

Minutes of the Behavioral Health Coordinating Council

The Behavioral Health Coordinating Council Committee met on Friday, March 8, 2019, at 7:30 AM in Room 400 of the Government Center, 115 East Washington Street, Bloomington, IL.

Members Present: Chairman John McIntyre; Ms. Sonja Reece, McLean County Board of Health; Ms. Stephanie Barisch, Center for Youth and Family Solutions; Mr. Mark Jontry, Regional Office of Education; Mr. Tom Barr, Center for Human Services; Ms. Diane Schultz, The Baby Fold; Ms. Laura Furlong, MARC First; Ms. Susan Schafer, McLean County Board; Ms. Elizabeth Robb; Ms. Joni Painter, City of Bloomington; Ms. Camille Rodriguez, McLean County Health Department; Ms. Susan Schafer; Ms. Laurette Stiles, State Farm;

Members Absent: Ms. Tosha Maaks, NAMI; Mr. Dave Sharar, CEO, Chestnut Health Systems; Ms. Colleen Kannaday, Advocate BroMenn; Ms. Donna Schoenfeld, Illinois State University; Ms. Lynn Fulton, OSF St. Joseph Medical Center; Ms. Karen Zangerle, PATH; Mr. Kevin McCarthy, Town of Normal;

Staff Present: Mr. Bill Wasson, County Administrator; Ms. Trisha Malott, Behavioral Health Coordinating Council Supervisor; Ms. Julie Morlock, recording secretary

Others Present: Ms. Cassy Taylor, Court Services Director, Ms. Judy Buchanan, McLean County Board of Health; Mr. Matt Mollenhauer, Chestnut Health Systems; Mr. Mark Daniel, Superintendent Unit 5 and Ms. Michelle Lamboley Director of Students with High needs

Chairman McIntyre called the called to order at 7:30 AM.

Chairman McIntyre presented the minutes from the December 14, 2018 meeting for approval

Motion by Reece/Jontry to approve minutes from December 14, 2018 regular meeting.
Motion carried.

Mr. McIntyre asked Mr. Mark Daniel and Ms. Michelle Lamboley from Unit 5 to provide the committee with an update on the progress of embedding counselors in schools. Mr. Daniel indicate they continue to see mental health needs rise in schools. Mr. Daniels indicated that the embedded school project is funded by a McLean County Center for Human Services grant. He stated that there are currently 13 students at Fox Creek in the program and they have a couple of new referrals. Mr. Daniels stated that they have seen a steady rise of needs for families at Fox Creek as many times we have students come into our district with no furniture, food, or place to live. He stated that we are doing a great

job trying to meet these basic needs, but these situations also come with trauma and extreme behaviors. Ms. Lamboley added that before students get to special education services staff involve students in levels of intervention and support. She stated they have been able to do that because they put in place a full time social worker. She indicated they have also placed a family coordinator at Fox Creek who assists in meeting basic needs of families. She said they are working with agencies across the county to meet basic needs. Mr. Daniel indicated they also added an assistant principal and feels the tone of the building is trending in a positive way because of these support services.

Mr. Daniel indicated that at Park Side Junior High School they have 30 students in the embedded school project, which includes new referrals. He said that Fox Creek feeds into Park Side so a natural progression. Ms. Lamboley indicated they started the project at Park Side about a year and half ago which is why higher number and that they work to continue to provide services over school breaks. Mr. Daniel indicated they have been working with Chestnut on a contract for a counselor who will be at Normal Community High School for drug/alcohol treatment and social/emotional support and counseling for approximately 60 students year round. He said they see this as a collaborative effort and he would recommend a continuing expansion of these types of partnerships.

Mr. Daniel stated that the schools are the front lines and as we work with students and move them through tiers of care, it is extremely important we have the professionals in the buildings who have the training to meet student needs. He indicated they have committed to increasing the number of social workers they have in classrooms/buildings so they can increase their counseling time. Ms. Lamboley indicated they hired six full time social workers last year and a part-time social worker. She said the amount of paperwork they needed to complete limited direct intervention time with students. She stated that while this still does not put us at full staff, it is helping. Ms. Lamboley indicated they also added a home interventionist to help with students in our emotional disabilities classrooms, which is different than the family coordinator that Fox Creek as this position is more specific to families who have students exhibiting extreme behaviors extending into the home. She indicated they also added a behavior interventionist for the district to help support across the district behavioral needs they are seeing in classroom that affect learning. Mr. Daniel indicated he visits each building throughout the year and the message he was receiving from the staff was that something different needed to be done. He said that fortunately the board said yes.

Ms. Robb asked them if they had numbers and assessments to evaluate. Ms. Lamboley indicated they do not at this time. Mr. Daniel indicated they are starting to compile internal and external data points. Ms. Reece asked them how many buildings they have. Ms. Lamboley stated they have 24 buildings in the district with 20.6 staff members. She indicated it should be one social worker for every 250 students, which they do not have. Ms. Reece indicated that it amazes her how many people we need in our schools today and indicated the two new police officers need to be counted in those numbers. Ms. Schultz indicated she felt Mr. Daniel speaking to the public about the mental health needs in schools has helped express to the community that the need is real and that if we do

not tend to these issues at younger ages other issues in the community will be compounded. She stated that many people do not understand mental health but understand schools, so how he speaks about mental health impacting learning has been a tremendous help for the work this group is trying to do for the community. Mr. Jontry indicated that the embedded program has been a success in other schools as well including rural schools in the county. He also indicated we are seeing a lack of social workers to hire and so we are going to have to continue to partner to make sure services are provided.

Mr. McIntyre thanked them for their time.

Mr. McIntyre asked Ms. Camille Rodriguez, Vern McGinnis and Catherine Porter for an update on Partnerships for Health. Ms. Rodriguez indicated the 377 Board, the Board for the Care and Treatment of People with Disabilities, grants dollars to programs in the community. She indicated this program exemplifies the types of programs that can grow in the community. She stated this program provides integrated preventative healthcare for people with intellectual and development disabilities in an environment where they can have health monitored and get out into the community. She indicated the partners include 377 Board, Advocate BroMenn Health and Fitness Center as well as Advocate Charitable Foundation. Ms. Rodriguez stated that in the first year of the program, there were 41 MarcFirst participants and in year 2 it expanded to include 15 individuals not part of MarcFirst.

Mr. McGinnis, President of the 377 Board, indicated the program has exceeded expectations and went over the history of the program. He said they are finishing year two of a three-year project commitment. He went over funding sources indicating that at first funding was mainly 377 board grant funds, but in year two 60% through 377 and 20% through donors and now they are at 60% private funding. He said they have branched out to include clients living primarily at home which is something they did not think they would get into until year 3. Mr. McGinnis asked Ms. Catherine Porter, Director of Advocate Health and Fitness Center to discuss outcomes. Ms. Porter indicated that the program allows participants full access to the Advocate Health and Fitness Center. She indicated all staff are Exercise physiologist degreed professionals and are there all hours the facility is open. She indicated they also have a registered dietician on staff as part of the program. Ms. Porter indicated they provide assessments quarterly with seven identifiers. She went over changes to the program including adding exercise classes and how nutritional assistance is delivered. She went over data they are working to gather to see how the program has impacted participant's life. Ms. Porter stated that at first there were several that needed a lot of assistance, but many of them do not need assistance any more. She indicated they are proud and enjoy what they are doing. She provided some examples of participants and accomplishments. She indicated that even new members in the program are joining classes, and show confidence and that many members have increased their attendance numbers.

Ms. Laura Furlong, MarcFirst, thanked them for the program as she sees a lot of improvement in participants. Mr. McIntyre also thanked everyone for the collaborative effort. Mr. Wasson asked if participants are covered by Medicaid. Ms. Furlong indicated they are on the Medicaid program. Mr. Wasson indicated they have reviewed some pilot programs outside of Illinois such as United Healthcare who have invested in these types of programs. Ms. Reece asked how other members are receiving participants. Ms. Porter indicated that the Center was set up to be an integrated wellness center and other members have embraced it. Mr. McGinnis indicated they have other groups from out of state coming to look at this program and they will continue to share information. Mr. McIntyre thanked them for the information.

Mr. McIntyre asked Ms. Malott for an update on the special mental health and public safety use fund. Ms. Malott went over the budget numbers for the special mental health and public safety use fund. She indicated that the FUSE program utilizes most of that budget but they also budgeted for the Forum. She further indicated they have utilized some funding for telepsychiatry, as programs they had budgeted for have not begun yet.

Ms. Malott also provided an update on FUSE program. She indicated they spend a year and half with the Corporation for Supportive Housing and the University of Chicago creating a data-matching tool and are now in full possession of and hosting the tool. She indicated they have tweaked it to include mental health indicator flags from the jail. Ms. Malott stated they are working to get confidentiality agreements in place with the hospitals to utilize their data on top users and compare information with our user rates. She indicated they have worked to identify top users and compared with the rapid rehousing program through PATH list of users. She stated a FUSE program manager have been hired, Melissa Newbill and provided work history for Ms. Newbill. She indicated that one of Ms. Newbill's first tasks will be to begin outreach to individuals, so we can engage them in services. Ms. Malott stated that they are also finalizing contracts with community partners including Chestnut, Center for Human Services and Bridgeway Support Employment Services.

Ms. Malott then provided an update on the Triage Center and reminded the Council that the concept came from a visit to the Roseland Center in Chicago. She indicated that the process to start a Triage Center was sped up by the availability of a DHS grant last Fall. She indicated interviews for staff had been conducted and best candidates have been identified, who all have come from a crisis background. She stated they are now working on trying to accommodate desired schedules as staffing will be 24/7 and once they have that worked out they will make offers. Ms. Malott stated that they have talked with Chestnut about providing peers so we have them on staff 24 hours a day. She indicated they hope to have about a week of training and will utilize community partners in the training, as we want our people as informed as possible. Ms. Schafer asked them to talk about location of Triage Center. Mr. Wasson summarized discussions regarding location including consideration that most often law enforcement agencies utilize them as a diversion to the justice system, so we wanted a location that would benefit that aspect. He said they did look at co-location options, but ultimately decided that under-utilized

space on the first floor of 200 W. Front Street made the most sense. Mr. McIntyre indicated this Center they hoped would lead to cost savings for the community, but this will take some fine-tuning. He said they have met with police officers/chiefs to discuss utilization of this center. Ms. Robb asked how many individuals would be on staff at any one time. Ms. Malott indicated that two staff will be there at all times including a triage specialist who has a minimum of a bachelor's degree. She also noted that a number of final candidates have master's degrees or are completing masters. She indicated the other staff members will be a peer with lived experience and their education level will vary. Ms. Malott indicated that most of the models around the country have peers on staff and benefit greatly from having that support. Ms. Robb asked how many individuals can be accepted at any one time. Ms. Malott indicated they are still working on that piece but felt they would have to have a threshold in their policy. Ms. Malott indicated they are still working through processes including brief assessment to determine if they need emergency room or other assistance or if best place is the triage center. She also stated that we are lucky to have a mobile crisis team in the community who could be contacted for assistance. Ms. Robb asked how long individuals can stay. Ms. Malott indicated they can stay up to 23 hours. Mr. Jontry asked about potential start-up date. Ms. Malott indicated they hope to begin training at the end of April or first part of May.

Ms. Malott provided an update on Telepsychiatry indicating she continues to have ongoing conversations with company about best and preferred psychiatrist for our community. She stated that a telepsychiatrist had been identified then the person took a position elsewhere. She further indicated another individual had been identified but they stopped responding with our contract company and now a third individual has been identified and they are working to schedule an interview. She stated the ideal would be to get someone who can see adults and youth. Mr. Barr asked how many hours they are looking to contract for and will this include support nursing time. Ms. Malott indicated they are looking to contract between 15-20 hours and are willing to go closer to the 20 hours if the psychiatrist can meet with youth and adolescents. She also indicated there will be a nurse as part of the program. Mr. Wasson indicated they are also working on public relations on these programs to get information out to the Community about services.

Mr. McIntyre presented for action a request to approve the recommendation for planning for youth and adolescent service expansion. Ms. Malott indicated they would like to move forward to develop a plan to address expansion of youth and adolescent services in our community. She indicated that a small group made up of BHCC members identified four primary areas. Mr. McIntyre indicated they would like to move forward this summer on this project. Ms. Malott indicated that at the June BHCC meeting they would present the specific plan. Ms. Robb stated she felt it would be a good idea to include the juvenile probation department and the juvenile detention center.

Motion by Jontry/Barisch to approve the recommendation for planning for youth and adolescent service expansion.

Motion Carried.

Mr. Wasson presented for action a request to approve an opportunity with NYU Law Criminal Justice Lab for mental health screening tool. Mr. Wasson indicated we have greatly expanded CIT training for law enforcement officers and others in the community. He said they engaged the Stevenson Center as part of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council activities to determine the success and benefit of the CIT training. He said they learned there is a significant drop off in retention and utilizing a pre-diversionary strategy like the triage center after about 60 to 90 days and especially if they have not engaged with any individuals with mental health needs. Mr. Wasson stated that in discussions with law enforcement and the criminal justice coordinating council they became aware of a trial in the city of Indianapolis/ Marion County Indiana for a tool that officers were utilizing in the field. He said they reached out and found out they completed the ALPHA portion of the study in January and NYU is planning to expand to BETA testing and through relationships Ms. Malott, Ms. Rodriguez, Judge Foley developed while attending training provided by SAMSHA they have agreed to let us be part of this BETA testing. He said this will benefit us by addressing multiple points of the mental health action plan at the same time as well as having the tool specialized for areas of our size and not just large urban areas. Ms. Taylor asked them to confirm that the tool would be utilized with Law Enforcement in the field and not at intake. Mr. Wasson confirmed. Ms. Taylor indicated this is an earlier intercept point, which will be a great asset. Ms. Barisch asked about age range tool was designed for and if other crisis providers in the community could look at the tool to understand what that looks like. Mr. Wasson stated that it is designed for adults and they would have to work with NYU on sharing of information because there are some restrictions during initial testing.

Motion By Reece/Painter to approve an opportunity with NYU Law Criminal Justice Lab for a mental health-screening tool.

Motion Carried.

Mr. McIntyre indicated this will be Mr. Wasson's last BHCC meeting and thanked him for all of his efforts.

Mr. McIntyre asked if there was any other business. Mr. Wasson indicated they were contacted in January by the Illinois Department of Human Services division of mental health about cooperating on the submission of a grant application. He indicated that grant would be for a program to work on competency to stand trial and competency restoration. He stated they agreed to be partners with IDHS in the application and recruited Champaign County and Winnebago County. Mr. Wasson stated that the application was successful and the program would be hosted here at the County on April 30th and May 1st. Ms. Robb asked if this was for community-based treatment to restore to fitness. Ms. Malott indicated she attended a training session given by same person who will be attending the April 30 and May 1st sessions here and based on that, she felt there would be two options of jail based restoration or community restoration.

Mr. McIntyre asked about a possible future forum meeting. Ms. Malott indicated she would be sending invites for meetings in the near future.

Mr. McIntyre reminded members that the next meeting would be Friday, June 14, 2019 at 7:30 a.m.

Mr. McIntyre asked if there was anything else to come before the Council; hearing nothing, he adjourned the meeting at 9:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Morlock

Julie A Morlock
Recording Secretary