

St. Clair County Community Mental Health Authority

Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 21, 2024

PRESENT:

Advisory Committee Members: Nora Condland, Alesha Fay, Rosella Mirabelli, Martha Partipilo, Cynthia Raymo

CMH Staff: Debra Johnson (Chief Executive Officer), Kathleen Gallagher (Chief Clinical Officer), Sarah Herrle (Community Relations Representative), Kristen Thompson (Adult Services Director), Gloria Valentin (CMH Recording Secretary)

ABSENT: Harold Powell, Ruth Thick, Nancy Thomson, Tonia Hudson

I. Call to Order/Agenda Changes – A. Fay

- Ms. Alesha Fay called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.
- Ms. Debra Johnson and Ms. Kathleen Gallagher have updated the agenda. During the Executive Director's updates, Debra will address the Children's Home and Behavioral Health Urgent Care. Kathleen will cover the Organizational Structure Changes during the CMH updates.

II. Review/Accept Meeting Minutes - Group

- The Advisory Council members accepted the minutes from July 17, 2024, as presented.

III. Executive Director Updates – D. Johnson

• **Property Acquisition**

At the board meeting they approved D. Johnson to place an offer to purchase the 10 Acres from SONS. We are still trying to purchase the church building next door as well. Court date for the church property set for October 9th without a jury. On the 10 acres the plan is to build a Therapeutic Crisis Children's 6 bed Group Home with play space that could be used by anyone as well as natural therapy sessions area with plants and trees. The average stay will be 14 to 30 days and for ages 7-17 years old.

• **Children Requests for Proposal**

There is a request for proposal that is still in draft and will be issued soon. For anyone who wants to see it we can send it out when it is completed.

• **Behavioral Health Urgent Care**

Behavioral Health Urgent Care is here for you in times of crisis. Just like a medical emergency that isn't severe enough for the hospital but still requires immediate attention, you can come to us for urgent mental health support. If hospitalization is necessary, we can facilitate that, but if you need other immediate assistance, a psychiatrist will be on call to provide the care you need.

- **Respite Fundays**

St. Clair County needs more innovative respite care options for children with disabilities, including those with intellectual disabilities and autism. We plan to review programs currently offered in Wayne and Oakland Counties to identify potential models for implementation here. We aim to reintroduce Respite Fundays and will meet with other providers to explore how we can make this happen.

- **Other**

Ms. Debra Johnson has been invited to serve as the United Way Campaign Chairperson for the 2024/25 term, coinciding with the organization's 100th anniversary. The campaign kickoff event is scheduled for Wednesday, September 4th, at Solitude Links.

IV. **CMH Updates- K. Gallagher**

- **Eleos**

The electronic healthcare update is streamlining notetaking for our staff during and after sessions. Currently, 50 clinicians in our home base are testing it, and the connectivity across the county has been fantastic. However, when they return to the office, they can input bullet points of the session discussions, and the system automatically generates a comprehensive note. Staff have been enthusiastic, describing it as the best improvement we've implemented for them.

- **Organizational Structure Changes**

Looking ahead, the structure of the Advisory Council meetings will shift. With Kathleen Gallagher's new role as Chief Clinical Officer, she is now less involved in the day-to-day clinical operations. Moving forward, Kristen Thompson, the Adult Division Director, Jason Marocco, also an Adult Division Director, and Heidi Fogarty, the Children's Division Director, will provide updates on developments within their respective areas.

V. **Community Relations- S. Herrle**

- **2024 Creative Arts Contest**

The theme for the upcoming Arts Contest is 60 years of Building Brighter Tomorrows – Health, Wellness and Connection. 2025 is the 60 year anniversary of CMH. This contest will begin at the end of the Calendar year 2024/beginning of 2025. High school poster contest, Middle School poetry contest and Elementary bookmark contest

- **Celebration of Recovery**

Join us in recognizing and celebrating the remarkable achievements of those who receive services at CMH. This year, we're making the event bigger and better with new award categories, including specific honors for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, as well as children. Our goal is to ensure that everyone at CMH who is thriving is acknowledged. This special evening will take place on October 17th, 2024, at Alexander's, with the exact time to be determined. We look forward to celebrating together!

- **Recovery Summitt**

September is Recovery Month, and we're offering 17 free webinars throughout the month. For more information and to register, visit www.scccmh.org/events/recovery-summit/

- **Walk A Mile**

This activity is open to all adults receiving SCCCMH services. Transportation to and from the rally, an event tee-shirt, and lunch will be provided for all attendees. The event will take place in Lansing, Michigan on September 17, 2024.

- **NAMI Walk**

The NAMI Walk will take place on September 21, 2024 at the University of Detroit Mercy. CMH staff and individuals who receive CMH services who are interested in carpooling will meet at SCCCMH Main Office at 8:00am. To join the team or for more information, contact Sue Neighorn at (810)278-3023, snieghorn@scccmh.org, or www.namiwalks.org.

- **Dementia & Alzheimer's Walk**

The Dementia & Alzheimer's Walk will take place on September 21, 2024 at Kiefer Park in Port Huron. The funds raised by the 5K run/walk will help local caregivers through the Dementia and Alzheimer's Association (DAA) Respite Grant, DAA Educational Speakers Series and a portion helps fund research at the Michigan Alzheimer's Disease Center. Register at www.DAASCC.org.

- **One Woman Show**

On October 11th and 12th, join us at the Boardwalk Theater in St. Clair for a compelling one-woman show, *Mrs. Kelly's Journey Home*. Breeda Miller will share the story of her mother's journey from being diagnosed with Alzheimer's to her passing. The event will benefit the Dementia & Alzheimer's Association of St. Clair County.

- **Walk 2 Remember**

The Walk 2 Remember will take place October 13, 2024 at East China Park in East China Township. This is a FREE event open to the public. Commemorative event shirts are available for \$20. All proceeds will benefit the Survivors of Suicide (SOS) Support Group, SOS Memorial Garden and suicide prevention efforts in St. Clair County.

VI. Old Business

No Old Business was discussed at this meeting

VII. Policy Review

- 01-001-0035 Inclusion of Persons Served
- 03-003-0005 Input from Individuals Served
- 05-001-0025 Enrollee Information Rights
- 05-001-0050 Appeals of Recipient Rights Complaint
Rosella Mirabelli and Martha Partipilo both have concerns with Guardians/parents being contacted for change in appointments. They will send concerns to Gloria to be submitted to the Policy Committee. Kristen Thompson is going to speak to the group homes to review this policy and to bring up using appointment apps with them as well.
- 05-003-0030 Communications by Mail, Telephone, and Visits

- 06-001-0120 Duty to Warn

VIII. Council Round Table

- D. Johnson – Medicare/Medicaid upcoming HIVE-SNP Highly integrated dual special needs plan. Integrated care plan that combines the benefits of Medicare and Medicaid from a master organization into a more unified care plan. Debra will be meeting with someone from Humana to talk about the upcoming SNP benefits. DHHS has been piloting this initiative but not in our county yet.
- Attendee was concerned about cleanliness and bed bugs at group home. The two people who have taken over Sam and Shane have been great about communication.
- Guardians need a manual, so they understand what their responsibilities are.
- M. Partipilo - ask if the providers will start accepting electronic payment
- R. Mirabelli – Dental services for people we serve. The dental clinic near CMH is nonprofit and they have a strict policy that if you miss you get a warning and if you miss again you are done for good. Community First Health Centers offers dental on a sliding fee scale. None of them provide sedation dental and that is not covered by Medicaid either. Looking to see if there are other options for the people we serve to help them get the dental care they need.

IX. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM by R. Mirabelli

X. Next Meeting

Wednesday, September 18, 2024 from 12PM-1PM via Lifesize or in person

Respectfully Submitted By:

Tonia Hudson
Recording Secretary

cc: Debra Johnson, Chief Executive Officer