



MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

McLean County Health Department
200 West Front St., Bloomington, IL
Thursday, February 16, 2023
Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 AM.

1. Roll Call: Chair Cory Tello, Kevin McCall, Sarah Idleman, Faye Freeman-Smith, Mary Campbell, Dan Deneen, Chief Cory Matheny
Absent: Trisha Malott

McLean County Health Department Staff: Amy Hancock, Behavioral Health Program Manager; Shannon Garlock, Administrative Specialist II

2. Appearance by Members of the Public: Sarah Stalter, Behavioral Health Coordination Program; Kennedy Meloy, Illinois Wesleyan Intern at the Salvation Army
3. Items for Action
 - A. Approve 10-07-22 MHAB Meeting Minutes

Motion Made By: Faye Freeman-Smith **Seconded Motion:** Mary Campbell

4. Items for Information **PAGES**
 - A. Community Health Improvement Plan: McLean County/Illinois: 2023-2025
 - a. Cory Tello provided handout - 2023-2025 McLean County Community Health Improvement Plan
 - B. McLean County Health Department's Strategic Plan: 2022-2025

5. Items for Discussion
 - Board members shared updates:
 - Kevin McCall shared BHCC (Behavioral Health Coordination Council) workgroups have begun. Currently the workgroups only include BHCC members to work out the logistics and priorities of the workgroups. The goal of the workgroups is bringing core members of agencies together in a collaborative effort to avoid duplicative efforts.
 - Sarah Stalter shared RISE (Resilience Inspires and Spreads to Everyone) will be reconvening this month for the core and 2 subgroups. The focus of RISE has been creating several infographics. The next goal is implementing the audience and where to share the infographics and finalize Trauma Informed Care/ACEs/Resiliency trainings.
 - BHCC is currently working on updating a submission for the System of Cares Grant. This grant would be a collaboration of The Baby Fold, ROE (Regional Office of Education), McLean County Center for Human Services (MCCHS), and Center for Youth and Family Solutions.

- SAMHSA Grant for Chestnut Health System is finalizing the SAMHSA grant for Certified Community Behavioral Health Center partnering with the MCCHS. They are currently working on finalization of details of clear definitions of agency and staff roles between the agencies prior to final SAMHSA approval of the budget.
 - MCCHS' Behavioral Health Urgent Care (BHUC), formerly known as the Triage Center, is now operating. Currently MCCHS is in the process of hiring and training staff and will be marketing the BHUC once logistics have been finalized. There is an eagerness for BHUC to serve individuals experiencing a mental health crisis instead of being placed in the emergency department.
 - Faye Freeman-Smith asked if Heartland Community College (HCC) would be able to call BHUC directly and have individuals be transported to the BHUC for services. Kevin replied he would be open to working with HCC. Faye and Kevin will exchange contact information to make this goal successful.
 - Cory shared CESSA plan of the 3 Pillars-Someone to Call/Someone to Respond/A Place to Go.
 - 988 is currently in the 1st wave of a 5-year plan. Goal is to be completed by 2025
 - Members agreed it would be beneficial to invite Megan Moser and Kevin Richardson to a future MHAB meeting for updates on Crisis and 988.
 - Board members discussed the diversion process as relates to emergency service personnel. BHCC is working on this coordination between BHUC, meetings with hospital representatives, and crisis agencies. Efforts are in place to end this systematic burden. There is also a disconnect with the public when experiencing a mental health crisis in that they may think they need medical assistance and go directly to the Emergency Departments. There is a need for education, marketing and procedures that need to be in place to assist the public, first responders, hospitals, and agencies. There is also a grey legal area for hospitals regarding laws and mandates to uphold and follow. Conversations are happening and pieces are coming together, but it will take time to correct. The system has been broken and fragmented for many years, but positive conversations are happening to address and improve services. Some Fire/EMTs can now transport to alternative facilities for patients seeking treatment than just the hospitals.
 - Board members discussed the increasing need for African American counselors for the growing demand of African American male teens. Individuals relate better to someone that looks like them and feel more comfortable with an individual relating to themselves. There is a high amount of stigma related to this population. Churches are the usual place of strength and advice, and there could be a disconnect between the church and the mental health need of an individual. Board members discussed that access and outreach could be the resources this population needs, including going out into the community where the need is and providing education of services available and locations. Marketing and education are needed to reduce stigma and promote self-care techniques. Kevin stated he would like to make this a topic area for the Behavioral Health Forum in October. The focus needs to be on prevention and addressing the lack of places to go to receive services. We need to prevent the escalation of mental health issues prior to mental health services being needed. The board members discussed the focus should be on the youth and they could assist their peers. As a youth ages, the skillsets are passed on and shared throughout the youth's lifespan; a great prevention tool. Target age would be prior to age 22; maybe something Project Oz or Youth Build could address or collaborate.
- Perimeters to be Outlined in the RFP for the Remaining Amount of Budgeted

- RFP is scheduled to be posted on February 27th, 2023.
- Board members discussed and agreed upon the following parameters for the upcoming RFP:

Funding Focus Areas:

The Board has identified focus areas for behavioral health grants as described below. The contract period is for 6 months, and funding may not occur beyond the 6-month cycle.

- Coordinate and execute a specific audience to receive Youth MHFA, MHFA for Seniors, and/or MHFA.
- Increase agency IT support, hardware, and/or software to better collect client data and/or improve service delivery in conjunction and coordination with data sharing with MCHD and/or BHCC.
- Coordinate and facilitate training to a specific audience that can leverage the training to the most at-risk populations.
 - Some examples may include (but not limited to) the following:
 - Training to address physical and mental health disparities through a “Health Day”
 - Training provided to youth on how to communicate to their peers about mental health wellness and addressing a mental health crisis
- Provide additional resources to a certain population, including individuals that are experiencing homelessness.
- Support the Social Service Work Force, including the development of a networking system, support system, etc.
 - One example may include (but not limited to) the following:
 - “Circle of Counselors” networking system.
- Reduce admissions to emergency departments and criminal justice system through leveraging responders, including EMTs, law enforcement officers, and educational personnel, in conjunction and coordination with the MCHD and/or BHCC.

6. Other Business

7. Adjournment

Motion made to adjourn meeting: Sarah Idleman

Seconded motion: Kevin McCall

Meeting adjourned at: 10:46 AM