

Mental Health Planning Council
October 19, 2023, 9:00 am to 11:30 am
Zoom
Meeting Minutes – DRAFT

MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Teresa Bomhoff	Ed Murphy
Leslie Carpenter	Todd Noack
Jenn Day	Kyra Preston
Linda Dettmann	Nina Richtman
Jim Donoghue	Kristin Roof
Jen Gomez	Dr. Shaad Swim
Theresa Henderson	Monica Van Horn
Todd Lange	Patricia Whitmarsh
Megan Marsh	Edward Wollner
Mary McKinnell	Joel Wulf

MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Rachel Cecil	Katie McBurney
Sen. Claire Celsi	Rep. Ann Meyer
Michael Kaufman	Hannah Olson
Rep. Bob Kressig	Brad Richardson
Vienna Hoang	Lorraine Uehling-Techel
Christina Maulsby	

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Alaina Elliott-Wherry	Devon McClurken
Deb Kazmerzak	Flora Schmidt
Patti Manna	

Materials Referenced:

September 20, 2023, IMHPC Meeting Minutes – DRAFT
CHW Training Grant Overview Presentation
9-18-23 OIL Legislative Recommendations – Teresa Bomhoff

Welcome

Teresa Bomhoff called the meeting to order at 9:04 am. Quorum was established with 20 members attending virtually. Teresa introduced herself and led introductions of Council members.

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Teresa Bomhoff inquired if there were any corrections to the minutes. Hearing none, Teresa entertained a motion to approve the September 20, 2023, meeting minutes. Nina Richtman motioned to approve the minutes. Leslie Carpenter seconded the motion. There was no discussion, the motion passed, and the minutes were approved.

Nominations Committee Report

Jen Gomez stated that the Nominations Committee had received and reviewed an application from Brianna Steffee from Sioux City to fill the Public/Private vacancy on the Iowa Mental Health Planning Council. Jen noted that the Nominations Committee recommended Brianna's application and motioned

to approve Brianna's application to the Planning Council. Theresa Henderson seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and the motion was approved.

Lorien Harker, who was a new member to the Planning Council filling the vacancy for a family member of an adult with serious mental illness, and Joel Wulf who fills the empty Veteran seat were welcomed to the Council. It was also noted that Lorraine Uehling-Techel had missed two consecutive meetings and that if she missed November's meeting her seats will be declared vacant. With Brianna's appointment the Council now stands at 31 members and has two "Other" vacancies.

Monitoring and Oversight Committee Report

Theresa noted that a new meeting schedule had been established, as the committee doesn't require monthly meetings to complete their required functions. The new meeting schedule has the committee meeting on the second Thursday of the month except for the months of July, August, November, and December. These months can be utilized if additional contracts are developed that need to be reviewed. The next Monitoring and Oversight Committee meeting will be January 11, 2024, and will review the Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health (CEBH) contract.

Theresa Henderson indicated that the Monitoring and Oversight Committee met with Julie Maas, HHS, in October who provided a brief overview and update on Your Life Iowa (YLI). It was noted that this is an Intergovernmental Contract between legacy IDPH and legacy DHS, and that MHBG funds go to staffing the mental health crisis line for YLI. YLI is the statewide crisis line. Over 35,000 contacts were made by Iowans in the last year with several contacts made from out of state. The primary form of contact was by phone, but chat and text were still utilized although far less. Mental health issues were the primary reason for the call with 29,000 contacts, with the next highest being suicide, substance use, and gambling. Foundation 2 Crisis Services currently holds the contract for YLI. Foundation 2 also provides mobile response dispatch for several regions, which means that YLI can be called to receive mobile response services. It was also noted that Iowa HHS issued a Request for Proposal for a consultant to survey the Iowa's crisis services system to see how to transform it from a mental health crisis system to a behavioral health crisis system. Looking at the role of YLI will be part of that survey. Health Management Associates (HMA) was awarded this contract. HMA is also contracting with Iowa HHS on the Certified Community Behavioral Health (CCBHC) Planning Grant. The average call time is six minutes. It was noted that some of the calls were simple mental health check-ins, and some were longer with individuals in crisis. One of the main functions of YLI is to help with resource referrals (mental health, substance use, etc.). It was also noted that recent legislation passed that required that the YLI number be listed on the back of school IDs for grades 7-12, with it being optional for grades 5-6.

There was discussion regarding when a Council member called in to the Your Life Iowa and had the call dropped a couple times. It was noted that this individual was not in crisis and was trying to get information. Foundation 2 was contacted, and this issue reported. There was discussion if the YLI number would eventually be transitioning to the 988 number, and what that could look like.

Community Health Worker (CHW) Training

Deb Kazmerzak, CHW Program Director, Iowa Chronic Care Consortium introduced herself and presented an overview of recent grants that Iowa HHS has received and is partnering with Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC), Iowa Chronic Care Consortium, University of Iowa – Institute for Public Health Practice, and Iowa Workforce Development to execute the Iowa Community Health Worker (CHW) Training Initiative, Iowa CHW Registered Apprenticeship, and public health training for CHWs. Deb also provided information on a recent AmeriCorps grant that Iowa HHS has assumed from another state and how this grant program will function in Iowa.

There was discussion regarding if this was national curriculum and if there was a component of the curriculum that was Iowa-specific. There was discussion regarding the curriculum and timeline for the CHW Training program.

Discussion on Recommendations Given at the Older Iowans Legislature (OIL)

Teresa Bomhoff presented recommendations that she had shared when attending the recent Older Iowans Legislature (OIL) meeting on September 18, 2023. Teresa noted that she shared these proposal recommendations as an individual and not as a representative of the Iowa Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council. The proposals that Teresa offered included the development of curriculum and training on dementia and Alzheimer's for the workforce, attract workforce by establishing a career ladder for direct care staff, CNAs, home care aids, hospice aids, etc., and substance use disorder treatment and specialty mental health treatment for older adults. Teresa also shared additional information related to media articles, a recent learning collaborative with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), and recent legislation on nursing home staffing minimums proposed by the Biden administration.

There was discussion regarding consumer demand being a good motivator for change, and the need to train families/individuals so that they can be better informed about what services should be provided in nursing facilities as well as the need for families to advocate and be persistent when services are lacking. There was discussion regarding the need to advocate for change, but also the need to exercise caution in how one goes about this, and how to develop positive change to incentivize individuals to work in this industry as well as more punitive measures taken when facilities fail to follow guidelines. There was also discussion regarding grief therapy and ensuring that professionals are trained in the newest research. There was discussion regarding the use of temporary traveling nursing staff. There was discussion regarding encouraging unions for direct care workers. There was discussion about the need to train direct care workers more effectively on new and emerging best practices related to behavioral interventions. There was discussion about the need for psychologists in nursing facilities.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjourn

Teresa Bomhoff entertained a motion to adjourn. Joel Wulf motioned to adjourn and was seconded by Leslie Carpenter. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Minutes respectively submitted by Wendy DePhillips