

Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 21st, 2020

PRESENT: Advisory Committee Members: Barbara Belkiewicz, Lisa Clark, Larry Doherty, Cheryl LaFrance, Lisa Murphy, Richard Parker, Martha Partipilo, Mark Paulus, Cyndy Raymo, Erin Rusch, Amy Sanderson, Antoinette (Tosia) Tucker, and Nancy Thomson (Chairperson)

CMH Staff: Kathleen Gallagher (Program Director), Kaeley Hux (CMH Recording Secretary) and Karen Zultak (Program Supervisor)

ABSENT: Advisory Committee Members: Nancy Levitt, Edward Rieves.

CMH Staff: Debra Johnson (Executive Director)

GUESTS: None

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

Nancy called the meeting to order at 12:05 P.M. There were agenda changes as follows: Kathleen Gallagher to present agenda item III.A.

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. NAMI Affiliate Meeting Invitation

CMH is embarking on an endeavor to restore a local NAMI affiliate. The council has been asked to direct anyone interested to Tracy Goyette for RSVP submission. A handout has been provided to the council in regard to the meeting, as well as a NAMI & What We Do informational sheet.

IV. CMH UPDATES – K. Gallagher

A. Clubhouse Re-Opened October 5th

The Clubhouse has re-opened as of October 5th, 2020 while operating four days a week. The fifth day allows for the building to be closed for sanitization purposes. Virtual services are also being offered at this time. Please note a mask or facial covering is required.

B. Port of Hopes is Open

Port of Hopes is now open, please note a mask or facial covering is required.

C. Day Programs Update

Community Enterprises and Bright Futures are open, however due to MDHHS Director Robert Gordon's social distancing order, only 10 individuals may attend at a time. A rotation schedule has been implemented.

D. Recovery Awards

Recovery Awards will take place October 26th, 2020 at CMH in the Auditorium from 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM. Award recipients will be able to bring up to two guests with them. A virtual presentation is being explored as well.

E. Construction Project

Construction for the SUD department is anticipated to reach completion January 2021. This will allow for 14 offices and one meeting room.

V. CCBHC UPDATE – K. Zultak

A. Community Perception Survey

The community perception survey has been completed as of October 16th, 2020. The results of the survey have been sent to TBD Solutions. A summary of the results is anticipated to be available and reported in November's meeting.

B. Secondary Trauma Trainings

The Community Relations department is in the midst of creating a three-part series offering education and support for those who may experience secondary trauma. This is scheduled for the first week of December 2020, in the evening hours. Each presentation will be one hour long. Mental Health First Aid will also be explored. This will be offered via Zoom and Facebook Live.

VI. POLICY REVIEW – Group

A. 03-003-0065 Satisfaction Surveys

There were no changes noted. There was discussion regarding employing a peer support specialist to administer the survey going forward. There was further discussion regarding placing a notification on the envelope to prevent the appearance of "junk mail".

B. 05-001-0005 Recipient Rights

Changes noted were that of formatting purposes. No further changes.

VII. COUNCIL ROUNDTABLE – Group

Amy Sanderson informed the council that Michigan Rehabilitation Services is continuing to work remotely however they are still accepting referrals.

Martha Partipilo asks that the council be mindful of wearing their masks to reduce the spread of COVID.

Lisa Murphy announced that Harbor Oaks will be at Country Critter Farm located at 5559 Tice Road in Fort Gratiot on Saturday October 24th, 2020 from 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM. Due to lived experience of having a loved one with a substance use disorder, the farm owner is hosting an opioid educational and resource event for the community.

Barbara Belkiewicz inquired if CMH is generating supports for parents/guardians who are homeschooling children. Kathleen Gallagher and Chairperson Thomson acknowledged the difficulties and offered resources that are already in place for support via the school district.

Larry Doherty updated the council on his personal progress.

Mark Paulus shared a personal endeavor.

Tosia Tucker announced that she will be joining the CMH Board in addition to the Advisory Council.

Chairperson Thomson asks that the council please respond to the monthly RSVP.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – N. Thomson

Motion to adjourn the meeting accepted at 12:33 PM.

IX. NEXT MEETING: Wednesday November 18th, 2020 from 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM in the Summit.

Reviewed and Approved By:



Kathleen Gallagher
Program Director

Respectfully Submitted,



Kaeley Hux
Recording Secretary

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

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