

Community Mental Health Coalition Newsletter



Summer 2011

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Mental Health Update- Recruitment for CD-MH-TC Sales Tax Advisory Committee

Carolyn Price, Mental Health Liaison- Lewis County Public Health and Social Services

On June 20th, 2011, the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) passed a new Lewis County Code Chapter (ORD.1224) to allow for the collection of .1 of 1% sales and use tax to be used specifically to support treatment programs and services in the areas of chemical dependency, mental health, and therapeutic courts.

To provide information and recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners, the BOCC is seeking Lewis County citizens interested in participating in a CD-MH-TC Advisory Committee. Applications for this committee will continue to be accepted until August 19th, 2011 and are available on the Lewis County Website:

<http://lewiscountywa.gov/publichealth/public-health-blog>

The committee membership will consist of:

- Public Health & Social Services Director
- One representative of therapeutic courts
- One licensed mental health professional
- One certified chemical dependency treatment professional
- One representative of the Board of Health (BOH) Advisory Committee
- One representative of the Affordable Housing Network (AHN)
- One representative of the Community Health Partnership
- Two citizens at large

Mental Health First Aid USA Training- September 15 & 16, 2011

Mental Health First Aid is a groundbreaking public education program that helps the public identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders (The National Council, 2011).

Lewis County Public Health and Social Services and the Timberlands Regional Support Network Mental Health Ombudsman are offering this 2-day training in Chehalis for FREE. Check out this article in EMS WORLD about the benefits of having familiarity with MH 1st Aid:

<http://www.emsworld.com/features/article.jsp?id=17094&siteSection=5>

For more information about this training or to request a training for your group or staff, please contact Carolyn Price at 360-740-1430.

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Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC)

Carolyn Price, LC Public Health & Social Services

September is National Recovery Month and to celebrate, members of the Lewis County Mental Health Coalition and Recovery-oriented Systems of Care will be at the Providence Wellness Round-up.

We hope to share information with the community about the various supports available for individuals in both substance use and mental health recovery.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) defines ROSC as:

“...a coordinated network of community-based services and supports that is person-centered and builds on the strengths and resiliencies of individuals, families, and communities to achieve abstinence and improved health, wellness, and quality of life for those with or at risk of alcohol and drug problems.”

Last March, thirty people from faith-based communities, housing, mental health and substance abuse treatment providers, and 12-Step groups received training to learn about how best to support individuals in recovery. Stay tuned for more events to promote this emerging practice. If you would like to participate in this on-going work, please contact Carolyn Price.

Coalition Contact Information

If you are interested in any of the projects mentioned, or would like to share what you are doing in this quarterly newsletter, please feel free to email or call Carolyn Price at 360-740-1430, Carolyn.Price@lewiscountywa.gov



- Free cholesterol, blood sugar, blood pressure and bone density screenings
- Free clinical breast exams and mammograms for those who qualify
- Free massages, information and giveaways from local health partners
- More than 100 local exhibitors featuring a variety of information, located at the Cancer Center, corner of Cooks Hill and Scheuber Roads

Mental Health Quality Review Team— Heather Maxwell

Timberlands Regional Support Network Quality Review Team represents Lewis, Wahkiakum and Pacific Counties. Clients and family members who are interested in helping to improve the quality of public mental health services serve on the Volunteer Team. They survey clients and

family members of public mental health services and community partners in our region via speakouts/community forums, surveys and other forms of outreach to look at trends in the system based on client voice and collaboration and make recommendations for improvement.

If interested in volunteering or participating in the allied service partner survey, please contact Heather Maxwell, QRT Coordinator at 1-877-736-3162 (Toll Free) or Email: qrt@localaccess.com more information.