

Emergency Service Provider Wellness Commission

APPROVED Meeting Minutes

11/17/21

- Meeting opened at 1:01
- Members and Guests
 - In-person Commissioners - Stephanie Busch, Pete Lynch, Mark McDonough, Trevor Whipple,
 - On-Teams Commissioners- Len Howard, Bill Elwell, Matt Engels, Emma Harrigan, Vicki Fielding, Lance Burnham, Emily Wilson, Clarke Collins, Barbara Neal, Kate Lamphere, Prescott Nadeau, Seth Loomis
 - On-Teams guests - Bobby Arnell
 - Absent - Karim Champman, Gene Perkins, Cindy Lack, Aaron Cochran, Lauri McGivern, Lori Gurney, Samantha Sweet, Dean Shatney
- Minutes of 10/27/21 meeting were adopted (Motion by Engels and second by Howard)
- The working group assignments were turned in by each discipline. Some of the working groups sent a short/basic survey out to their membership for input. Stephanie compiled the information and gave a power point presentation (attached) to the Commission. The results generated a great deal of discussion. The Commission decided that another survey should be created that will ask more specific questions. Based on the information provided in this discussion Mark will create a draft survey that will be distributed to the Commission for review. Once the survey is finalized each working group will send it out to their discipline as appropriate.

Some of the discussion points are below:

- Dispatchers there is often a divide between fire/police/EMS and dispatchers
- Can't silo any of disciplines.
- Dispatchers and need to be able to answer the survey separately.
- There is a need for access to more formal training for all.
- What (comprehensive) planning can be put into place before an incident?
- What departments have "established relationship" with a clinician?
- It is important to make survey question very specific. The Commission created this question as an example: Does your agency have a contract or relationship with a trauma informed clinician that your staff are willing to reach out to?
- The revised survey may want to include sectors, clinicians, other services definitions, and say who the clinicians are for each agency.
- Stephanie will check with VDH/ DMH about resiliency/ trauma informed training work.
- The conversation needs to address stigma which can be a big barrier for seeking help.

- Barb Neal will take the lead in gathering the information needed to write the report. Barb asked that a small group assist her with the project. Anyone interested in helping should contact Barb directly.
- Writing the report
- Timeline was reviewed by the group and changes may need to be made based on when the report needs to be delivered to the legislature. Beth will be asked to advise the group on this.
 - Working group discussion deadline (?)
 - Working group written responses (January 1)
 - Commission report development (January)
 - Commission report deadline for draft (February 1)
 - Final report (February 20)
 - Legislative committee meeting (March 1)
- Next meeting
 - December 17 at 10:00am virtually
- Meeting concluded at 11:37