



GREENWOOD  
COUNTS  
COMMUNITY  
CONSORTIUM

<b>TO:</b>	GC3-Mental Health Alliance
<b>FROM:</b>	Jessica Seel, SC Office of Rural Health
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	MHA Meeting Summary
<b>DATE:</b>	January 4, 2024

We extend our gratitude to all who attended the Mental Health Alliance meeting for the Greenwood Counts Community Consortium. Here's a concise summary of the key points discussed during the meeting:

- **Welcome and Introductions:**

Justo Chalaire welcomed the LFHA Members and initiated introductions. In attendance: Justo Chalaire, Michelle Morgan, Lucia Beaton, Frank Grant

Virtual: Elizabeth DeMeo, Kathy Cinnamond, Janet Phelps, Jessica Seel, Jennifer Lindler, Ebony Burgess, Ashlee Redfern, Dana Powell, Victoria Johnson, Nita Donald, Andrea Wendell

- **Organization Updates:**

- Westview Behavioral Health is offering Mental Health First Aid Training in Newberry and Saluda counties but would like to branch out to include Greenwood and Abbeville counties.
- SCAHEC has an upcoming training on serving the LGBTQ+ community and meeting their needs. The goal is to gain insight and information for this community to include the stigma and discrimination and best practices to best address the risks and to include access and quality of care. The registration link is on the SCAHEC website.

- **ACE's Training:**

- We have several ACEs trainers serving on the alliance. Our target populations are educators, churches, and industry. Our location is Piedmont Tech but this was based on the original date of 2/19/24. This date was canceled.
- The first hour of the training (12-1) will be with Dana Powell and the second half will be listening sessions (3 facilitators)-each trained on listening session facilitation and then breakout groups
- The biggest challenge has been setting a date and time that will work for educators.
- Justo introduced (2) options going forward:

- Talk with the group now to help identify a date and time which will work best for educators.
  - Come up with a date and try our best to promote it to educators and determine if the district can incentivize educators to attend. If we can't get educators at the training, we will have to look at a different way to engage.
- One suggestion was possibly trying to get the guidance counselors to attend. They have a little more flexibility and can bring back information to staff.
- Another option is to look at a summer education session.
- Government was also mentioned as a target sector as well as law enforcement, faith based and first responders.
- The training was originally just for Greenwood, but Justo felt like we could potentially expand out to surrounding counties but just focus on Greenwood.
- The meeting date has been a challenge due to spring break schedules. The group decided to move forward with April 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Justo will go ahead and reach out to Piedmont Tech to confirm space.
- We will need notetakers for the listening sessions-volunteers from group.
- Justo put together 5 questions that align with the survey and introduced them to the group.
- **Mental Health First Aid Training:**
  - Justo had a discussion with Kathy regarding the promotion of Mental Health First Aid training to Greenwood. A few years back they were able to partner with Westview Behavioral Health (WBH) to bring the training to the community and the participants were adults trained on supporting other adults. WBH is currently training adults, youth, veterans and first responders. Justo suggested partnering with Kathy to provide these trainings. Lucia inquired about trainings in Spanish. Kathy needs more Spanish trainers; she has several for adults but not as many for youth. Lucia is certified to teach both adult and youth in Spanish.
  - This training is for adults assisting youth. Justo asked the group what population in the community would benefit from this training. Responses were faith-based community, educators, and veterans (above 55).
  - Getting veterans to training could be a challenge. There was an offer to market to the various VA clinics.
  - Kathy has fliers already developed for veterans and first responders.
- **NAMI**
  - The alliance is partnering with NAMI to certify community members to be support group facilitators. The reason is the data from the community survey

- identifying the time to get a mental health appointment. This can provide ongoing support until an individual can receive an appointment.
- Youth also shared, at the Mayor's Youth, resources providing a place to share their struggles.
  - The training will take place on 1/27 and 1/28 9a-6p. Justo sent the details out to the group. Several members expressed interest in the training. Justo asked to send him an email if you are interested.

**Action Items Resulting from the Meeting:**

- Justo will reach out to Piedmont Tech to secure meeting space for the ACEs training and listening sessions on 4/4/2024. He will also develop a save the date and registration system.
- Justo will collaborate with Kathy to begin planning the Mental Health First Aid training with the identified target populations.