

## **Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force October 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

### **Questions regarding Granite Hills received to date (rev 10/2/2023)**

These questions were provided to Granite Hills staff in advance of the October 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- 1.** Overview of current units and capacity and timeline for expansion. Are all units, geriatric psych, children, adolescent etc, open and fully staffed? What is the timeline for reaching the 120 inpatients beds in the original plan?
- 2.** What is the status of staffing levels on the units?
- 3.** Average census, what percentage are under the BHS contract? Data for last six months and for last 12 months.
- 4.** Is there a high intensity unit for adults and can you tell us more about it. What is different about the staffing and programming? What is the approach for supporting kids who need extra help.
- 5.** For the units for children and adolescents, what is the status of education? Is there a school yet?
- 6.** What safety protocols are in place? What are current safety concerns for patients and staff?
- 7.** Are BHS funded patients integrated into units with private insurance/private pay, voluntary patients?
- 8.** Can you share the policy on calling West Allis police for intervention and data on the frequency and reasons for calling police. How often are people arrested and/or charged?
- 9.** What is the plan to keep and retain a medical director and an on staff psychiatrist to work with clients? Is it true that Dr. Jackson is leaving November 1?
- 10.** Can you address the use of telehealth? Are patients given a choice about use of telehealth?
- 11.** How are Granite Hills staff trained on de-escalation techniques?

- 12.** Explain the training and mentoring for psych techs/ mental health technicians
- 13.** What is being done to attract and retain staff?
- 14.** Use of and number of Certified Peer Specialists
- 15.** Are you working with colleges and universities for interns and student placements?
- 16.** Who are you working with for case management services?
- 17.** When will the court room be utilized and what changes are being planned?
- 18.** A significant number of the people at the Milwaukee County Jail have a mental illness, and many also receive services from Behavioral Health Services. We are concerned that shortages of inpatient beds are contributing to the overcrowding at the jail. What changes can be made to ensure that people experiencing serious mental illness are placed in a therapeutic environment rather than the jail when appropriate?
- 19.** What is the "step down program" that they advertise on their Facebook? Is everyone in this program? What qualifies someone? Kids too?