

Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 15th, 2020

PRESENT: Advisory Committee Members: Barbara Belkiewicz, Lisa Clark, Cheryl LaFrance, Martha Partipilo, Mark Paulus, Cyndy Raymo, Amy Sanderson, Tosia Tucker, and Nancy Thomson (Chairperson).

CMH Staff: Debra Johnson (Executive Director), Kathleen Gallagher (Program Director), Karen Zultak (CCBHC Director), Kaeley Hux (CMH Recording Secretary).

ABSENT: Advisory Committee Members: Larry Doherty, Nancy Levitt, Liz Martinez, Richard Parker, Alice Rieves, Edward Rieves.

GUESTS: None.

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

Nancy called the meeting to order at 12:02 P.M.

II. REVIEW/ACCEPT MINUTES – Group

The Advisory Council members accepted the previous month's minutes with no changes noted.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE – D. Johnson

A. Back in the Building: What to Expect at St. Clair County Community Mental Health after COVID-19

Executive Director Johnson asked the council to turn their attention towards the COVID-19 safety video. Johnson noted that this video was thought into existence by an individual we serve. A link has been provided via email to the council so they may view and distribute as they deem necessary.

B. Support Local Businesses Billboard

Executive Director Johnson introduced to the council the new SCCCMH Recovery Task Force COVID-19 billboards that have been erected in Port Huron. Johnson stated it was important to the Recovery Task Force to design a media campaign directed at how to practice safety and support during the pandemic. A copy of this billboard has been provided to the council in their packet.

C. Mask Empathy Billboard

A copy of this billboard has been provided to the council in their packet.

D. Healthy Tips Billboard

A copy of this billboard has been provided to the council in their packet.

IV. CMH UPDATES – K. Gallagher

A. Safe Start

Kathleen Gallagher announced that through the pandemic, SCCCMH has never stopped providing services to those who are in need, as we are an essential service. It has been the main focus of the agency to be of support to our individuals, it is understood this is a time where some may need us most. Medication reviews, services provided by the Assertive Community Treatment Team, and the Mobile Crisis Unit have been in operation face-to-face since the beginning of the pandemic. Gallagher noted that to accommodate Stay Safe, Stay Home we have implemented virtual appointments for our individuals via Life Size, a mobile video conference app.

B. Telehealth

Individuals who cannot access Life Size also have the option of attending their appointments via telephone. SCCCMH staff have provided cell phones to individuals who may not be able to attend their appointments via telephone at home.

C. Blue Water Area Transit

Gallagher stated that Blue Water Area Transit is also following COVID-19 social distancing regulations. Until the last week of June 2020, the transit system was only providing Dial-A-Ride services for essential errands such as grocery shopping or doctors appointments. On 7/6/2020 Blue Water Area Transit opened up agency transport for SCCCMH. However, there is a limited riding capacity to adhere to the social distancing standard.

D. New Staff – HR Director and Child Psychologist

Gallagher announced to the council that the current Human Resource Manager, Jody Kruskie, is retiring. Taking her place will be Jim Stoutmeyer Human Resource Director, who is working closely with Kruskie during her final months as SCCCMH HR Manager. His previous HR experience includes that of St. Clair County Library System and Macomb County. Also new to SCCCMH is Dr. Ali, who will provide psychiatric services to children full time. He will start seeing patients the week of 7/20/2020.

V. CCBHC UPDATE – K. Zultak

Karen Zultak explained to the council that the agency has been rewarded with a second CCBHC Grant. The second grant overlaps the previous grant by 8 months, both of which were amounts of \$2 million. This allows SCCCMH to continue expanding access to services, implementing prevention activities, and hosting health and wellness classes at the administrative building and in the community. There was discussion regarding the Opioid & Other Drugs Summit, information pertaining to the Summit will be distributed to the council via email.

A. Galley Cooking Class

Zultak informed the council that they have a flyer in their packet regarding the Galley Cooking Class. Individuals served are welcome to attend.

B. Virtual Yoga

Zultak informed the council that they have a flyer in their packet regarding the Virtual Yoga series. A link has been provided for anyone interested to attend.

C. Run for Recovery

Zultak informed the council that they have a flyer in their packet regarding the Run for Recovery. Please note it is unclear at this time if the run will be able to take place in person, or if that will be conducted virtually.

VI. POLICY REVIEW – Group

A. 05-001-0050 Appeals of Recipient Rights Complaint and Dispute Resolution

The council accepted the policy with no changes noted.

B. 05-001-0080 Recipient Right Advisory Committee

The council accepted the policy with no changes noted.

C. 06-001-0120 Duty to Warn

The council accepted the policy with no changes noted.

D. 07-003-0005 Special Committee Member Advisory Council Member Per Diem

The council accepted the policy with no changes noted.

E. SCCCMH Advisory Council By-Laws

Chairman Thomson identified one change as follows:

The representative from the CMH Board is appointed by the Board.

VII. COUNCIL ROUND TABLE – Group

A. Terms of Service

Chairman Thomson drew new term expirations for those whose terms have expired.

B. Current Membership

A copy of the current membership and contact list has been provided to the council members in their packets as well as via US Postal mail.

Tosia Tucker brought attention to the Purple Leash Project, which will create pet-friendly domestic violence shelters for people seeking asylum. It is reported 48% of domestic violence victims do not leave due to their pet having to be left behind.

Barbara Belkiewicz inquired if there are any programs in the public schools that offer education on coping mechanisms for children. Kathleen Gallagher informed her there are programs in place however once school (may or may not) return in the fall, SCCCMH will work with RESA to implement additional programs.

Cheryl LaFrance informed the council that The Arc, upon concluding their outreaches, has found that most individuals had necessary supports available prior to their outreach.

Martha Partipilo inquired if we have a grief support group for intellectual disabilities. Kathleen Gallagher informed her that if that need arises, we can appoint a trauma-informed staff member to assist.

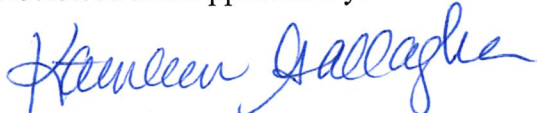
Chairman Thomson suggested that a campaign on mask wearing for children be designed. Thomson also provided the council with relevant literature, "Billy and the Brilliant Bubble" and "Paul Stays Home". The latter is appropriate for all ages.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – N. Thomson

Nancy Thomson adjourned the meeting at 12:50 PM.

IX. NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, August 19th, 2020 from 12 PM – 1 PM in Summit – 2nd Floor

Reviewed and Approved By:



Kathleen Gallagher
Program Director

Respectfully Submitted By,



Kaeley Hux
Recording Secretary

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