

**JOINT MEETING OF THE MHDS COMMISSION & IOWA MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL**  
**October 20, 2022**  
**1:00 pm to 3:45 pm**  
**Zoom – Approved 11/16/2022**

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**MHDS COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Betsy Akin	Teresa Daubitz	June Klein-Bacon
Sarah Berndt	Sen. Sarah Trone Garriott	Richard Whitaker
Diane Brecht	Don Kass	Russell Wood

**MHDS COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Rep. Dennis Bush	Janee Harvey	Jeff Sorensen
Sen. Jeff Edler	Rep. Lindsay James	Cory Turner
Lorrie Young		

**MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Teresa Bomhoff	Megan Marsh	Dr. Shaad Swim
Rachel Cecil	Todd Noack	Michele Tilotta
Linda Dettmann	Brad Richardson	Monica Van Horn
Theresa Henderson	Jennifer Robbins	
Vienna Hoang	Kristin Roof	

**MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Kenneth Briggs	Michael Kaufmann	Katie McBurney
Sen. Nate Boulton	Anna Killpack	Edward Murphy
Linda Carpenter	Rep. Bob Kressig	Hannah Olson
Jim Donoghue	Todd Lange	Rep. Ann Meyer
Jen Gomez	Heaven Lorenz	Lorraine Uehling-Techel
Kyra Hawley	Christina Maulsby	

**OTHER ATTENDEES:**

Rob Akin	Brenna Koedam	Dawn Rasmussen
Theresa Armstrong	Laura Larkin	Joshua Rubin
Susan Brower	Julie Maas	Flora Schmidt
Maranda Buckley	Shannon Mahnke	Cynthia Steidl Bishop
Tia Calhoun	Patti Manna	Suzanne Watson
Wendy DePhillips	Missy Martini	Kerry Wiles
Meghan Freie	Devon McKlurken	Cary Williams
Kelly Grunhovd	Brenda Miller	Charlie Woodcock
Christy Jenkins	Vicki Mueller	Shelly Zabel
Kathy Johnson	Caitlin Owens	
Torie Keith	Jennifer Pullen	

**Materials Referenced:**

*Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics PowerPoint Presentation*  
*MHDS Region Evidence Based Practices (EBP) Workgroups PowerPoint Presentation*  
*Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health PowerPoint Presentation*

## **Welcome and Member Introductions**

Russell Wood called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Wendy DePhillips led a roll call of MHDS Commission and Iowa Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council members and requested they introduce themselves and note their position on the MHDS Commission or Planning Council.

## **Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs)**

Theresa Armstrong, Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) introduced Laura Larkin, HHS, and Joshua Rubin, Health Management Associates (HMA). Theresa indicated that HHS had contracted with HMA to draft a planning grant for Iowa. Joshua Rubin, HMA provided information on CCBHCs at the national level, including the goals, standards and required services and the benefits of the program for the individual as well as the state. Joshua provided information on the history of the expansion of CCBHCs nationally and the current opportunity offered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Association (SAMHSA) for states to develop a planning grant to apply for the opportunity of becoming a demonstration state. Joshua noted that 40 states were invited to develop a planning grant, and 15 states would be granted the opportunity to apply to be a demonstration state of which there would be ten states awarded the designation of a CCBHC demonstration state. Joshua indicated that the state was interested in receiving preliminary feedback on systemic service gaps, populations least well served, what's working well and shouldn't change, and what data providers should track that isn't currently being tracked. Joshua provided his contact information and requested that individuals send him their feedback as soon as possible so it could be considered for the planning grant application. Joshua noted that this would not be the only opportunity for stakeholders to provide feedback.

There was discussion regarding if CCBHCs can accept assessments from other organizations or if they must do their own assessment for the person to receive services from the CCBHC. There was discussion regarding the difference between the current CCBHCs in Iowa who are expansion grant awardees but are not certified by the State and what certified CCBHCs would look like if Iowa was granted demonstration state status and was able to certify. There was discussion regarding CCBHCs serving the lifespan of the individual. There was discussion regarding the assessments used by CCBHCs. It was noted that the 115 rules for CCBHCs were in the Protecting Access to Medicaid Act 2014 and could be found there. There was discussion regarding providers who are CCBHC expansion grant recipients and the decreases in expansion grant funding, and how to keep these CCBHC-type services in place when Medicaid doesn't yet provide funding for some of these services. There was discussion regarding the competitiveness of the recent expansion grant. There was discussion regarding whether providers could come together to apply to be a CCBHC or use additional providers to expand the capacity of the organization that is applying.

## **MHDS Regions Evidence Based Practices (EBP) Workgroups**

Rob Aiken, Community Systems Consultant, Iowa Department of Health Human Services (HHS) and Suzanne Watson, CEO, Southwest Iowa (SWIA) Region presented on the makeup of the MHDS Regions, regional access to EBPs, partnering with HHS through a deliverable in Regions' performance-based contracts, the makeup of the workgroups, the work of these groups as well as their recommendations. In addition, they discussed next steps for Iowa HHS and recommendations for changes to administrative rules.

There was discussion regarding Enhanced Illness Management and Recovery (EIMR) versus Illness Management and Recovery (IMR). There was discussion regarding the using the term peer wellness

center in administrative code references versus peer self-help drop-in center which is in Iowa Code. There was discussion regarding the need for Medicaid to do a reimbursement review for peer services.

### **Iowa Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health**

Torie Keith, Program Manager, University Centers of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD), provided an update on the Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health (CEBH). Torie indicated that Caitlin Owens, Associate Director, UCEDD was also attending to help address questions after the presentation, if needed. Torie presented on the history and purpose of CEBH as well as which EBPs are the Center's focus, information regarding an environmental scan conducted to determine what is currently being provided and where the gaps are, the key takeaways from this scan, and next steps for the Center.

There was discussion regarding how to best get in touch CEBH to provide information and how CEBH will be partnering MHDS Regions. There was discussion regarding how CEBH will be approaching universities school of social work programs so that graduates are more familiar with evidence-based practices for behavioral health. There was discussion regarding the movement to increase behavioral health training for medical doctors. There was discussion regarding staffing for CEBH, including fidelity reviewers, cost to providers for fidelity review of EBPs, whether there is or will be a centralized database listing providers and when their fidelity review is due, and ways the MHDS Regions can partner with CEBH. There was discussion regarding the development of maps for the three EBPs of focus.

### **Children's Behavioral Health System State Board Update**

Rich Whitaker reported that the Children's Behavioral Health System State Board met on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at the Lucas State Office Building. Rich reviewed the highlights of the meeting.

- Director Kelly Garcia shared and reviewed the draft version of the State of Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Table of Organization, which will include ten divisions when the Department on Aging comes under the HHS umbrella in July 2023. Director Garcia noted that the alignment would be reflected in the new mission, vision, and guiding principles, as well as on all internal and external communications and publications.
- There was a presentation from Please Pass the Love. Gabby Guerra, Director of Youth Engagement as well as youth from the Youth Advisory Board and Stomp Out the Stigma leaders provided information about the program and their current experiences.
- Co-Chairs Kelly Garcia, Director, Iowa HHS and Kim Buryanek, Administrator, Iowa Department of Education provided updates including information on the 2022 Iowa Behavioral, Equitable, Social-Emotional, Trauma-Informed Health in Schools (BEST) Summit, K-12 school mental health training grants through COVID-19 Public Health Workforce Supplemental Funding Grant, the intent to award announcement for the two Managed Care Organization (MCO) bidders, the transition work at Glenwood Resource Center, and the work of the State Training School at Eldora.
- The Board also reviewed their Annual Report for additions, changes, and wordsmithing. There was discussion on the Board's priorities, and it was noted that a final draft of the report would be reviewed and finalized with Board approval at their November meeting.

There was discussion regarding Please Pass the Love and whether there was discussion during their presentation regarding LGBTQ+ issues specifically. There was discussion regarding the need for more youth voices on the Children's Board.

It was noted that the Children's Board has a webpage on the DHS website where meeting information, both current and historical, can be found at: <https://dhs.iowa.gov/about/mhds-advisory-groups/childrens-system-state-board>.

### **HHS Update**

Theresa Armstrong, Bureau Chief, HHS introduced herself and provided updates for HHS and the Division of Behavioral Health and Disability Services (BHDS).

### Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Alignment

The Division of Behavioral Health and Disability Services has come together with those located at the Hoover Building moving to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Lucas Building to join with those in the Substance Use Disorder Bureau. At this point the plan is that all HHS Capitol Complex staff will be housed at the Lucas Building, but those plans are still in progress and have not been finalized. Theresa noted that key leadership positions have been posted in the Community Access Division and the Family Wellbeing and Protection Division. Leadership continues to work on the legislative bill to finalize HHS as a combined agency. At this point the bill is more than 600 pages, but it still being reviewed by HHS leadership.

### Mental Health Block Grant MHBG

Through the Bipartisan Safe Communities Act \$621,948 was awarded to Iowa through the MHBG to target on building up response to crisis, emergencies, and traumatic events. These funds must be spent by October 16, 2024.

There was discussion regarding the specific MHBG awards, the regular allocation, CARES Act, ARPA, and the award from the Bipartisan Safe Communities Act. There was discussion regarding HHS sharing an updated spreadsheet of what agencies received block grant dollars. There was discussion regarding the dollars appropriated to schools including the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER II) and therapeutic classrooms. It was noted that the Mental Health Planning Council does track on some of this information on their agenda attachment, which is accessible via their webpage: [https://dhs.iowa.gov/about/mhds-advisory-groups/MH\\_Planning\\_Council](https://dhs.iowa.gov/about/mhds-advisory-groups/MH_Planning_Council).

### Aspire Grant

The Aspire Grant provides technical assistance and consultation and is issued by the Office of Disability and Employment Policy (ODEP). Iowa has received this grant for the last several years. Another Aspire grant has been announced with applications due by November 8<sup>th</sup>. The state will be applying, which will help provide national expertise through Westat on the supported employment EBP, Individual Placement and Supports (IPS).

### Intensive Residential Services Home (IRSH)

The legislation for Complex Service Needs indicated the need for MHDS Regions to provide IRSH. Regions and providers have been working a long time on putting together this intense model of services, reimburse and staff the organization adequately to meet the needs of individuals with complex needs co-occurring conditions. Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) have been working with providers for the last 18 months to ensure that they are willing and able to reimburse at the determined rate. At this time, Lake Life Skills in Dickinson County have been designated an IRSH and are proving services. Trivium in Woodbury County has been designated and are looking at referrals. First Resources in Des Moines County was just designated, and Inspiring Lives in Fayette County are very close to

designation. Designation means that the organization meets all of the Chapter 24 requirements for an IRSH provider.

There was discussion on whether HHS was going to recommend that postpartum treatment be covered by Medicaid for a year versus the current two months, noting that postpartum care is not only a women's issue but has an impact on the child's well-being and is a child welfare issue. There was discussion regarding the ACES Kids Act. There was discussion regarding the new MCO, Molina Healthcare and the training, configuration and testing that will take place prior to them starting as the third Iowa MCO on July 1, 2023, along with Iowa Total Care and Amerigroup. There was discussion regarding the preliminary findings and recommendations by Mathematica who is doing the statewide evaluation. The final report has not been issued and will likely come early to mid-December. There was also discussion regarding the inpatient bed tracking system and the tiered reimbursement rate going into effect on January 1, 2023. There was discussion regarding ACEs and their legislative priorities, which all concern caregiver and maternal health.

### **Discussion of Legislative Recommendations for 2022**

The MHDS Commission and Iowa Mental Health Planning Council members discussed their respective legislative priorities. Teresa Bomhoff shared information related to the need to improve mental health care for older Iowans and discussed the concerns of the Older Iowans Legislature. These concerns include improving nursing home care by linking payment to outcomes, improving guardianship and conservatorship system, funding Iowa Return to the Community from the Iowa Lottery. This program provides wraparound services and supports for older individuals so that they can live safely and comfortably in their homes and enacting a dementia specialist program. Russell Wood shared the high points from the MHDS Commission 2022 Biennial Report. Russell indicated that it was still in draft form but would be finalized and voted on at the December 1<sup>st</sup> MHDS Commission meeting. Russell shared that the Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) Legislative Policy Committee has issued their legislative priorities for vote by the counties. Of these, one of the top priorities is looking at forensic care and acute hospitalization needs for individuals' mental health concerns. This was a priority for ISAC last year and there was a bill, but it didn't go anywhere. Russell noted that Community Services Association and the Iowa Sheriffs and Deputies Association as well as County Supervisors are all in support of this recommendation.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Wendy DePhillips.