



Minutes

Mental Health Advisory Council

Tuesday, July 12, 2022, 2:30, Zoom

Attendees:

Members:	☒ Carl Harju	☐ Samantha Bavage
☐ Cathy Elfstrand*	☐ Dallas O'Dell*	☒ Sandra Greninger
☒ Stephanie Barnes	☒ Breanna Heintzelman	☐ Tammi Dahlman*
☒ Caroline Malone	☐ Commissioner Mark Daleiden	☒ Joycelyn Alexander
☒ Bradley Gangnon		*= excused absence

HHS Staff Attendees: Gretchen Backer, Tarynn Anderson, Diane Erkens, Keith Bennett, Jill Pooler,

Other Attendees: Bethany Oberg, Krissy Eich, Tom Feddema, Leon Flack, Jennifer Jiang, Hannah-Ruth Patterson, Dana Seelen

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Resignation: Mary Sodergren
 - b. Resignation: Tina Sklors (not yet presented to board, just received on 7/12/2022)
 - c. New Member: Bradley Gangnon
 - d. New Member: Joycelyn Alexander
 - Mental Health Advocate and Small Group Facilitator with NAMI MN
 - Individual with mental illness who has taken her story and experience within the mental health system to the state and local levels to advocate for mental illness
2. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Motion made by Bradley G., Second by Sandy G., motion carries
3. Approval of MHAC Minutes from 05/10/2022
 - a. Motion made by Sandy G., Second by Breanna H., motion carries
4. Sub-committee reports
 - a. MAPP – Public Health Representative – Keith B.
 - MAPP has been updating their strategies after the completion of analyzation of the Community Health Needs Assessment 2021
 - Three main focuses for MAPP: dental care, substance use and mental health
 - Latest goal and MAPP strategies for mental health
 - (a) Goal:
 - Increase access to and utilization of mental health care resources and increase protective factors and resilience skills
 - (b) MAPP strategies:
 - Education and promotion of the mental wellness continuum, including well-being maintenance, prevention of disease and intervention
 - Increase social connectedness to combat isolation and loneliness
 - Education around mental illness as a medical condition to decrease stigma related issues
 - Increase awareness about suicide related issues with a focus on suicide prevention
 - b. Suicide Prevention Grant Update – Keith B.

- Increasing suicide prevention work and trainings
 - (a) QPR training open to public on 7/26, 4:00-5:00 pm regarding basics on suicide prevention, Conf room 1103 at Wright County, no registration required
- 5. Unmet Needs and Possible Solutions Discussion
 - a. Carl briefs new members that we keep an ongoing annual list of unmet needs and possible solutions
 - b. Carl touched on the recurring issues we face in Wright County
 - Need for more housing
 - Need for more mental health beds
 - c. In need of more providers who are willing/able to take on TCM clients on managed care plans
 - Ucare and Blue Plus were on the call and will contract with new providers
 - d. Reimbursement rates are not equal and payment is low
 - Contact your local representatives
- 6. Action Items
 - a. Service provider presentations – Brief overviews
 - Dan S. with MN Adult and Teen Challenge
 - (a) Not in attendance
 - Gretchen to reach out to Dan regarding September meeting
 - Retha D. with Wellness in the Woods
 - (a) Not in attendance
 - Gretchen to reach out to Retha regarding September meeting
 - Professional Counseling Center – Bradley Gangnon
 - Located in Delano, partial hospitalization program for SUD/MH, evening groups and testing available.
 - Bridging Hope Counseling – Breanna Heintzelman
 - Offers DBT groups at Buffalo and Rogers locations
 - Women’s group in Buffalo location has immediate openings
 - Group is Wednesdays from 5:00 – 6:30 pm
 - Adolescent DBT groups are offered with limited openings
 - Groups are for ages 13-17
 - CAMHI – Bethany Oberg
 - Reviewed Minnesota Mental Health webpage www.mnmentalhealth.org
 - “Need Help Now” – pops up emergency information, crisis information, etc.
 - Peer support RFP is published
 - Ucare – Leon Flack
 - UCare maintains an open Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Network and continues to recruit and contract with any willing provider certified by the Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP)
- 7. Information Sharing/Other
 - a. Joycelyn provided the following:
 - Bill regarding Mental Health for the 2021-2022 Legislative Session \$92 million mental health package
 - Please visit www.namimn.org and on the main page, there is a selection for the 2022 Legislative Summary – this will give you the 14-page breakdown of what was addressed and passed this last term
 - Moving into the 2022-2023 session, bills that were not passed will move forward

- Currently, there are meetings and plans for new policy to be introduced for this upcoming legislative session
 - You can locate your local representative by going to www.gis.llc.mn.gov
 - Issues to address on the county level:
 - (a) Fund the voluntary engagement project under the Commitment Act
 - (b) Fund more supportive housing
 - (c) Add county funds to expand mobile crisis services
 - (d) Add community funds to expand school linked mental health
 - Issues to address from a personal/professional level:
 - (a) Parity for mental health services
 - (b) Expand access to care and continuity of care
 - (c) Fund education and training to family members of mental illnesses
 - (d) Fund for loan forgiveness to attain and retain workforce
 - Provided an example of what to write your representatives – see attached
- b. Carl thanked the group for information sharing and resources on schizoaffective disorder

Motion to adjourn made by Sandy G., Second by Stephanie B., motion carries. Meeting ends 3:14 pm