.</p> <p><b>Recap of motions and GCACH next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Approved: July meeting minutes</li> <li>✓ GCACH to send committee information Diane received from HCA on training opportunities for CHWs and Peer Support Specialists.</li> <li>✓ GCACH coordinate a community training for Disaster BH and follow-up with identified subcommittee (Dan, Ronni, Sandra) to vet curriculum prior to September Leadership Council.</li> <li>✓ GCACH to pursue connecting with individuals involved with the Benton-Franklin Workforce Development Council (in South Central, Benton-Franklin, and Eastern regions) to join the Workforce Committee.</li> </ul>

**Thank you for your engagement with GCACH!**