

*St. Clair County Community Mental Health Authority***Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

PRESENT:

Advisory Committee Members: Nancy Thompson, Nora Condlan, Harold Powell, Cynthia Raymo, Martha Partipilo, Amy Sanderson

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

ABSENT: Lisa Clark, Ruth Thick, Alesha Fay, Nancy Levitt

I. Call to Order/Agenda Changes –N. Thomson

Ms. Nancy Thompson, Advisory Council Chairperson called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

II. Review/Accept Meeting Minutes - Group

The Advisory Council members accepted the minutes from September 20, 2023 as presented.

III. Executive Director Updates – D. Johnson

- **Senate Bill 227**

Ms. Johnson reports that earlier today she had received a text from our State Board Association representative, Alan Bolter where he reports that it appears Senate Bill 227 will be passed out of the Senate as early as later today, where after it will be sent to the House. There is a possibility that it could sit in the hands of the House until into the spring time, when it will have support from Democratic Representatives. The bill, if passed would revise the seclusion and restraint rules allowing children's crisis homes to use reasonable restraint to keep its residents safe from harm.

- **All Staff In-Service**

The Agency will be closed for services on Friday, December 8th for the day, so that staff can attend the Agency wide winter In-Service. Mobile Crisis will still be staffed to answer crisis calls.

- **CMH Board Opening**

There is currently once CMH Board opening for District 1 (Yale/Capac area). The Agency is actively looking for a new member, and the Advisory Council is encouraged to spread the word.

IV. CMH Updates- K. Gallagher

- **Children's Group Home**

Ms. Gallagher spoke further on the implications of Bill 227 passing in the Senate and House. The approval of this bill would allow the Agency to provide a children's crisis residential home to the area. The great need for these types of dwellings continues to be a large issue State wide.

- **Baby Court**

A preventative program that works with families with children birth-3 years of age who are have been removed from homes due to CPS intervention, or are at risk for removal. The goal is to strengthen families while kids are still young, because there are not a lot of options available to families with older children. The Agency was recently awarded a grant to aid in the cost of this program. There will be more information in the coming months.

- **The Galley Plan**

Touchstone (the Clubhouse) will be taking over the Galley contract. It will become a supported employment site for people with severe mental illness, and will provided lunches to Staff. It will also be a site for Michigan Rehab to do work assessments with the goal of beginning in the New Year.

- **Broadway Location**

The Agency sees the need to hold on to the Broadway location office in Marine City at this time. The current plan for the location include using it for Groups such as those for Cooking, Veterans Support, and Senior Citizens. Additionally there will be at least 1 intake clinician employed at the location to assist in the increasing number of intakes the area has been in need of.

V. Community Relations- S. Herrle

- **CMH Players- Home for the Holidays**

Ms. Herrle provided the Council with information regarding the upcoming CMH Players production of Home for the Holidays. This production spotlights a series of short plays with comedic undertones that highlight the spirit of the holiday season. CMH players consist of Individuals receiving services, family members, and staff members of the Agency. Tickets are available at the cost of \$5.00 for the 7:00pm performances at the Citadel Theatre on November 17th and 18th. Additionally there will be a free show performed November 17th at 12:00pm at the Community Mental Health Auditorium as a "final rehearsal" for the players.

- **Trek or Treat**

The Agency's Marine City location on King Road will be hosting this indoor event on October 24th from 5:00-6:30pm. There will be games, crafts, refreshments and trick or treating throughout the building.

VI. Policy Review

Copies of Advisory Council Policies up for review were provided to Council Members. Feedback is requested by November 3, 2023 and can be provided to Jami Strickler, Advisory Council Recording Secretary.

- 01-002-0035- Public Communications/Marketing
- 03-001-0010- Self Determination Choice Voucher
- 05-001-0060- Parent Guardian Monitoring Program
- 05-001-0080- Recipient Rights Advisory Committee

VII. Old Business

There was no Old Business discussed at this month's meeting.

VIII. Council Round Table

- Ms. Condlund updated the Council that she is currently working with other programs throughout the country in an effort to increase funding for Art programs in our area. Art related events can bring additional funds into communities, and it is important to take advantage of funding programs to support them.
- Mr. Powell requests that any Member who has suggestions for news stories, upcoming events or community updates to please email him so that he may cover it in the Keel.

IX. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:27 PM by Nancy Thomson

X. Next Meeting

Wednesday, November 15, 2023 from 12PM-1PM via Lifesize or in person

Respectfully Submitted By:

Jami Strickler
Recording Secretary

cc: Debra Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

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