

Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 16th, 2020

PRESENT: Advisory Committee Members: Barbara Belkiewicz, Richard Parker, Mark Paulus, Cyndy Raymo, Erin Rusch, and Antoinette (Tosia) Tucker.

CMH Staff: Debra Johnson (Executive Director), Kathleen Gallagher (Program Director) and Kaeley Hux (CMH Recording Secretary)

ABSENT: Advisory Committee Members: Lisa Clark, Larry Doherty, Cheryl LaFrance, Nancy Levitt, Lisa Murphy, Amy Sanderson, Martha Partipilo, and Nancy Thomson (Chairperson).

CMH Staff: None.

GUESTS: None.

I. CALL TO ORDER/AGENDA CHANGES – K. Gallagher

Kathleen Gallagher called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M.

II. REVIEW/ACCEPT MINUTES – Group

The Advisory Council members accepted the previous month's minutes with no changes noted.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE – D. Johnson

A. Community Perception Survey Results/Next Steps

For over the past year, CMH has embarked on an endeavor to become aware of how the agency is perceived within the county. There is a general understanding that the name St. Clair County Community Mental Health does not reflect the services offered to intellectually and developmentally disabled individuals as well as those suffering from a substance use disorder. Upon review of the results provided by TBD Solutions, it was determined that 44% of the responses submitted were by a current or former CMH employee. Great efforts to disperse the survey county-wide were made via social media and contract agencies. All residents of St. Clair County were eligible to complete the survey, please note it was offered online only. The survey found that 17% of those who responded report to the emergency room if in the event of a crisis, however it is anticipated the percentage in a whole is higher. SCCCMH would like to see the county utilize the 24/7 Mobile Crisis Unit at a higher capacity as opposed to the emergency room. Exceptions include suicidal and homicidal ideations. To help reduce the stigma around mental health treatment, CMH has focused on providing education to elementary, middle and high school students in hopes that the impressionability of a younger audience would be more impactful considering changes going forward. Karen Zultak shared that an SCCCMH Instagram account has been created to reach the younger demographic. In conclusion, TBD Solutions provided 4 recommendations as follows:

1. Market intellectually disabled, developmentally disabled, and substance use disorder services.
2. Market recovery outcomes.
3. Provide services to individuals with private insurance.
4. Name change.*

*It was discussed that due to brand identity, "CMH" will remain, however efforts to introduce a tagline encompassing all services is being explored.

B. COVID Updates

There are a reported 14 staff that have contracted COVID-19 however, please note that according to contact-tracing, the virus was not contracted within the agency. Upon reflection it is determined all cases were contracted on personal time. A majority of CMH staff are still working remotely. At this time, St. Clair County has not received the Moderna vaccine due to a lack of storage. It is anticipated Moderna will be distributed within the second wave. Upon receiving Moderna it will be offered to CMH staff and group home staff providing direct care.

C. NAMI Local Affiliate Update

New NAMI Affiliate Applicant Group Evaluation Form has been distributed to the council for their review and/or completion. This is the next step in the application process for St. Clair County. All feedback is welcome, please email to khux@scccmh.org.

IV. CMH UPDATES – K. Gallagher

A. Next Step Program

Next Step program is designed to be a step above Casemanagement and Outpatient services. Modeled closely to the ACT Team, Next Step will offer additional support to individuals to help guide them so they may continue residing in their homes. This department currently has a supervisor and partial staff. Operations will begin once fully staffed.

B. Group Home Staffing

Due to the pandemic, group home staffing has declined. All group homes are currently hiring, please share this information with those you see relevant.

V. CCBHC UPDATE – K. Zultak

The current CCBHC Grant will end December 30th, 2020. The second \$2 million CCBHC Grant, running simultaneously, will keep the programs in operation. A project evaluator has been hired as of November 2020. The project evaluator will analyze data at a closer level to identify success stories and be able to market outcomes (see III.A.). CMH is in the process of hiring a new phlebotomist, the previous phlebotomist has accepted another position. It is anticipated the blood draw clinic will reopen after January 1st, 2021. The council is invited to the webinars as follows:

- **How To Help A Loved One Experiencing Addiction 7:00 P.M. – 8:30 P.M. on Facebook or SCCCMH.org - 12/16/2020**
- **Creating A Personal Mission Statement – For Adults - 7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. on Facebook or SCCCMH.org – 12/17/2020 (teen webinar is on January 14th, 2021)**

VI. POLICY REVIEW – Group

A. 03-003-0040 Evaluation of Services for Individuals Who Are Intoxicated or Impaired

The council approved the changes noted.

B. 05-001-0045 Reporting Suspected Abuse or Neglect

The council approved the changes noted.

VII. COUNCIL ROUNDTABLE – Group

Mark Paulus reminded the council to please remain cautious during this pandemic as the virus still continues to spread.

Cyndy Raymo asked that the council be mindful that school closures are more likely due to understaffing issues as opposed to the virus circulating within the school.

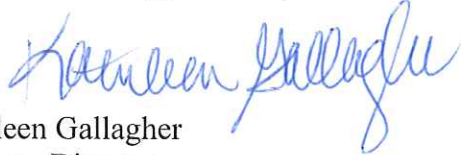
Barbara Belkiewicz shared her support for the NAMI Affiliate and would like to see it progress into an official chapter for St. Clair County.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – K. Gallagher

Motion to adjourn the meeting accepted at 12:39 P.M.


**IX. NEXT MEETING: Wednesday January 20th, 2021 from 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM via Lifesize.
Subject to change.**

Reviewed and Approved By:



Kathleen Gallagher
Program Director

Respectfully Submitted,



Kaeley Hux
Recording Secretary

cc: Debra B. Johnson, Executive Director
Kathleen Gallagher, Program Director
Tracy Goyette, Executive Secretary
Advisory Committee Members
Marcy Cameron
Electronic Record