MEETING MINUTES
San Miguel Behavioral Health Solutions
July 27, 2023| 9:00 am – 11:00am

Panel Members Present: John Pandolfo, Andres Jacinto, Sharon Grundy, Rob Whiting, Mandy Miller, Paul Reich, Chuck Porth

Panel Members Absent: Carol Friedrich, Todd Bittner

Other attendees: Mary Burt; TCHNetwork, Melanie Montoya Wasserman; TCHNetwork, Ruth Andrade Interpreter
Meeting called to order at 9:02 am

1. Public Comment
   a. No public present
   b. Jenny Wheeler arrived at 9:27, left at approximately 10am, had no comment, attending to observe.
2. Approval of June minutes
   a. Motion: John, all in favor
3. 2nd Q Financials
   A. Behavioral Health Fund 2023 6-month report - 150 unique individuals in the second quarter. Approximately half on the new 2023 rules and about half on the 2022 rules. 593 sessions conducted, second quarter cost to the fund was $72,499.00, an average of $122 per session. First and second quarter of this year are still pretty inflated because there are so many people still on the 2022 rules
      i. the number of sessions per client is really where the major change is happening.
      ii. 50 clients expire off 2022 rules during the second quarter, causing a 37% drop in the number of sessions between first quarter and second quarter, which translated to about a 40% drop in the quarterly cost to the fund
      iii. Serving fewer clients each month, but the same across quarter, which means they're being spread out across the months in terms of the number of sessions.
      iv. Annual projection-more unique clients served this year than last year.
      v. The effect of the limitations is spreading out the fund across more people, just fewer sessions per person.
      vi. By fourth quarter 2023, 26 people will be on 2022 rules.
      vii. Received 30 new applications in July.
   B. 2023 Solutions Budget to date(Melanie)
      i. The county is not using the $57,000 grant to hire a therapist for housing.
   C. Discussion on BHF Criteria 2023-2024
      i. Paul, Mandy, Robert, John, and Matt discussed the need to set limits on funding for therapy sessions, considering budget constraints. They also discussed the importance of upfront communication with patients about the number of sessions needed and suggested increasing marketing efforts to inform the community about available funding.
      ii. The group discussed the budget for the upcoming year and considered whether to implement income guidelines for accessing therapy funds. They also discussed the need to collect data on the demographics of those utilizing the funds and to create a long-term plan for improving access to therapy services.

iii. The group discussed the issue of insurance coverage for mental health services in their community. They explored the possibility of using data to determine the number of people with insurance and their specific coverage, as well as the need for more Medicaid providers.

iv. Andres: Does not feel the Spanish speaking population know about the fund and would like them to be targeted with marketing.

v. 2024 guardrails: income levels, insurance. Collect this data to inform 2025 rules. Change is coming for insurance companies in the future who will have to cover mental health visit.

vi. Mandy, Sharon, and John discussed the idea of utilizing behavioral health navigators to connect new applicants with Medicaid and other benefits. They also considered setting a budget for individual care and monitoring the number of sessions and clients to ensure projections align with the available resources.

vii. Mary shared she was told to limit advertising during the transitory first half of 2023 while the fund usage was monitored, Rob seconds the memory that we had said that we were going to start limiting advertising. Information is on the Website, TCHNetwork navigators, coordinators and enrollment staff promote the fund with a flyer when doing outreach in San Miguel County or meeting with clients.

D. 2024 Budget Preview: John, Mary, Paul, Sharon, Melanie, Mandy, and others discussed the funding amounts for 2024 and 2025, the end of the Behavioral Health Navigator contract, a possible typo in the admin fee, and the continuation of funding for the Behavioral Health Navigator service through other sources.The expected revenue for the next year would not exceed 800,000, leaving little room for additional projects.

E. 2023 6-month grant report summary The group discussed the possibility of changing the format of the six-month grant reports and presentations. They considered options such as inviting specific grantees for Q&A, handling it through written correspondence, or having panel members individually meet with grantees. They also recognized the need to rethink the questions asked in the grant reports to obtain more valuable data.

i. Sharon suggests a subcommittee, and Paul mentions CASE for sharing their report and procedures.

ii. John suggests that Tri-County should provide a proposal after researching Case and Telluride Foundation

F. Grant Cycle Kick-off

i. Group discussed the importance of expecting grant recipients to spend the allocated funds in a timely manner, and the need for clear communication regarding funding deadlines and the possibility of requesting extensions for grants within reason.

ii. 2024 grant cycle recommendations: Proposals accepted August 1 – September 15. Review will begin at September regular board meeting where subcommittees will be established to review proposals assigned prior to the October regular meeting. Recipients will be contacted by the end of October.

iii. Multi-year grant recipient communication needs to be reviewed along with grant reporting that is aligned with relevancy to what the Solutions panel is seeking.

Meeting adjourned at 10:59am.

Next meeting is August 24, 9-11am, on zoom

Panel Members:

John Pandolfo-- Superintendent, Telluride R1 School District, Chair
Sharon Grundy-- Telluride Medical Center, Vice Chair
Carol Friedrich-- San Miguel/Ouray County Social Services Director, Secretary
Chuck Porth-- CEO, Uncompahgre Medical Center
Paul Reich-- Community Relations Liaison, Axis Health Systems
Todd Bittner—Norwood Public Schools
Rob Whiting-- Community Member
Andres Jacinto Alonzo-- Community Member
Mandy Miller- Community Member

2023 Meeting Schedule

February 23   March 23
April 27   May 25
June 22-in person   July 27
August 24   September 28
October 26   November 16*
December 21*
3rd Thursday due to holiday