

Montana Mental Health Trust

Trustee Members:

Amber Spring is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor from Havre, Montana. She maintains a private practice and works as a counselor and adjunct instructor at MSU-Northern. Amber is chair of the Hill County Local Advisory Council, a member of the Hill County Health Consortium, Early Childhood Investment Team, and former facilitator of the Family Support Group for Havre's NAMI community. She is a mental health service provider.

Dr. Gary Mihelish: Dr. Mihelish is a retired Helena, Montana dentist. He served as the president of the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Montana for many years and is now a member of the NAMI board. He has served on various state boards and committees related to the mental health system in Montana. He is an immediate family member of a mental health consumer.

Rebecca de Camara is the Administrator of the Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Division in the Department of Public Health and Human Services.

Ms. de Camara is the Department of Public Health and Human Services adult mental health representative.

Meghan Peel has served as the Bureau Chief for the Children's Mental Health Bureau (CMHB) within the Department of Public Health and Human Services for the past four years. The CMHB is responsible for Medicaid funded mental health treatment services for children and adolescents. Additionally, the bureau works closely with other child-serving agencies, such as the Office of Public Instruction, Juvenile Probation, Child and Family Services, and other agencies doing prevention work, to maximize impact through reciprocal collaborations. Prior to her work in the Children's Mental Health Bureau, Meghan spent four years working in budget and finance for Medicaid and managing the CHIP and HELP programs. Ms. Peel is a fifth-generation Montanan and enjoys spending time hiking, camping, and paddle boarding. She lives in Helena with her husband, and two sons.

Captain Jim Anderson retired from the Gallatin County Sheriff's Office. Currently he is the Chief Executive Officer with the Public Safety Bureau, Department of Corrections. He has a diverse background with 20 years of Law Enforcement experience. Captain Anderson previously served as the Executive Director for Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Montana and has been a CIT Coordinator/Instructor for 13 years. He has served on several boards in Gallatin County and statewide for the mental health system.

Hon. Patricia O'Brien Cotter, Retired. Judge Cotter resides in Helena, and recently retired as a member of the Supreme Court of Montana, where she served for 16 years. She practiced law in Great Falls for 17 years before her election to the court. She serves as the Judicial Trustee Member.

Carol Ewen was trained as a school psychologist and has over 25 years working in schools to support student mental health. She has worked in both rural and urban schools helping set up multi-tiered systems of support and been a state MTSS consultant. She is currently working at the University of Montana, Center for Children, Family and Work Force Development as the Director of School Mental Health Programs. Currently Carol oversees the implementation of PAX Good Behavior Game across the state and a rural school mental health grant. She is the representative of the faculty of a four-year university with knowledge in the field of mental health.

Director: Marcia Armstrong resides in Helena, MT. She worked with the State of Montana for over 32 years. During those 32 years she worked for substance abuse treatment and prevention; grants management; mental health and Medicaid. She was appointed to the Montana Mental Health Trust Fund board 2013 where she served as the representative for adult mental health. She served on the board until 2017. Ms. Armstrong was appointed Trust Director June 2019.