

Executive Director's Report

March 2022

Housing Project –We have received some follow up questions from CHFA and have provided additional information to meet the needs. We have begun getting salutations from contractors, as the application is public. Oriana and her team are responding and fielding these requests for meetings. Oriana and I had our first interview for the funding (tax credit) and our team will provide a presentation on 5/2/2022.

The PSA (Property and Sale Assessment) for the land appraisal has been completed for the land purchase. According to the executed sale agreement, because the parcel appraised for less than the agreed upon \$191,664 the amount being paid for Parcel A will be increased to equal the difference of \$435,000 and the difference of the appraised value of \$132,000 and \$191,664 for a total purchase price of \$494,664. The Owens will receive the donated amount of \$132,00 rather than the \$191,664 contemplated in the PSA.

Behavioral Health Administration Bill (HB 22-1278)– The Bill was officially announced on 3/25/2022. The bill creates the Behavioral Health Administration in the Department of Human Services. It also transfers programs between state agencies. The BHA is charged with creating a coordinated, cohesive, and effective behavioral health system in Colorado. Any state agency that administers a behavioral health program (state agency) is required to collaborate with the BHA. The bill requires the BHA to establish:

- A statewide behavioral health grievance system
- A behavioral health performance monitoring system
- A comprehensive behavioral health safety net system
- Regionally based behavioral health administrative service organizations
- The BHA as the licensing authority for all behavioral health entities
- The BHA advisory council to provide feedback to the BHA on the behavioral health system in the state

The bill was passed with amendments to appropriations.

One amendment that is important is L017. It adds CMHCs, as recognized in federal code, to the definition of Behavioral Health Safety Net Provider. This amendment also adds language re: value-based payment. In a future amendment they will change the “comprehensive” provider language to “comprehensive community behavioral health safety net provider” throughout the bill. We also have a commitment to keep working on the specialty clinic language.

The new/other bill we will be tracking is HB22-1256. This bill is related to the 27-65 involuntary hold also known as the 72-hour emergency mental health hold or the M1 hold. Meetings are being held to discuss HB22-1056 Modification to Civil Involuntary Commitment.

Health Colorado Inc. – Is working on a strategic plan they have contracted with an independent consultant and they are interviewing each of the partners. Fernando and I had our initial interviews. Health Colorado continues to be focused on Performance Measures Improvement strategies and Care Coordination redevelopment. As well as tracking new legislative bill and potential effects on the RAE.

Comprehensive Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) Workgroup- The CCBHC workgroup had our first meeting on 3/23/2022. The meeting opened with introductions from group members and followed with an overview and history of the CCBHC model. Currently there are five CCBHC grantees in Colorado. The conversation followed with a comparison between BHA requirements and CCBHC requirements. The group members were trying to understand if CCBHC requirements were missing from the BHA provider definitions. For next steps, Natalie with CBHC created a CCBHC page on basecamp for members to share what they've learned and other CCBHC information. Sarah Reid will be collecting agenda items from CCBHC members for the next meeting as well as identifying goals for the group to work towards and discuss. Victoria and Kyle will continue to meet monthly with this group.

SYCARE- Sycare partners had our meeting with Tracy Roxby and reviewed Netsmart changes and best course for contracting moving forward with EHR updates. Further research will be done by the centers to determine what packages are currently being utilized and the benefits.

Behavioral Health Entity Licensing (BHE)- We have created a staff committee who is working diligently to complete. We have to have all of our information updated and entered into this new system by May 1st. We will need to have overlapping licenses initial while the state continues to change over systems with the BHA.