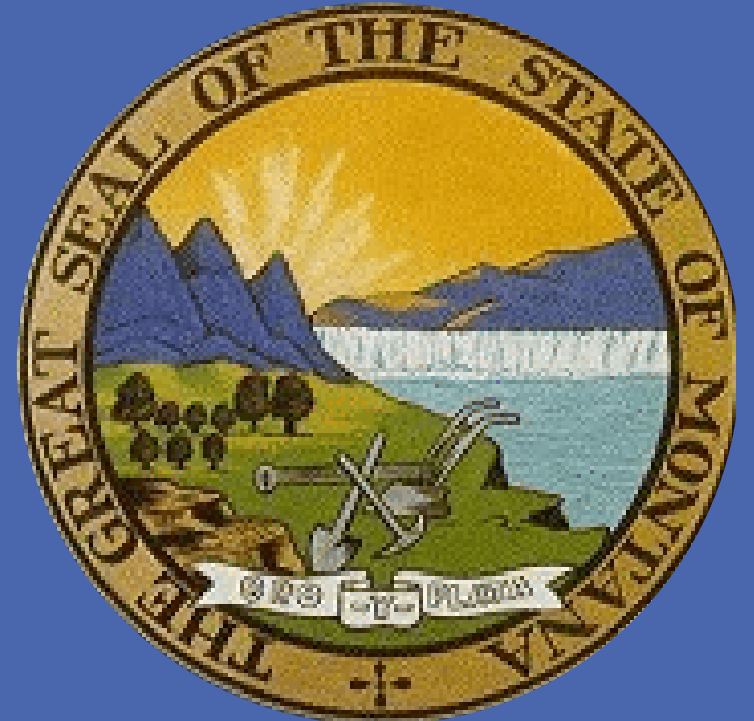


Mental Disabilities Board of Visitors

Presentation for Joint Subcommittee
on Health and Human Services
February 7, 2023



What is the Board of Visitors

Contrary to the name – not related to Montana's Tourism Industry

The United States Military Academy, United States Air Force Academy, United States Naval Academy, The Citadel along with the major universities in the Commonwealth of Virginia all operate their own Board of Visitors. Ex: Montana's Board of Regents.

In Arizona, the Board of Visitors is the oldest women's charitable organization in the state

In New York, the Board of Visitors operates as a non-profit organization

What is the Board of Visitors?

Independent board of inquiry and review established by the Legislature in 1975 to provide consumer-oriented oversight of Montana's public mental health facilities to ensure that patients of Montana's public mental health facilities (voluntarily or involuntarily) are treated humane and receive clinically appropriate and professional treatment.

Mission Statement

The Mental Disabilities Board of Visitors

provides independent oversight and critique of treatment provided by the Intensive Behavioral Center and Montana's public mental health programs and makes recommendations for their improvement;

Mission Continued...

The Mental Disabilities Board of Visitors works to ensure that everyone with a mental illness or developmental disability receiving services in the Intensive Behavioral Center and Montana's public mental health facilities has access to effective, evidence-based treatment and supports that are essential for living, working, learning, and participating fully in the community.

Board of Visitors Composition

The Board is a 6-member Board, members are appointed by the Governor.

Board members serve two-year terms, with half of board members term expiring at the end of the fiscal year (June 30th).

Board slots are comprised of designated mental health and developmental disability professionals, individuals with experience in treating adults and children with mental illness, and primary or secondary consumers of mental health or developmental disabilities service

Current Board Members

Melissa
Ancell

Mary
Luinstra

Dr. Scott
Klajic

Dr. Paulette
Lassiter

Tyson
Schumacher

Aaron
Atkinson

BOARD OF VISITORS STAFF

Jeremy Hoscheid –
Executive Director

Craig Fitch – Attorney

Vera Haffey – Legal
Secretary/Patient Advocate

What is the Boards Function?

Conduct site inspections/reviews of Montana's public mental health facilities, including MSH, MMHNCC, and IBC. (Annual inspection of IBC)

Purview of Board includes any hospital, behavioral inpatient facility, licensed mental health center, residential treatment facility or residential treatment center licensed or certified by the department that provides treatment to children or adults with a mental disorder.

The Board makes attempts to utilize professional and consumer consultants during site inspections.

The Board must review and approve all plans for experimental research that would involve any individual admitted to a mental health facility.



LEGAL SERVICES AND PATIENT ADVOCACY SERVICES TO
PATIENTS AT MONTANA STATE HOSPITAL



PARTICIPATION IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STAKEHOLDER
GROUPS. (LAC'S, SAA'S, AND BHAC) ALSO REGULARLY
WORK WITH NAMI, BHAM, AND OTHER ADVOCACY
GROUPS.



PATIENT ADVOCACY SERVICES TO ADDRESS CONSUMER
CONCERNS/COMPLAINTS

The Boards Functions continued



REVIEWING/REVISING SITE
INSPECTIONS STANDARDS



REVIEWING/REVISING SITE
INSPECTION PROCEDURES –
QUALITY OVER QUANTITY



EXPLORING EXPANDING
CONSULTANTS TO OUT OF
STATE PROFESSIONALS



BEST PRACTICES FROM
OTHER STATES – NO NEED
TO REINVENT THE WHEEL

Current
Initiatives Board
is working on

Contact information

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