

*St. Clair County Community Mental Health Authority*

**Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

**PRESENT:**

**Advisory Committee Members:** Nancy Thompson, Lisa Clark, Nora Condland, Cynthia Raymo, Ruth Thick, Tosia Tucker

**CMH Staff:** Debra Johnson, (Chief Executive Officer) Kathleen Gallagher, (Program Director), Sarah Herrle (Community Relations Representative), Jami Strickler (CMH Recording Secretary)

**ABSENT:** Barbra Belkiewicz, Alesha Fay, Nancy Levitt, Martha Partipilo, Mark Paulus, Amy Sanderson

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**I. CALL TO ORDER/AGENDA CHANGES –N. Thomson**

Nancy Thomson, Advisory Council Chairperson called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

**II. REVIEW/ACCEPT MINUTES - Group**

The Advisory Council members accepted the minutes from March 15, 2023 as presented.

**III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE –K. Gallagher**

**A. Mission/Vision Values Document**

Every few years the Agency's Mission and Vision are considered and updated for relevance. The most current versions were provided to the Council. Members are welcome to suggest updates and changes. The Agency's goal this year is to update them throughout, including the layouts and Code of Ethics.

**B. Strategic Planning**

Like other agencies, SCCMHA has a Strategic Plan. This year the Agency plans to update it to better reflect the changing ways of the functioning of mental health care. The Agency has contracted with a person who will work with the Leadership Team to set appropriate expectations. The goal is to have a 3-5 year plan that will look into the future needs of the community.

**C. CHIP Plan**

Community Health Improvement Plan is a county wide plan based out of the Health Department, created with the feedback received from the surveys that were sent out to community members.

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

##### **A. Mosaic Class Update**

The class has been very well received and has had excellent feedback from our individuals. The facilitator of the class has expressed interest in expanding to offer other Art based classes.

##### **B. Crisis Stabilization Unit**

A meeting took place yesterday looking into the possibility of initiating a CSU, which would be able to monitor persons experiencing mental health crisis's for up to 72 hours. It would be staffed 24/7 by Clinicians and Peers, and would also provide a psychiatric prescriber and nursing to oversee medical needs. Other county examples of this program are being looked at to use as a models for a possible Unit in St. Clair County.

##### **C. Psychiatric Urgent Care**

Psychiatric Urgent Care is also being considered to address the mental health needs of the county. This model would likely be similar to other counties, where the PUC is staffed by Clinicians from 8:00am-8:00pm, and Peers from 8:00pm-8:00am with on call Clinicians available during the overnight hours. This would help to more efficiently link residents with Crisis Intervention Services, Intakes and other supports. A psychiatric prescriber will also be linked with this program.

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

##### **A. Run for Recovery**

The Agency's annual Run for Recovery will take place on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023. There are 170 registered runners so far. There is still time to register to run, walk or volunteer.

##### **B. Annual Awards Celebration**

All Council members are reminded that the RSVP to attend the Annual Awards breakfast are due by April 21<sup>st</sup> to Tracy Wells. The Agency Annual Awards are to take place May 5, 2023.

#### **VI. Other Business**

- **Middle School Writing Contest**

Ms. Tucker expressed concerns regarding the submissions given to the Agency from local middle schoolers for the Writing Contest. Many of the submissions covered topics that raised red flags for her. Conversation took place regarding whether these topics are appropriate for this age group to be writing about, and what resources are being made available for student's expressing these types of feelings in their writing. This topic will need to be revisited again before next year's Creative Arts contest.

**VII. Policy Review**

- 04-001-0085 Clozaril Clozapine Clinic
- 05-001-0030 Advance Directives
- 05-003-0040 Freedom of Movement

**VIII. Council Round Table**

- Ms. Condland provided the Council with an article she had found which highlighted a Recovery High School which offered recovery assistance to adolescence who are struggling with addiction. This sparked questions from the Council as to if a similar school could be made available in this county, and what programs are currently available to local students struggling with addiction or who are in recovery.
- Ms. Raymo updated the Advisory Council that she had just finished giving a presentation at the Children and Family Services, Heidi Fogarty will be compiling information and making it available to the Agency Staff for our individuals. Additionally the Governor is working on rolling out universal preschool to be available free to state children. Will likely be phased in slowly as staffing is expected to be an issue.
- Ms. Thick advised the Council that the Port of Hopes is still looking for 4-5 volunteers for their bowling fundraiser. Interested persons can contact the Port of Hopes.

**IX. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 12:56 PM by Nancy Thomson

**X. Next Meeting**

**Wednesday, May 17, 2023 from 12PM-1PM via Lifesize or in person**

Respectfully Submitted By:

Jami Strickler  
Recording Secretary

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

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