

**Lincoln/Lancaster County
Youth Crisis Response Coalition
Minutes 1.10.22**

Attendance: Don Belau (Coordinator), Russ Uhing (LPS), Shala Hartmann (CenterPointe), Joe Pastuszak (Region V), Amber Dirks (CenterPointe), Roma Amundson (County Board), Lynn Ayers (United Way), Chris Turner (County Attorney), Tim Dolberg (LPD), Michelle Nelson (CenterPointe), Brad Negrete (LFS), Linda Dubs Cerny (LFS), Jeanne Brandner (Juv Probation), Cathy Johnson (Family Service), Natavia Jones (YWCA), Elton Edmond (Mentoring Plus), Michelle Muething (Aspen Hope Center), Monica DeMent (Better Living Counseling), Sara Hoyle (Human Services), and Jenni Ryan (Human Services)

Introductions:

Minutes from the November YCRC meeting were passed.

Agency Updates:

1. LPD – Tim shared a handout. There are 4 classifications for MH calls for service. Just under 4,000 calls were classified as MH calls in 2021, 50% of those being youth related (1940 youth). This is an increase by 100 calls in 2021 as compared to 2019 & 2020.
2. CenterPointe – Amber shared a handout. July 20-June 21 saw a 64% increase in contacts from the previous year, 394 youth contacts in 2021.
3. Lynn Ayers, UW – the Child Abuse/Neglect Collaborative is developing a survey to determine gaps in the community.
4. Family Service – they provide behavioral health services in some of the schools, have seen an increase in suicidality in young ages.
5. Natavia Jones, YWCA – They have Life Skills groups for high school girls (24 girls last year), Girls Circle groups in middle school (50 girls), and support groups at Cedars.
6. Lutheran Family Services – they are planning to expand their Safe program, which provides services to youth who've been sexually abused, to Lincoln.
7. Monica, Better Living Counseling – they just received their CARF accreditation, they've implemented ASQ assessments that address suicidality.
8. County Attorney – still finalizing mental health diversion, just need staff hired at CenterPointe. It's been beneficial partnering with Dr. Wiener to build the program in such a way as to help Chris make objective decisions.
9. LPS – they've had to scale up their multi-tiered system of support for mental & behavioral health services. They utilize Blue Valley, youth's private therapists, HopeSpoke, Family Service, and LFS in the schools.
10. Region V – continuing reinvestment efforts, their Professional partner program has a waitlist of about 25 people.
11. Juvenile Probation – seeing good front-end work at diverting youth appropriately, not seeing too many crisis youth on Probation.
12. Roma Amundson, County Board – the Board is in full support of everyone's work & appreciative of everything you do.

Grant Update:

1. CAHOOTS – we are waiting for their report.
2. Crisis Training Grant – collaboration between Lincoln & Omaha, provides funds to expand LFS training, and to build adult peer support in Lincoln. The budget hasn't been approved yet through DOJ.

3. ARPA funding is set aside for a crisis facility, we've been working with RFK to develop a plan.

Aspen Hope Center, Michelle Muething:

Colorado has been in a unique situation because there was an uproar that mental health services were in a bad place, so there's been a new shift with the State pushing for more crisis response. 988 has also pushed the need for mobile crisis response. The Aspen Hope Center is a non-profit, 501c3. Michelle has worked as a clinical crisis therapist for around 15 years. After researching syllabi she found that clinicians coming out of school aren't receiving any real crisis training, so the need for it is great. She's developed and provides training to clinicians, peers, caseworkers, etc. under the Frontline Crisis Academy. The training provides tips to be on scene & safety considerations. We are seeing more clinicians being paired with & embedded in law enforcement but oftentimes they're not connected with an agency or resources to provide supervision or ongoing services. She's also working with two universities to put a crisis track in place. Most students in grand programs want to do therapy and crisis stabilization is not therapy. Michelle can be contacted at: michelle@frontlinecrisisacademy.org

Next Meeting:

- Steering – Feb 14, 2022 from 12-1pm via Zoom
- Coalition – March 14, 2022 from 12-1pm via Zoom

Respectfully Submitted:

Jenni Ryan, Lancaster County Human Services