

Better Together Board Meeting: Agenda

Friday, September 22, 2023 - 12 pm - 1 pm
School of Social Work, Room 201 / Zoom

Purpose: brief introduction to the Learning Team (A&M), reminder about upcoming events, provide updates on open BT staff position and developing projects

Call to order: 12:00

1. Approval of minutes for last board meeting 1st: Carlos 2nd Erin
2. Introduction to the Learning Team (Sara Mendez) plans to use the evaluation matrix, goal setting
3. Announcements: Sept 23 Nac Safe Place Walk, Sept 27 Give Five Presentation (food cost around \$350), Sept 29 Mental Health Court Informational Meeting, Oct 3-6 Trip to Falfurrias Anna and Dr Avant have plans to go
4. Proposed meeting schedule through end of year
 - a. October 27
 - b. November 17 (to avoid Thanksgiving)
 - c. December (Skip?) agreed to skip a December meeting
 - d. January 26
5. Associate Director position
 - a. Dr Avant 3 interested people, Lamar University, UTSA applicant has sent in resume, SFA professor in education has expressed interest, plans to reach back out to them and encourage them to apply. Dr Avant will check with HR about if the applicants are not being seen because of a "no" answer on the submission form. Jordan will reach out to the Lamar University applicant
6. Recap of meeting with Debbie Bresette/Bastrop (Anna and Mario)
 - a. Consultants Robbie and Ty McDonald "sit-in" summary of meeting: to build trust and relationships within the board and the community, workshop on a strategic plan, possibly when strategic plan is made to submit an article to the paper to let the community know our plans and interest. Anna will begin compiling a google document with projects to have updates.
7. Outreach to Whole Again
 - a. Erin and Anna met with Ginger Stephens 9/12
 - b. Recruitment of a psychiatrist for adults and children
 - c. Psychiatry CAQ for PA's
 - d. Live Whole Foundation: builds scholarship funds to help people seek counseling looking for ways to help out with the foundation
8. Mental Health Symposium
 - a. Executive Team met 9/8 to sketch out an approach to planning: Erin, Anna and Dr Avant met
 - b. Continue outreach in small groups with Burke, Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement, Hospitals, Providers
 - c. By December host a small round table discussion to help define the issue, find common ground (Michael Cunyus, Judge Sinz, Sherrif Bridges, representative from hospitals, Dr Vyas, Dr Kroll, Better Together, and anyone else we want to include) Possibly adding Judge Sowell, reaching out to these entities to see about their thoughts on a symposium and formulate what to discuss at the symposium
 - d. Narrow down location, date, moderator for event in April

- e. Possibly use Thought Exchange before or during the event, maybe involve the larger community: lack of mental health providers, making the available resources known in the community, counseling available, how can Better Together help facilitate these things
9. Buddy Benches
- a. Outlying school districts (Tracie) have local schools build the benches through their woodshop/CTE classes, art classes decorate, place at local elementary schools to decrease loneliness, Buddy Benches Book, cost is unclear 100-300.00/ bench
10. The Big Picture
- a. Photo voice project with Nac ISD (Anna)

Adjourn: 1301