

Lane County Medication Assisted Treatment Clinic – Good Neighbor Agreement Executive Summary



The Lane County Medication Assisted Treatment Program (LCMAT) is a program within the Behavioral Health Division of Lane County Health and Human Services and is available to individuals with opioid abuse. LCMAT has two separate programs within it: the Methadone Treatment Program and the Buprenorphine Treatment Program. Together, both programs serve approximately 400 patients.

LCMAT has significantly outgrown its current space at 151 West 7th Avenue. In order to continue to support community need, the decision was made to purchase and expand into the building at 432 West 11th Avenue. The new building is in a more residentially-oriented location. As part of an effort to address concerns about potential negative impact on neighborhood character and livability, as well as the privacy and security of patients seeking care, Lane County and Jefferson Westside Neighborhood Association (JWN) put together a survey, forwarded to neighborhood members, soliciting feedback about concerns and priorities, as well as opening the opportunity for community members to participate in the Good Neighbor Agreement.

As a result of the survey, representatives from LCMAT and JWN, as well as members of the Downtown Neighborhood Association (DNA) board came together to discuss and craft a collaborative Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA). The GNA sets out to identify areas of concern and proactively address those concerns with actionable items, detailed plans, and communication strategies, and specifically covers the following topic areas:

- Mutual Goals and All Party Agreements, which provide broad overview including the fostering of positive, respectful, and responsible relationships; establishment of security; agreed upon communication procedures; development of clear expectations; creation of a Community Advisory Committee; educational components; and, collaborative problem solving.
- Community Advisory Committee (CAC) as an intermediary body to aid in resolution of problems if/when they arise, to ensure accountability, and promote further education and destigmatization efforts. The CAC extends the opportunity for participation to all adjacent neighbors and members

of neighborhood associations, as well as business owners and operators of non-profits within the identified area.

- Communication protocols, planning, and appropriate channels to address and actions to take specific to need (e.g., urgent concerns/questions, general inquiries, mental health or homelessness issues, hosted events); timelines for expected response; and, platforms for dissemination of information (e.g., webpage, CAC).
- Neighborhood Appearance, including maintenance of campus and landscaping; opportunities for volunteer work in neighborhood cleanup; and, graffiti removal and vandalism repair.
- Community Safety, outlining clear expectations for patients, staff, and community members; actively working to find solutions which would be more community-focused and avoid fallback on over-policing or other overreaching or retaliatory responses; and, establishment of contracted security trained in non-violent de-escalation techniques and trauma-informed management of behavioral health crises.
- Neighborhood Climate, which addresses efforts by LCMAT to mitigate disruptive or negative impacts of clinic siting on the existing neighborhood climate; and, states the intention of JWN and DNA to create a positive, welcoming, and supportive environment for individuals seeking services at LCMAT.

While LCMAT has been a part of the County since 1974, it has existed in its current location on West 7th Avenue since 2010 and has had a positive relationship with neighbors and businesses during that time. It is the hope that working with representatives of the JWN and DNA to identify potential challenges and develop proactive solutions has created a robust document that will assuage concerns, build confidence, and ameliorate any real or perceived negative effects of clinic placement and operations on the impacted neighborhoods. While the GNA cannot anticipate or address all issues which may arise, we feel that, in its present state and through work with those representatives most knowledgeable about their community, it does adequately outline protocol guidelines for matters ranging from general communication, expectations for conduct, and resolution of issues experienced by community members, staff, and patients.

It is in the spirit of cooperation and concern for the betterment of all that we put forth this Good Neighbor Agreement between Lane County Health & Human Services Medication Assisted Treatment Program, the Jefferson Westside Neighborhood Association, and the Downtown Neighborhood Association.