

LOCATION: Zoom Meeting
TIME: 9:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

MHDS COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sarah Berndt	Kathy Norris
Diane Brecht	Jack Seward, Jr.
Linda Dettmann	Terri Steinke
Mike Fidgeon	Dr. Ken Wayne
Sue Gehling	Richard Whitaker
Don Kass	Russell Wood
June Klein-Bacon	

MHDS COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:

Betsy Akin	Sen. Sarah Trone Garriott
Teresa Daubitz	
Sen. Jeff Edler	
Rep. Megan Srinivas	

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Rob Aiken	Patti Manna
Theresa Armstrong	Devon McClurken
Jody Bridgewater	Gina Moulas
Carlyn Crowe	Caitlin Owens
Wendy DePhillips	Lisa Pakkebier
Mark Dodd	Mary A. Petersen
Nicolle Eaton	Cheryl Plank
Lori Elam,	Dan Ries
Tami Gilliland	Chelsey Scanlan
Don Gookin	Flora Schmidt
Jan Heidemann	Kim Scorza
Lucia Herman	Kelsey Sigler
Ken Hyndman	Jenn Skaff
Kathy Johnson	Mikki Stier
Brandi Kanselaar	Kelsey Thien
Torie Keith	Michele Tilotta
Todd Lange	Brad Trow
Bob Lincoln	Doug Wilson
Melissa Loehr	Ryanne Wood

Materials Referenced:

October 19, 2023, AM Meeting Minutes – DRAFT
Joint Meeting Minutes 10.19.23 - DRAFT
Care Connections Mgmt Plan Updates 9.26.23
Care Connections Mgmt Plan Updates Summary 9.26.23

CSS PP Update 2023

CSS Policy and Procedure Update Summary

MHDS-ECR 2023 Management Plan Approved RGB 9282023

MHDS-ECR Summary of Management Plan changes 2023

MHASEI Management Plan – HHS Reviewed 10-11-2023.

Eastern FY24 Management Plan FINAL

Eastern Management Plan Changes Summary 9-25-23

Burgess CMHC Designation Recommendation Summary

MHDS Commission 2023 Annual Report Final DRAFT 10.31.2023

Welcome and Introductions

Russell Wood, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and led introductions. Quorum was established with 13 voting members attending virtually. Russell reviewed conflicts of interest and informed the Commissioners to disclose any conflicts of interest on voting items.

***Review and Vote on Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Russell Wood inquired if any Commission members had questions or changes to the October 19, 2023, AM Meeting and the October 19, 2023, Joint Meeting Minutes. Hearing none, Russell entertained a motion to approve both the October 19, 2023, AM, and Joint meeting minutes. Diane Brecht motioned to approve the minutes and was seconded by Jack Seward. There was no additional discussion by the Commissioners. The motion passed with Don K. abstaining and the minutes were approved.

***MHDS Regional Policies and Procedures Amendments**

Rob Aiken, Iowa HHS, introduced himself spoke about recent changes in legislation that have prompted all the MHDS Regions to make changes to their 28E Management Plans, including updating their plan's policies and procedures. Rob introduced Melissa Loehr from the Care Connections of Northern Iowa (CCNIA) Region who provided a summary of the region's amendments to their policies and procedures. It was noted that Iowa HHS has reviewed the changes and recommends approval.

Russell Wood entertained a motion to approve amendment changes to the CCNIA Region's policies and procedures. Don motioned to approve and was seconded by Sue. There was no additional discussion. The motion passed.

Rob Aiken, Iowa HHS, noted that County Social Services Region has made changes to their management plan's policies and procedures with most changes due to the recent changes in legislation. Rob noted that Iowa HHS has reviewed the changes and recommends approval. Rob introduced Mary McKinnell from the County Social Services Region who provided a summary of the region's amendments to their policies and procedures.

Russell Wood entertained a motion to approve the amendment changes to the County Social Services Region's policies and procedures. Sarah motioned to approve and was seconded by Diane. There was no additional discussion, and the motion passed with June abstaining.

Rob Aiken, Iowa HHS, noted that MHDS of the East Central Region (MHDS-ECR) has made changes to their management plan's policies and procedures with most changes due to the recent changes in legislation. Rob noted that Iowa HHS has reviewed the changes and recommends approval. Rob introduced Mae Hingtgen from MHDS-ECR who provided a summary of the region's amendments to their policies and procedures.

Russell Wood entertained a motion to approve or deny the amendment changes to the MHDS of the MHDS-ECR's policies and procedures. Don Kass motioned to approve and was seconded by Jack Seward. There was no additional discussion, and the motion passed with Diane Brecht abstaining.

Don Gookin, Iowa HHS, noted that Mental Health Agency of Southeast Iowa Region has made changes to their management plan's policies and procedures with most changes due to the recent changes in legislation. Don noted that Iowa HHS has reviewed the changes and recommends approval. Rob introduced Ryanne Wood from the Mental Health Agency of Southeast Iowa Region who provided a summary of the region's amendments to their policies and procedures.

Russell Wood entertained a motion to approve the policies and procedures for the Mental Health Agency of Southeast Iowa Region. Sue Gehling motioned to approve and was seconded by Ken Wayne. There was no additional discussion, and the motion passed with Sarah Berndt and Jack Seward abstaining.

Don Gookin, Iowa HHS, noted that the Eastern Iowa Region has made changes to their management plan's policies and procedures with most changes due to the recent changes in legislation. Don noted that Iowa HHS has reviewed the changes and recommends approval. Rob introduced Lori Elam from the Eastern Iowa Region who provided a summary of the region's amendments to their policies and procedures.

Russell Wood entertained a motion to approve the amendment changes to the policies and procedures for the Eastern Iowa Region. Rich Whitaker motioned to approve and was seconded by Diane Brecht. There was no additional discussion, and the motion passed.

***Community Mental Health Center Designation Application**

Michele Tilotta, HHS, introduced herself and reviewed Burgess Health Center CMHC Designation document regarding their request to be designated the CMHC for Monona County. Michele provided a brief overview of the points that determined the decision to recommend Burgess Health Center's application for designation. Jenn Skaff and Kelsey Sigler, Burgess Health Center, informed the Commission that they were happy to be moving forward with being named the CMHC for Monona County. There was discussion regarding the other organization that was interested in being designated the CMHC for Monona County and the reasons that Burgess was the one HHS was recommending. There was discussion regarding how Burgess handles individuals who were unable to pay for services.

Russell entertained a motion to approve or deny the application for Burgess Health Center to be designated the CMHC for Monona County. Sarah motioned to approve and was seconded by Ken Wayne. There was no additional discussion, and the motion passed with Kathy N abstaining.

***Discussion and Vote on 2023 Annual Report**

Wendy DePhillips presented a final draft version of the 2023 MHDS Commission Annual Report noting the changes from the last review. Wendy asked for any changes, additions, or correction for both the new items as well as the full report. The Commission members had no changes for the submitted report.

Diane Brecht entertained a motion to approve the 2023 MHDS Commission Annual Report as submitted. Sue motioned to approve and was seconded by Don K. Jack Seward thanked everyone for all their hard work and the collaboration. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Children's Behavioral Health System State Board Update

Rich Whitaker reported that the Children's Behavioral Health System State Board met on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, via Zoom. Rich reviewed the highlights of the meeting.

- Kelly Garcia, Director, Iowa HHS and Kim Buryanek, Iowa Department of Education (IDOE) provided legislative updates regarding their respective departments. Director Garcia provided an update on the system realignment, noting that there would be a draft report released in the coming months. Director Garcia provided an update on the Department of Justice review and the [findings](#). Director Garcia spoke about the [Hope and Opportunity in Many Environments \(HOPE\) initiative](#) as well as a targeted review of the child welfare system. More information can be found on the [Child Protective Services webpage](#) under data and reports. Information was provided on how to support shelter providers, therapeutic foster homes, as well as Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) and how children and families will be focused on served.
- Meridith Snow, Director, Iowa Department of Education provided an update on best-in-class education system, as well as Youth Mental Health First Aid, noting that 7,000 adults working in the education system have been trained in the last five years to help provide a safety net. Therapeutic Classroom grants have been issued with \$5.5M awarded across 24 grants to schools. There was an update on the Department's chronic absenteeism initiative as well as discussion on achievement gaps.
- The Board worked on and finalized their annual report to the Governor's Office and State Legislature. The report included a recommendation to keep the Children's Behavioral Health System State Board as a stand-alone board, including changes to give the board more focus and impact.
- There was a [presentation](#) on Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health provided by Dr. Beth Troutman, University of Iowa, Carver College of Medicine.

HHS/BH Update**CCBHC**

HHS is moving forward with the planning grant. The focus currently is on the Request for Proposal (RFP) for organizations interested in being certified by the state as a CCBHC. The original announcement date was scheduled to be this week but has been amended to 12/19/2023. Health Management Associates (HMA), contractor assisting with the CCBHC Planning Grant, have been offering a series of technical assistance trainings. This initial series of virtual trainings are open to the public and will be recorded and posted on the HHS website. Some of the TA topics have been CCBHC Federal Requirements, Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Standards, Community Needs Assessments, and Specialty Populations that are served by CCBHCs. More focused TA sessions will be offered in January for those awarded through the RFP. The last scheduled CCBHC Stakeholder Engagement Committee Meeting is December 12, 2023. Staffing for the HHS CCBHC Team has been determined. Laura Larkin is the CCBHC Project Director, Wendy DePhillips is the CCBHC Project Coordinator, and Clay Gemmill is the CCBHC Certification Specialist.

Crisis Service System Evaluation

A request for proposal (RFP) was issued to contract for an evaluation of the current crisis service system and how to shift from a mental health crisis system to a behavioral health crisis system. Health Management Associates (HMA) was awarded as the successful bidder. They are bringing a lot of knowledge and expertise to the table. One of the consultants has been working in crisis services for over 30 years. They will be looking at how to integrate Iowa's crisis response system for both mental health and substance use crisis. HMA will be conducting focused interviews as well as broader stakeholder meetings and a stakeholder survey this winter. Plan to have a report and implementation plan sometime in August.

Transformation Transfer Initiative (TTI) Grant

HHS has received a TTI grant from the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD) offered through SAMHSA. This is the third year being awarded one of these focused grants. These are smaller grants that are typically from 9-12 months in duration. Past grant focus has included developing and providing a training series for behavioral health crisis providers on working with children and families in crisis as well as individuals who identify LGBTQ+ and conducting a crisis services evaluation. The focus of this year's grant is on 988 and 911 and developing a pilot for providing training and developing a process for first responders.

The Division of Behavioral Health has a new Office of Suicide Prevention with Julie Maas named the new Suicide Prevention Director. This office will be implementing a Garret Lee Smith Grant, from SAMHSA which is a five-year grant to fund youth suicide prevention. HHS will be focused on training, education, focus on counties with high prevalence and developing procedures, developing toolkits that can be used by anybody for prevention activities and support local schools, and a Youth Suicide Prevention Summit.

There was discussion related to suicide prevention and if there would be any changes or directions with regards to veterans.

Public Comment

Carlyn Crow, Public Policy Manager, Iowa DD Council announced shared the link to the [DD Council's Public Policy Agenda](#) for the upcoming legislative session. Information is gathered from various Commissions, Boards, and other partners, including the MHDS Commission. Many of the issues on the agenda have been consistent over the last several years.

Adjourn

Diane Brecht entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Don Kass motioned to adjourn and was seconded by Ken Wayne. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Wendy DePhillips.