

ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH
3111 Electric Avenue
Port Huron, Michigan 48060

GROUP MEETING: Advisory Council
PLACE: St. Clair County CMH – Summit
DATE: August 7, 2025
TIME: 12:00 p.m.
PRESIDING: Nancy Thomson, Chairman

PRESENT: Dr. Katherine Albrecht, Shane Chase, Nora Condland, Heidi Fogarty, Kathleen Gallagher, Sarah Herrle, Debra Johnson, Rosella Mirabelli, Judy Parker, Martha Partipilo, Cheryle Randall, Nancy Thomson, Kristen Thompson, Jessica Totty, Jennifer Trembath
ABSENT: Tonia Hudson, Jason Marocco, Trisha Pierce, Cynthia Raymo
GUEST: Vicki Blackburn

I. Call to Order/Agenda Changes

The meeting began at 12:00 PM, with N. Thomson calling it to order.

II. Review/Accept Minutes

R. Mirabelli moved to approve the June meeting minutes, and M. Partipilo seconded the motion.

III. Chief Executive Director Update

1. PHIP Procurement

MDHHS released the RFP for the competitive procurement of the PIHP system on the evening of Monday, August 4, 2025. The Leadership Team, alongside directors from across Michigan and our CMHA staff, is reviewing this 400-page document to identify potential legal issues, including potential noncompliance with the mental health code and state legislation, as well as CMH waiver violations. This analysis will enable us to draft targeted letters to legislators and the governor, using advocacy alerts to emphasize the detrimental impact this proposal could have on Michigan's public behavioral health system. Updates will be shared as we receive them. Members were encouraged to watch our Facebook page, emails, etc. D. Johnson shared she would be prepared to provide any additional information or updates that are received on this, as well as any potential Action Alerts or other Advocacy strategies.

2. Community First Dental Clinic

Community First Health Dental Clinic has their grand reopening ribbon cutting ceremony happening today, Thursday, August 7, 2025, at 1:00 pm. They will be open for appointments on Monday, August 11, 2025.

3. DAASCC Walk/Run

The Dementia Alzheimer's Association of St. Clair County will have their walk/5-K run on Saturday, September 27, 2025, beginning at 9:00 am.

IV. CMH Updates

1. Trauma Informed Care Survey and Recommendations

Documents were provided to members of the Trauma Informed Care Survey Summary, along with K.

Gallagher's recommendations as a follow-up to the agency. K. Gallagher shared a large part of her recommendations focused on staff training and education.

V. Program Operations Update

1. WHODAS 2.0 Assessment

K. Thompson shared a new assessment for parents with children with intellectual disabilities to be released with an unknown date. The new assessment, similar to the SIS Assessment has been named, "WHODAS 2.0" which stands for World Health Organization Disability Assessment Scale. The purpose is to help understand an individual's age 18 and up, strengths and weaknesses in social-emotional learning and be able to develop targeted interventions. K. Thompson shared of no implementation date has been set and when more information is released, she will provide for members.

2. Youth Advisory Council

H. Fogarty, shared of the Youth Advisory Council, will have their first meeting on Tuesday, August 19, 2025. A total of 19 students will participate on the council, and future meeting dates will be determined at the first meeting due to the students being involved in extracurricular activities.

3. Early Childhood Funding

Early childhood funding is unknown for the future. Programs likely to be impacted and/or discontinued could be the Early Childhood Court and the Social Emotional Consultant. The Early Childhood Court is currently serving six (6) cases with 14 children. The Social Emotional Consultant, trained in Infant Mental Health, provides support to daycares for children who are at risk of being expelled. H. Fogarty is hoping the funding continues next year, as the impact of those programs no longer being available for our community would be a disservice.

VI. Community Relations Update

1. Summer Community Events Recap

S. Herrle shared a recap of the summer events SCCCMHA has participated in beginning with the DAASCC Caregiver's Expo, Autism Family Fun Day, Blue Water Pride Day, Impact Fun & Family Fitness Day, Operation Transformation Family Night, Rotary Parade, Habitat Rock the Block, Odyssey House BBQ, and Marine City Maritime Days. S. Herrle shared of more events taking place to wrap up the summer season with Community First Health Fair, Backpack Giveaway, Victory Day, BWROC Recovery Fest, and Veteran's Affairs Golf Outing.

2. Back-to-School Toolkit

The Community Relations Team provides a PDF document to all local schools/superintendents to share with principals, educators, counselors, or social workers that is full of resources, links, assessments to be used, and lesson plans if the ability to incorporate in the classroom. Additional materials are sent including our brochures, Access Cards and letters asking how SCCCMHA can support any needs.

VII. Old Business

S. Chase asked for a follow-up regarding the PHPD two-strike system with individuals in the Group Homes during a mental health crisis. K. Gallagher shared she spoke with Chief Kerrigan, which he stated they do not have a formal two-strike policy, but officers were giving a chance to avoid legal trouble for those served. K. Gallagher asked for information to be sent to her if instances occur again and she will follow up with Chief Kerrigan.

VIII. Policy Review

There were no substantive changes; the documents were simply updated to reflect the new template.

IX. Council Round Table

1. C. Randall shared of an upcoming benefit benefitting the Michigan Parkinson Foundation. She provided a flyer that will be sent out with all members via email.
2. S. Chase asked about a Non-Mandated Group Home Training potentially to be offered for staff in regard to reports. K. Thompson stated she would reach out to the Group Home Providers to inquire about what document training is required.

3. M. Partipilo shared she is still encouraging for Group Homes to have an “app” for family and/or guardians to have updates for individuals with medical emergencies. She shared of still advocating for her support for implementing online payment options for Group Homes.
4. J. Parker shared of a family member experiencing mental health distress and recently enrolling in the C.I.S. Program at SCCCMHA.
5. K. Albrecht shared her research currently with individuals utilizing Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) for clinical support with mental health crisis. The APA is currently developing guidelines and encouraged members to be aware of such guidelines when released.

X. Next Meeting

Thursday October 2, 2025, in the Summit

XI. Adjournment

R. Mirabelli made a motion to adjourn the meeting, J. Totty seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 1:09 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Trembath
Recording Secretary

Reviewed and Approved,

Kathleen Gallagher
Chief Clinical Officer