



ADDICTION COUNSELING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Friday, March 4th, 2022 * 11.30am-1.00pm
Zoom Online**

Members Present Lynette Tracy (Committee Chair), Lifeline Connections; Rebecca Bradley, Rainier Springs; Kristopher Chew, PCC; Laurie Ellett, Helping Professionals Wellness Center; Denise Hurley, Cowlitz; Sean Moore, Workforce SW; Lindsay Newcomer, Family Promise of Clark County; Rena Sherrill, Cowlitz Indian Tribe; Britney Sorensen, Cowlitz Indian Tribe;

Members Absent: Ken Burton (Vice Chair), Lifestance Health; Mariele Balasbas, Boys and Girls Club; David Cole, Family Promise of Clark County; Vince Collins, Recovery Café; Aaron J. Larson, American Behavioral Health Systems; Sebastian Molfa, Columbia River Mental Health Services; Katie Moore, Daybreak Youth Services; Scott Sims;

Clark College: Marcia Roi, Department Head; Chris Thompson, Clark County/Instructor/Advisor; Jim Jensen, Instructor; Don Ludwig, Department Chair/Professor; Joe Jenkins, Advising; SueAnn McWatters, Program Specialist – Advisory Committees

Lynette Tracy called the meeting to order at 11:30am and introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of March 4th, 2022 will be sent out for electronic approval.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The committee will meet again **Friday, June 10th, 2022 at 11:30am.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE COLLEGE

SueAnn McWatters/Don Ludwig made the following announcements:

The college has finally hired the new Vice President of Instruction Paul Wickline and he started in January.

The campus is now a fully vaccinated campus. Masks are currently required, but it might change for spring term.

SENATE BILL 5884

James Chaney updated Marcia Roi on all legislation occurring this term. In 2019, there was a Sunrise Review on whether to create a behavioral health credential at the bachelor's level. It was confirmed through a survey of all the stakeholders that it was needed. However, the word "diagnose:" was used, which caused groups like The Washington Psychological Association, social workers, etc. to disagree. Marcia had originally gone to testify and approve this bill when it was bill 1768. It was not approved. Forward to now, bill 5884 is behavioral health support specialist at the bachelor's level. If this credential gets approved, then the program would work towards this type of curriculum. The Sunrise Review had a special call out to the Clark College BASHS program and stated that this baccalaureate program had the best balance of addictions and mental health. The bill is currently at the senate being voted on. If this passes, this will be a co-occurring disorders credential at the bachelor's level. The stakeholders (Clark College/Educators) will work with the Department of Health on what this will look like:

- What classes?
- What competencies?
- What kind of internship hours?
- Do we want this for credentialing?

The hope is that this credential will allow students to fill roles in addictions treatment or mental counselors.

Lynette Tracey asked what the duties of this role might be provide. Marcia responded saying that they would be a sub-MSW level. It is a support specialist, but the program would outline what the duties would be. She asked the committee members on what they think the duties should be as they are in the industry.

Laurie Ellett stated that bachelor level case managers can do skills training, meet clients for skill building, but they cannot do therapy, assessments or diagnose.

Rebecca Bradley stated that the behavioral health specialist would probably be a role as a discharge planner or an assessment clerk in her organization. The employee would need to be competent around understanding and assessing risks, engaging clients, referring out to appropriate resources, etc. Outside of these roles, potentially some non-billable group work. The supportive role for the social services department would be very important. Rebecca believes this person would be good for engagement in the recovery process.

Denise Hurley suggested supervising peers if the employee has been certified in that area. She also recommended a role in screening questions.

Jim Jensen spoke on the program's role in this new credential and making sure that the college provides the proper competencies.

HB 1865

This is a certification of peer support specialists. In Oregon, they are called certified recovery mentors. In Washington, there is a credential for mental health peer counselors, but there is no credential for

substance use. This bill creates a peer support specialist, a peer support specialist (two tier), however there is no language about private practice. It would allow someone to go into private practice with only 80 hours of training.

The state is interested in portable training. If the college gives the student college credit, they can most likely ctrans

Lynette Tracy adjourned the meeting at 1:11pm.

Prepared by SueAnn McWatters