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2018

Bridges of Colorado

Connecting Colorado's Criminal Justice and Mental Health Systems

Bridges Commission Meeting

September 13, 2024

Convened at 10:04 AM and Concluded at 12:08 PM

Hybrid (In-Person and Virtual)

Centennial Building, 1313 Sherman St., Denver, CO

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees

Commissioners

- Julie Reiskin, Vice Chair, Executive Director, Colorado Cross Disabilities Coalition
- Beth Harris-Robinson, General Counsel, Archway Communities
- Andrea Jones, Deputy Policy Director, BHA Designee
- Alan Marschke, Judicial Liaison, OCFMH Designee
- Beth McCann, Denver DA, CDAC Designee
- James Van Beek, Sheriff, Eagle County

Other Attendees

- Jennifer Turner, Executive Director, Bridges of Colorado
- Bree Cole, Legal Director, Bridges of Colorado (virtual attendee)
- Mark Donaldson, Lived Experienced Commission applicant (virtual attendee)
- Jori Dovey, People and Culture Manager, Bridges of Colorado (virtual attendee)
- Robert Finke, First Assistant Attorney General
- Nate Haas, Communications Manager, Bridges of Colorado
- Ersaleen Hope, Operations Director, Bridges of Colorado
- Jessica Spindler, Clinical Director, Bridges of Colorado

Minutes

Agenda Item: Welcome and Introductions

Commissioners and other attendees introduced themselves.

Agenda Item: Approval of the June 2024 Minutes

The commission unanimously approved the minutes.

Agenda Item: Commission Vacancies

Executive Director Jennifer Turner shared that the Chief Justice Marquez reappointed commissioners Beth Harris-Robinson and James van Beek. Their second term expires June 30, 2027.

Jennifer introduced commissioner applicant Mark Donaldson for the community member vacancy for an individual with lived experience. James moved to recommend Mark to Chief Justice Marquez to fill the vacancy on the commission, Beth H-R seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Beth McCann announced that CDAC will designate a new Commissioner to Bridges upon her retirement as Denver District Attorney, effective January 2025.

Andrea Jones announced that Joy Hart will transition into the Behavioral Health Administrative designee and take Andrea's place on the commission.

Agenda Item: Bridges Commission Policies Review

- **Public Records**
 - *Beth M moved to adopt the commission's workgroup recommended policy, Beth H-R seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.*
- **Complaints**
 - *Beth M moved to schedule a special meeting virtually to review a final version of the policy covering complaints against the executive director. Beth H-R seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*
- **Lived Experience Reimbursement**
 - *James moved to approve an amended policy reimbursing time-away-from-work expenses not covered by commissioners' employer while serving on the commission. Alan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.*
- **Schedule and Absences**
 - *Beth M moved to adopt the commission schedule and attendance policy, Alan M seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.*

Agenda Item: Office Reports

- **Success story**
 - Jennifer shared that The Arc in Colorado Springs recognized 4th Judicial District Court Liaison Michelle Wolf with their annual community award for her work as a court liaison. Jennifer also shared that Bridges has its first previous participant joining the Lived Experience Advisory Council, after earning her associate's degree after becoming certified as a counselor.
- **Staff Updates**
 - Jennifer provided a recruiting and hiring update. There are now 62 court liaisons throughout the state with 13 open positions. Hiring for the new Wraparound Care Program and Psychological Services Assessment team is scheduled in the coming year. With the planned growth, 113 total FTE are expected by the end of the 2025 fiscal year. Targeted recruiting and promoting the Liaison in Training program are part of efforts to fill vacancies and prepare future liaisons.
 - Legal Director Bree Cole shared highlights that included improving training for new liaisons and supporting regional managers in training their staff. Bree is also coordinating efforts to develop the new Wraparound Care Program that will be phased in beginning in spring 2025.
 - Clinical Director Jessica Spindler's summary of updates included developing the Psychological Assessment Team pilot program, a clinical supervision model, and additional staff training opportunities.

- Jennifer covered the update from Service and Resource Equity Director Latisha Quintana. Highlights included implementing a new data information management system that was piloted in August, Participant Services Fund updates, and hiring personnel to oversee those two areas.
- Operations Director Ersaleen Hope summarized operations highlights that included providing support for onboarding employees.
- People and Culture Manager Jori Dovey provided updates on a learning management system to deliver training to staff that will be piloted this fall, onboarding new staff, and employee relations.
- Communications Manager Nate Haas summarized progress with the website, intranet, and communications support for staff.

Agenda Item: FY25 Budget Review and Discussion

Jennifer provided an overview of the personnel and operating budget for the current fiscal year. Due to meeting time constraints, the commission tabled the discussion to continue at a special meeting that will be scheduled in October.

Agenda Item: Public Comment

None

Agenda Item: New Business/Agenda Items for Next Meeting

None

Next Steps:

- Jennifer will schedule a special meeting for commissioners to review the policy covering complaints against the executive director, and the FY25 budget.

Agenda Items Identified for Next Meeting:

- None discussed