

November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Governor's Challenge Meeting

Attendees:

Lucy Manning

Jessica Mayrer

Robert Mortenson

Doug Stepina

Megan Cox

Claire Oakley

Brandy

Megan Bailey

Heather Zimmerman

Karl Rosston

Megan Grotzke

Drenda Niemann

Chaplain Thompson

Elizabeth Crabtree

Kelly Ackerman

Taryn Phillips

Michael Noyce-Merino

Col Greg Olson

Dr. Greg Holtzman

The meeting opened with introductions and roll call. Immediately after, the subcommittee's broke out into groups to discuss funding proposals.

Funding was discussed and projected expenses are scholarships, program courses, and recruitment. The current programs available include six board approved courses. Courses are 40-hours of training with an exam. The VA does not currently have an approved course, but can develop a one and submit it to the

board for approval. Developing a specific course will better aide the team with determining pricing for the training, location, and number of trainees per course. To recruit people for the course, advertisements can go out through organizations, a new website, and the media. This will help recruit a group of informal peers that trainers can easily pick from to take the formal training and become formal peer support specialists. If the informal peer cannot pay for the formal training, there will be scholarships available.

Col Olson will collaborate with Jessica Mayrer to get information for a tool kit to start development and implementation. The tool kit budget is \$20,000 and includes development, distribution and implementation. An additional \$20,000 budgeted for needed recruitment materials. Finally, and additional \$10,000 for scholarships to train the informal peers to become formal peers. Total budget will be approximately \$50,000.

At 2:00 pm, the groups reconvene and Kelly Ackerman presents the funding proposal. During the presentation, Kelly Ackerman mentioned meeting with the VHA leadership to discuss an agreement to have peer support specialist attached to the VHA. Doug Stepina offered help getting agreements in place.

Of the \$250,000 grant, peer support group will need \$50,000, 211 will need \$75,000 (See 211 packet for more info), \$25,000 will be for an emergency fund, and the remaining \$100,000 is for universal screening. Additional funding will be discussed at the next meeting in January.

After discussing the other group's financial needs, the survey Heather created was reviewed and edited. After a few small changes, the groups approved the survey to be sent out. The survey will be sent, and results will be sent to Kelly Ackerman November 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The next subgroup meeting is December 3<sup>rd</sup>, and the Veterans Affairs Division will book a meeting room.