

## Chinook Forum Minutes - January 7, 2015 – 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the New Year!

Attending – 8 staff and 11 members

Welcome & Icebreaker: Several new members, returning member and ongoing members! Great to see everyone. Introduced Gil and Ben as new Wellness Team staff. Icebreaker: Favorite vacation spot

Announcements: Safe Harbor 1:15 on Monday; Advisory Board 8:15 on Tuesday; Birthday celebration at Forum on the 21<sup>st</sup> – yes we will have cake and a request for Ice Cream!

### Old Business:

- Continued discussion around the table about possibly moving Forum to Tuesday at 11. Positive would be that Tuesday is a Plated Lunch day and would get people to come to Forum who often leave after lunch. About a 50-50 split of changing and keeping. We will continue the conversation and make a final decision next week so we can get into the February Wind Times.
- Follow up on recommendations for healthy snacks at Chinook Café and thanking Ezra and Jessica for their great meals and for getting the healthy snacks in.

### New Business: None

Building Issues/Discussion: Very lively and interactive sharing of issues. Great feedback and ideas.

- Continued feelings of not being safe in the building with members thanking Toni for going around the Community Area this am and talking to people about their presence in the building.
- Issues that were brought up included:
  - People who are not MHP clients, from the shelter, not seeking services, not engaged.
  - People bringing in marijuana to the building
  - People camping at the computers for long periods of time
  - People camping in areas in the community room, “claiming” chairs and couches and having a lot of belonging spread all around.
  - People are not sharing the fireplace area.
  - People not cleaning up after they bring in food or order pizza.
- Member suggestions for helping to make the environment safer and better.
  - A sign in for everyone in the building identifying team or appointment or at least their name
  - A card could be given to Chinook members and BoJo members – “regulars” who could show they belong at Alpine.
  - Better signage about no weapons and no drugs on the premises
  - Making sure everyone goes through some kind of orientation like Chinook members do, which explains expectations and guidelines for use of the building, with people signing it like Chinook members do. We discussed that maybe people coming to the building don’t know what is expected or what is okay and not okay.
  - Modeling and showing others how we clean up and pick up in our “community”. Penny offered to bring in cups she sees outside. We talked about how we cleaned up at 1441 together and maybe we could do that now at Alpine.
  - Members talked about how they take care of their own cigarette butts and helping others keep the sidewalks clean.
- Deb did respond to some of the concerns and reviewed that Chinook is a membership program, voluntary, and that new members need to be MHP clients referred from their primary team. Deb talked about use of the computers in the COS as dedicated to Housing and Employment (2 of them) but that others are always available as well. Also that 3:00 pm to 4:00 is open computer time for any Chinook member. Deb also discussed how we might expand the use of our Greeter or Ros or other Peer Support Specialist to help in the community area. Deb also thanked everyone for this great input and to keep the great ideas coming to her or any staff or use the Suggestion Box too.