

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

GROUP MEETING: Advisory Council Meeting
PLACE: St. Clair County CMH – Summit
DATE: February 5, 2026
TIME: 12:00 pm
PRESIDING: Nancy Thomson, Chairman

PRESENT: Dr. K. Albrecht, N. Condland, H. Fogarty, K. Gallagher, D. Johnson, M. Partipilo (Virtual), C. Randall, N. Thomson, J. Totty, J. Trembath (Recording Secretary)

ABSENT: S. Chase, S. Herrle, J. Marocco, R. Mirabelli, J. Parker, T. Pierce, C. Raymo

GUEST: V. Scheffler

I. Call to Order/Agenda Changes:

The meeting was called to order by N. Thomson at 12:06pm. The review and vote on new membership application – Victoria Scheffler was moved to II. a.

II. Review/Accept Minutes & Voting of New Membership:

J. Totty moved to approve December 4, 2025, meeting minutes, and Dr. K. Albrecht seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED**

Victoria Scheffler submitted an application to join the Advisory Council. Dr. K. Albrecht moved to approve Victoria as a new member, J. Totty seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED**. N. Thomson welcomed Victoria Scheffler to the Advisory Council meeting and asked her to share her background.

III. Chief Executive Officer Updates:

a. State /Regional Updates:

D. Johnson informed of Alan Bolter, incoming CEO of the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan (CMHA), will be visiting our SCCCMH Electric Ave location on Tuesday, February 10, 2026. He will provide a presentation at 3:30 p.m. in the Auditorium, offering updates on current activity in Michigan Legislature, the budget outlook for the current and upcoming fiscal year, major policy issues impacting the public mental health system, recent legislation and budget developments affecting CMH with opportunities for advocacy moving forward, and a PIHP RFP update. D. Johnson shared it is open for anyone to attend, but an RSVP is required due to limited seating. If you would like to attend,

please contact Tracy Wells at twells@scccmh.org. An option to view online will also be available.

b. MDHHS Competitive RFP Update:

D. Johnson shared the MDHHS pulled the competitive RFP. MDHHS could still issue another RFP or seek to extend the current PIHP contracts, along with other options. She stated the CMHs will continue to monitor the situation and will provide updates as they become available.

c. Community Updates:

D. Johnson shared flyers of the upcoming Senior Expo taking place at the YMCA on February 11, 2026; Dementia & Alzheimer's Association of St. Clair County Educational Training *Understanding Memory Changes: Normal Aging or Something More* taking place on March 24, 2026, along with a Dementia & Alzheimer's Association of St. Clair County flyer listing upcoming events for 2026; and the SCCCMH Run for Recovery taking place on May 9, 2026. Registration for the Run can be found on www.scccmh.org/runforrecovery. D. Johnson announced SCCCMH is partnering with The Athletic Factory to begin a Teen Mental Health Podcast. Members from SCCCMH Teen Advisory Group (TAG) will be hosting the Podcast, with more information to follow.

C. Randall shared a Community event happening on Saturday, February 14, 2026, at Suzanne's Fashions. The event is a Valentine's Day Fashion Show. Cost is \$25 per person; Suzanne's partnered with United Way and all proceeds from the fashion show will be for community members needing assistance with paying for heating utilities during the extremely cold temperatures.

IV. SCCCMH Updates:

K. Gallagher updated members on SCCCMH agency Trauma Informed Trainings. She indicated on an Agency survey wanting further education/training in Trauma, to date, eight (8) additional one-hour training courses from an instructor located at Eastern Michigan University. A large number of staff are participating in the training, not just clinical.

An additional training the Agency has introduced is *Working with People Training* geared towards Group Home staff and Mental Health Assistance to offer a skill set when working with individuals who are highly vulnerable.

V. Program Operations Updates:

K. Thompson announced of SCCCMH CIS Program installed a new SMART board. She shared it is working very well and is loved by individuals. She informed for any non-verbal individuals within the program, the SMART board is a huge benefit.

H. Fogarty provided flyers for members on two (2) new Autism Parent Support Groups available for members within the community, you do not need to be enrolled in services through SCCCMH to participate. One group is located in Port Huron every third Thursday each month, and the other group is located in Marine City every second Thursday each month. H. Fogarty shared a flyer with members Parenting Through Change (PTC) for parents whose children receive services through SCCCMH. The program will be offered virtual beginning at the end of February.

VI. Community Relations Updates:

D. Johnson shared SCCCMH Face Off for Mental Health night at the Port Huron Prowler's Hockey game on March 6, 2026. She informed members of discounted tickets available at SCCCMH Electric Ave location or can be purchased online at www.scccmh.org/prowlers-tickets.

VII. Old Business:

There was no old business to address.

VIII. Policy Review:

K. Gallagher stated no substantial changes were made to policy 03-001-0005; Person Centered Planning Process Individual Plan of Service and policy 05-001-0045; Reporting Suspected Abuse or Neglect, but both policies were moved into the new SCCCMH format.

IX. Council Roundtable:

K. Albrecht shared her take away from the recent CMHA conference on February 3 and February 4, 2026. K. Albrecht found the MiCares session, a free program through the University of Michigan offering training for social workers to assist individuals with addiction, a very interesting model to utilize for education purposes. K. Gallagher shared she would speak with the training department at SCCCMH about being able to prepare and offer similar trainings for board members, staff who are non-clinical, and community members who may be affiliated with individuals who receive services.

K. Albrecht informed members of the upcoming requirements for individuals who receive Medicaid benefits, beginning in January 2027, many will no longer be eligible to continue with their Medicaid benefits. K. Gallagher informed of Federal Guidelines have been announced and encouraged individuals to reach out to their local Representatives. New requirements include an individual receiving Medicaid benefits will need to prove at least 80-hours of work, volunteer, or training hours one (1) month prior to their evaluation, and evaluations will occur every six (6) months. K. Gallagher shared concerns about a big impact on individuals who receive services being affected, especially with evaluations occurring more frequently than before. She stated SCCCMH is working with individuals to be proactive to ensure benefits are not lost.

N. Thomson inquired about a topic involving the Mental Health Code and Faith Based Programs within treatment. A short discussion was held about the Agency meeting Faith Based requirements under the Mental Health Code.

X. Next Meeting:

Next meeting date is scheduled for Thursday, April 2, 2026.

XI. Adjournment:

With no further business to address, V. Scheffler moved to adjourn the Advisory Council meeting, K. Albrecht seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Trembath

Recording Secretary