

Minutes of the Behavioral Health Coordinating Council

The Behavioral Health Coordinating Council Committee met on Friday, March 13, 2020, at 7:30 a.m. 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. Susan Schafer, McLean County Board; Ms. Joni Painter, City of Bloomington; Ms. Karen Zangerle, PATH; Mr. Kevin McCarthy, Town of Normal; Ms. Lisa Thompson, Project Oz; Brian Wipperman, Marcfirst, Samantha Harrold, NAMI and Karen Major, Baby Fold

Members Absent: Ms. Elizabeth Robb; Mr. Eric Thome, State Farm; Ms. Colleen Kannaday, Advocate BroMenn; Judge Rebecca Foley; Ms. Lynn Fulton, OSF St. Joseph Medical Center; Mr. Dave Sharar, CEO, Chestnut Health Systems; Ms. Laura Furlong; Ms. Lisa Thompson, Project OZ; Colleen O'Connor, NAMI Mid-Central Illinois; Kristin Adams, Country Financial; Ms. Diane Schultz, The Baby Fold;

Staff Present: Ms. Trisha Malott, Behavioral Health Coordinating Council Supervisor; Ms. Camille Rodriguez, County Administrator; Ms. Cassy Taylor, Assistant County Administrator; Ms. Julie Morlock, recording secretary

Others Present:

Chairman John McIntyre called the called to order at 7:35 AM.

Chairman McIntyre presented the minutes from the December 13, 2019 meeting for approval.

Motion by Reece/Jontry to approve minutes from December 13, 2019 regular meeting.

Motion carried

Chairman John McIntyre welcomed Mr. Brian Wipperman, the Marcfirst Executive Director as a new member to the Council and welcomed Samantha Harrold and Karen Major as they were filling in for other members.

Ms. Cassy Taylor provided an update on Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant – Justice and Mental health Collaboration Program/Comprehensive Assessment Team. Ms. Taylor indicated an initial meeting had occurred with several agencies and will start meeting on a regular basis on the 3rd Thursday of the month. She indicated they are working on processes for their team and to provide services. Ms. Taylor stated main deliverable for the grant in the first six month is the planning and implementation guide and they are working through that with all agencies and went over the process to get that approved. She stated they have training scheduled and are also working on creating tests for outcome evaluations. Ms. Taylor stated they expect to be serving youth at the start of the school year in the fall.

Ms. Trisha Malott provided an update on the McLean County Triage Center. Ms. Malott indicated they would open on Monday March 16th. She stated there have been postponements for opening and at first the center will be open during the current building hours 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. She stated there will probably be one more phase before they ramp up to the full 24 hours access and would notify the public of those changes as they occur. Ms. Malott indicated staff and a majority of the piers are in place and that they hired security with assistance of the Sheriff's Department. She noted the security officers are not armed and have completed mental health first aid training. She welcomed members to contact her for a tour. Mr. McIntyre asked if they had more than one peer counselor. Ms. Malott indicated they have more than one, some are part time and one full time. Mr. McIntyre went over parking, entrance, security and encouraged them to go for a tour. Ms. Reece asked if there was a button that connected them to the Sheriff's office. Ms. Malott went over interim options as they continue to try to get a vendor to respond to them about portable solutions for panic buttons. Ms. Schafer indicated she felt it is a good time to opening as it is a diversion from Emergency Departments as they focus on COVID-19 cases. Ms. Stephanie Barisch asked about steps planned to move to 24-hour service. Ms. Malott indicated they are working on locks for interior doors, moving mag card reader and access to the building for all renters. Mr. McIntyre asked how long a patient could remaining there. Ms. Malott indicated up to 23 hours and then they would discuss transfer and return to home options.

Ms. Malott went over graph provided in the packet that provided an example of FUSE participant including utilization of the data matching tool information. She indicated once an individual is in the program, they can get medical information such as ER visits and take that into account. She stated it is sometimes difficult to contact these individuals so will give more than top 25 for the program manager to begin outreach. She said that several individuals on the list have been seen in other setting or have been mentioned by other FUSE participants. She indicated they have 5 participants. Ms. Malott stated that one of their initial top ten individuals is employed, in stable housing and sober and has moved to weekly contact. Ms. Reece asked about graduation from the program. Ms. Malott indicated it will differ for everyone as some will go to fewer and fewer contacts as they do better, some may choose to leave the program while others may be life-long participants.

Mr. Barr asked about telepsychiatry. Ms. Malott indicated the prescriber in place is the same person the County has for inmate services. Ms. Schafer asked if there was resistance from individuals to join the program and what feedback had been given. Ms. Malott indicated they had not reassessed anyone in the program, but the verbal feedback is they are happy with services, the level of care, daily contact, and that they can pick up the phone or walk in. Ms. Malott stated the nurse on staff and case manager go out each morning to help individuals with their medication. She indicated there have been some they have reached out to that have chosen to not engage because they either do not want to or they are connected to services and don't see a need. She also indicated some have been hard to find. Ms. Malott stated outreach is on hold because of COVID-19, but they are still working with current participants.

Mr. McCarthy asked about growth and capacity of the program. Ms. Malott indicated the plan has been and still is to scale up by 10 per year. She indicated at 50 they would have to add staff and re-evaluate the program. Mr. McCarthy asked about recording outcomes. Ms. Malott indicated they would be analyzing Emergency, Jail and Shelter visits and costs of those visits so we can say we have reduced visits and saved a set amount of money for those systems. She stated they want a full year before looking at that data. Mr. Barr asked for a Medicaid certification update. Ms. Malott indicated they received approval for impact but the initial certificate for DHS expired at the end of February and they are waiting for renewal.

Mr. McIntyre provided history on data driven justice and mental health plan that included housing. He stated they are working to utilize housing vouchers, pay for success models and are looking for other ways to pay for programs so as to not relying on sales tax. He stated outcome numbers and success is important to help us leverage more grants. He also mentioned the County is dedicating some of the cannabis tax money to behavioral health programs. He thanked Ms. Malott for her work on this program.

Ms. Malott provided a financial update. She provided a graph that illustrated amounts of funding including the bond for the law and justice expansion, behavioral health programming for the expansion including an increase in counseling staff and correctional officers and expanded programming; a case management system; and community behavioral health. She then went over both the 2019 and 2020 expenditures graphs including services, supplies, benefits and salaries. Mr. McIntyre asked her to confirm there were startup costs in the 2020 service figure. Ms. Malott indicated some, but most is continuing services and provided examples of contracts with Chestnut, tele psych, training, software licensing, etc. Mr. McCarthy asked if plan to keep a set base amount in the fund. Ms. Malott indicated an amount had not been designated but realized that startup costs are a little higher to get programs up and running. She indicated that she figured the budget for 2020 is well over the quarter allocation for 2020 and discussed how they are following up on additional funding options to meet budget and service needs.

Ms. Malott provided an update on the SAMHSA Assisted Outpatient Treatment Grant application that had been submitted. She indicated this would add service through the courts for those involved who were struggling to attend or engage in treatment independently and voluntarily. She indicated the decision is expected this summer for potential implementation this October.

Ms. Malott provided information on the Community Health Improvement Plan and Community Health Needs Assessment that has been done in collaboration with hospitals, health department and chestnut. She stated there is a need for the County to become trauma informed and we are working on a way to measure and document information and determine information that will be disseminated. She stated that she is planning to convene a small group from the group that previously met for trauma informed coalition to create this plan.

Ms. Malott next showed the Committee the information that would be provided on their website including hours of operation, triage center, fuse program, mental health action plan, other programs and initiatives, funding sources, and links to other social media sites as well as a resource library. Mr. Barr asked if they could have links to the other provider agencies websites. Ms. Malott indicated she felt it might be good to link to PATH as PATH site contains a list of resources. Ms. Reece asked about a link to partners including to the Town and City and United Way.

Mr. McIntyre indicated the next meeting was scheduled for Friday, June 12, 2020. He asked if there was any other business, hearing nothing he adjourned the meeting at 8:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Morlock

Julie A Morlock
Recording Secretary