

Attendees:

Members (marked box indicates *Present*):

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☒ Antl, Linda (Chair) | ☒ Harju, Carl |
| ☐ Besse, Kelsey | ☒ Holland, Jeanne |
| ☒ Dahlman, Tammi | ☐ May, McKenzie |
| ☐ Eskridge, Lashale (excused) | ☒ Nibbe, Vickie |
| ☒ Goodrum, Jami | ☐ Ray-Mader, Jennifer |
| ☐ Gangnon, Bradley (Vice Chair) (excused) | ☒ Tyler, Jeremy |

HHS Staff Attendees: James O'Dell, Kim Johnson, Joel Torkelson, Diane Erkens, Sarah Grosshuesch, Jill Pooler

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m.

1. Welcome New Member
 - a. McKenzie May - absent
2. Approve 2024-05-22 Minutes

ACTION: Tyler moved, Holland second, to approve the minutes. Motion carries.
3. Mental Health Advisory Council Update (Carl Harju, Diane Erkens, ~~Tarynn Anderson~~)
 - a. No July meeting; next meeting is September 10
4. Public Health Task Force Update (Dr. ~~Jennifer Ray-Mader~~, Sarah Grosshuesch)
 - a. New PHN staff introduced at June 10 meeting
 - b. Suicide Prevention presentation by Keith Bennett; discussion on goals and strategies for new grant, collaboration with partners
 - i. Suicide Prevention Grant received; funding scope include:
 1. Suicide prevention training
 2. Safety materials, i.e. firearms safety
 3. Social emotional learning skills in schools
 4. Trauma informed, social connections, opportunities and space for community groups/events
 - c. Child & Teen Checkup presentation by Patty Malecek – a federally funded health care and dental program through Medicaid
 - d. Community Health Survey presentation by Joel Torkelson (live online survey) – will share link to the survey with HHSAC members
5. Presentation: [2023 HHS Annual Report](#) (Jami Goodrum)
 - a. Services and program highlights
 - b. Current Wright County Medical Assistance renewals on MA unwinding:
 - i. Due for renewals - 23,131

- ii. Auto-renewed - 9,493
 - iii. Manually processed – 9,791
 - iv. In progress – 24
 - v. Waiting for processing – 512
 - vi. Retained in MHCP – 17,075
 - vii. Disenrolled from MHCP – 5,650
 - c. MACSSA report: METS auto renewals are at 70 percent; will positively impact staff as number climbs
 - d. Long Term Care (LTC) cases increasing at the same time with MA unwinding processes - 200 cases each per month to be processed
 - e. MnCHOICES assessments has a two-month backlog, with approximately 160 on wait list
 - i. Increased MnCHOICES assessments also means increased processing for LTC Medical Assistance
6. Open Forum:
- a. Housing Task Force Update (Joel Torkelson)
 - i. The Housing Task Force voted 9-0 to bring a Letter of Support to HHSAC for a new Housing Coordinator position
 - ii. HHSAC to pass a motion to bring this letter to the HHS Board, if grant funding is available to support this request. Funding under consideration:
 - 1. Projects For Assistance in Transition From Homeless (PATH) Grant available through June 2025; this is a continuous grant with the potential for reapplication
 - 2. Grant was anticipated to start March 1, 2024 – June 2025; working with DHS to get the grant effective
 - 3. PATH contract is in process, waiting for signature from DHS

ACTION: Antl moved, Tyler second, to bring the Letter of Support to the August 6 Board
 - iii. Report at the next HHSAC meeting
 - b. Update: MnCHOICES Request/Committee of the Whole (Jill Pooler)
 - i. The influx of MnCHOICES assessments and the need for annual reassessments continue to rise faster than HHS' level of staffing can meet the increased demand
 - ii. 1,800 clients on waiver, approaching 2K
 - iii. Currently, clients are waiting two months just to schedule for assessments
 - iv. Jill is presenting at the August Board Workshop
7. Items for Next Meeting
- a. Budget and positions
8. Other
- a. Jeremy is applying for membership of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities

Harju moved, Goodrum second, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Submitted by Naomi Blomberg, Administrative Specialist