

LOGAN HEALTH

Behavioral Health

200 Heritage Way | Kalispell, MT 59901 | (406) 756-3950 | Fax: (406) 756-3957

May 6, 2024
Office of Governor
Mental Health Board of Visitors

Dear Jeremy,

Thank you and your team for your collaborative and educational visit. Every time we do a review, we eagerly await your input, observations, and feedback. We look forward to improving our program and providing a better experience and outcomes for our patients. Please check below for our responses to your team's proposed actions.

- 1) **The Board recommends:** Collaborate with hospital leadership to streamline medical consults on inpatient psychiatry.

Through we have a current approach for consultations and medical approval. We have numerous options for process improvement with healthcare professionals.

- a. Every other month, the Psychiatry Section has meetings that involve case reviews.
- b. Medical Director Meetings.
- c. Bi-monthly meetings with the Chief Medical Officer.
- d. Review of charts and procedures for medical transfers.

- 2) **The Board recommends:** All employees receive ongoing training in trauma-informed care and universal trauma precautions to ensure all staff have a basic understanding of how trauma affects a client's treatment course.

- a. Trauma-informed education is implemented throughout the program, with annual competencies included in the Health Stream Education modules. We also hold a yearly Aegis training for trauma-focused interventions.

- 3) **The Board recommends:** That Logan Explore all options for retaining Staff Development Educator Position within Logan Health Behavioral Health. Given the unique nature of behavioral health, it was clear to the Board the value this position brings to Logan Health Behavioral Health staff which in turn impacts patient care.

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- a. Logan Leadership will be presented with options for keeping and retaining an on-site behavioral health educator.
- 4) **The Board recommends:** Consider hosting routine all-staff meetings for 20- to 30-minute educational pearls by fellow colleagues to encourage continuing education on relevant mental health, substance use disorder, and cultural, ethnic, social, historical military service, and spiritual topics.
 - a. Logan Health Behavioral Health offers several educational venues and opportunities. We hold daily treatment team meetings to provide updates. Formal staff meetings are frequently held in-person or remotely. Multidisciplinary staff meetings centered on resources and education.
- 5) The Board recommends: With the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023, which removes the federal requirement for practitioners to have an “X-waiver” to prescribe buprenorphine for OUD, all practitioners who have a current DEA license may now prescribe buprenorphine for OUD. SAMHSA encourages all practitioners to treat patients within their practices who require treatment for substance use disorders, including buprenorphine for OUD. It is strongly recommended that Logan Health-Behavioral Health provide buprenorphine for OUD on the inpatient units to align with SAMHSA’s integrated care model for treating mental health and substance use disorders (co-occurring disorder care) concurrently, in a “whole patient” treatment approach.
 - a. Logan Health has providers who are willing to provide OUD drugs to inpatients who fit the criteria and create a treatment and follow-up plan.
- 6) **The Board recommends:** Logan Health-Behavioral Health work with the Department of Pharmacy to participate in the following hospital free trial programs:
Invega Sustenna - <https://www.inpatientfreetrialprogram.com/>
Abilify Maintena - <https://amtrial.com/authentication/login>
Vivitrol & Aristada - <https://alkermeshospitalprogram.com/user/login.action>
Multiple manufacturer programs exist that allow hospitals to obtain long-acting injectable (LAI) medications at no cost to the hospital. These programs allow for 2 injections per patient per year free of charge, which increases access to LAIs for patients while they are hospitalized.
 - a. Logan Health Pharmacy Department will look into the free trial possibilities provided by your team.
- 7) **The Board recommends:** Collaboration with hospital security leadership to ensure security staff are trained and use Aegis de-escalation techniques, regardless of patient’s location with the

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- 8) Healthcare system. Discussion among staff identified the need for Aegis Training of the hospital security staff to prevent workplace violence by using de-escalation techniques hospital wide, not solely in behavioral health.
 - a. Logan Health Security staff are required to attend annual Aegis training, and all debriefing required.
- 9) **The Board recommends:** that the contact information for independent advocacy services (Board of Visitors, Mental Health Ombudsman, and Disability Rights Montana) be shared with both parents/guardians and patient.
 - a. The clinical supervisor will oversee the implementation of this procedure.
- 10) **The Board recommends:** that Logan review the grievance process of nurses transcribing patient grievances and ensure its equitable, supportive of privacy, and that if the patient requests assistance in completing a grievance, that the patient can select the staff member who would help them complete it.
 - a. The clinical supervisor will oversee the implementation of this procedure.
- 11) **The Board recommends:** that Logan have staff follow up with patients after the first 2-3 days after admissions to ensure that the patients understand the rules on the unit and to see if they could answer any questions the patients may have regarding the rules.
 - a. The clinical supervisor will oversee the implementation of this procedure, which will include a purposeful rounding program.
- 12) **The Board recommends:** that Logan add to the Recognition and Reporting Abuse policy and procedure steps to fully implement the requirements of Section 53-21-107 MCA.
 - a. Logan's abuse policy includes language referring to Section 53.21-107 MCA.
- 13) **The Board recommends:** that Logan contract with a Native American/tribally enrolled clinician who can offer specific culturally relevant treatment options that can be implemented in a treatment plan and the treatment milieu of patients/families who identify as Native American/American Indian.
 - a. Logan Health's Clinical Supervisor will collaborate with local Native American agencies to assess possible treatments and initiatives.

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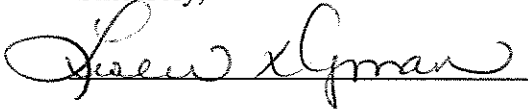
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14) The Board recommends: that Logan develop links to organizations within the community to explore additional training and educational opportunities related to military service members and other culturally represented groups.

- a. Logan Health's Clinical Supervisor will collaborate with VA and local military agencies to look at treatment options and programs.

Sincerely,



Leslie Nyman
Director Behavioral Health
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Date: 5-6-24