

Montana
Mental
Disabilities
Board of
Visitors

July 30

2015

Montana Mental Disabilities Board of Visitors Work Plan for FY 2015-2016

Annual
Meeting

The board is an independent board of inquiry and review that is responsible to ensure that the treatment of all persons either voluntarily or involuntarily admitted to a mental facility in Montana is humane, is consistent with established clinical and other professional standards, and meets the requirements set for in this part. (M.C.A. 53-21-104)

Goal #1:

The board will actively engage with Montana's mental health facilities, Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center (MMHNCC), and Montana State Hospital (MSH) through site inspections and ongoing dialogue regarding abuse/neglect issues and treatment improvement.

Objectives:

1.1 Conduct inspections and provide recommendations for improvement to at least six mental health facilities prior to June 30, 2106.

1.2 Publish and post written reports documenting site inspections and the facilities' responses during FY 2015-2016 on BOV website.

1.3 Communicate verbally and/or in writing with each facility inspected during FY 2015-2016 before June 30, 2016, to determine status of implementations of recommendations.

1.4 Participate in quarterly or more frequent meetings when warranted, with Administrator at MSH and Administrator at MMHNCC, to address abuse/neglect issues and treatment improvement.

1.5 Participate in quarterly or more frequent meetings when warranted, with DPHHS Division Administrators to discuss legislative, budget, and treatment decisions and how they impact mental health service delivery.

1.6 Attend Admission and Discharge Review Team (ADRT) meetings every two months to participate in and help facilitate safe and effective discharges from MSH.

1.7 Review and update BOV Policies and Procedures and Site Inspection Standards to reflect most current clinical best practices by June 30, 2016, using MCA/ARM for Montana specific best practices, and SAMHSA/professional associations and other sources for current best practice recommendations.

Responsibility: BOV staff

Goal #2:

The board will provide ongoing legal representation and advocacy to persons voluntarily or involuntarily admitted at Montana State Hospital to ensure adequate counsel and to ensure that legal rights of patients are protected.

Objectives:

2.1 Assist in review and resolution of allegations of abuse, neglect, and mistreatment of patients served at Montana State Hospital and as reported by their family members/guardians.

2.2 Participate in Resident Council, Grievance Committee, Involuntary Medication Review Board, and Forensic Review Board meetings at Montana State Hospital to ensure that legal rights of patients are protected.

2.3 Report legal representation and advocacy activity to the board during the annual meeting 2016.

2.4 Maintain written logs documenting requests for assistance and resolution descriptions in the MSH office.

Responsibility: BOV Attorney at MSH
Advocate/Paralegal at MSH
Executive Director

Goal #3:

Ensure BOV advocacy is responsive to the needs of persons served at Montana Developmental Center (MDC) who need intensive, time-limited, acute stabilization treatment services.

Objectives:

3.1 Identify MDC clients in need of advocacy to discharge to community services.

3.2 Participate in the Treatment Advisory Committee, individual treatment planning (ITP) meetings, ITP classes, grievance hearings, and individual contacts with clients and families for advocacy, and other scheduled meetings as recommended.

3.3 Participate in quarterly or more frequent meetings if warranted, with Superintendent at MDC.

3.4 Participate in quarterly or more frequent meetings when warranted, with DPHHS Division Administrators to discuss legislative, budget, and treatment decisions and how they impact service delivery.

3.5 Assist in reviewing and resolving allegations of abuse, neglect, and mistreatment of clients served at MDC.

3.6 Maintain written logs documenting requests for assistance and resolution descriptions in BOV office.

3.7 Provide written report to the board of all activities provided to clients at MDC during annual meeting in 2016.

Responsibility: BOV Advocacy Specialist
Executive Director

Goal #4:

Participate in and contribute to activities that promote mental health system transformation, especially regarding Recovery-based treatment modalities.

Objectives:

4.1 Attend and participate in advocacy agency work groups, policy discussion committees, and task force meetings to learn about mental health system improvements/transformations.

4.2 Attend and participate in Local Advisory Councils (LAC), Service Area Authority (SAA), and Mental Health Oversight Advisory Committee (MHOAC) meetings to better understand community mental health issues.

4.3 Attend and follow Legislative committee meetings considering legislation that may affect services to persons who have mental illness and/or an intellectual disability and the statutory responsibilities of BOV, during the regular session and interim.

4.4 Provide ongoing information of Legislative committee work to the board throughout the 2016 interim.

Responsibility: Executive Director

Goal #5:

Maintain ongoing communication with the Governor's Office regarding advocacy and service delivery in mental health facilities, at MSH, and at MDC.

Objectives:

5.1 Attend and participate in scheduled meetings and activities that address mental health needs in Montana.

5.2 Provide requested information and assistance to Governor's Office in a timely manner.

5.3 Submit information regarding board membership and changes to the Governor's Office as they occur.

5.4 Respond to, assist and advocate for persons with complaints and allegations regarding mental health services and treatment who contact the Governor's Office.

Responsibility: Executive Director

