

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

MHDS COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Betsy Akin	Mike Fidgeon
Sarah Berndt	Don Kass
Diane Brecht	June Klein-Bacon
Sue Gehling	Jack Seward, Jr.
Linda Dettmann	Dr. Kenneth Wayne

MHDS COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sen. Jeff Edler	Rep. Megan Srinivas
Kathy Norris	
Terri Steinke	
Sen. Sarah Trone Garriott	

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Rob Aiken	Stacie Maass
Darci Alt	Patti Manna
Jacob Appel	Dawn Mentzer
Theresa Armstrong	Cheryl Plank
Caylyn Bishop	Libby Reekers
Lynn Bopes	Chelsey Scanlan
Tom Brown	Christina Schark
Amber Christianson	Flora A. Schmidt
Carlyn Crowe	Sonya Streit
Maggie Ferguson	Elizabeth Wolfe
Tami Gilliland	Ryanne Wood
Dylan Keller	Danielle Workman
Adrienne LaToure	

Materials Referenced:

MHDS Commission May 16 2024 Meeting Minutes DRAFT
Mental Health and BI rack card
Commission Planning Table 2024
Washington County Mental Health Coalition Activities May 2024
2024 MHDS Commission Cost Increase Letter-DRAFT

Welcome and Introductions

Diane Brecht, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:34am and led introductions. Quorum was established with 10 voting members attending virtually. Diane 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**

Diane Brecht inquired if any Commission members had questions or changes to the May 16, 2024, meeting minutes. Hearing none, Diane entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. Sarah Berndt motioned to approve and was seconded by Betsy Akin. There was no additional discussion by the Commissioners. Don Kass abstained from voting stating he did not attend the meeting. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

MHDS Regional Policies and Procedures Amendment

Rob Akin, Iowa HHS, noted that Heart of Iowa has made changes to their management plan's policies and procedures. Rob noted that Iowa HHS has reviewed the changes and recommends approval. Rob introduced Darci Alt from the Heart of Iowa Community Services Region who reviewed the summary of the region's amendments to their policies and procedures. Darci Alt answered questions from the Commission regarding their appeals and procurement processes.

Diane Brecht entertained a motion to approve or deny the amendment changes to the Heart of Iowa Region's policies and procedures. Jack Seward motioned to approve and was seconded by June Klein-Bacon. Betsy Akin and Sue Gehling abstained from voting. There was no additional discussion, and the motion passed.

Mental Health Awareness Month Recap – Commission Members

Diane Brecht opened a discussion with the Commissioners asking if there were significant events that occurred during May 2024 for recognition of Mental Health Awareness month. June Klein-Bacon shared an informational pamphlet developed by the Brain Injury Alliance of Iowa. Jack Seward shared activities of the Washington County Mental Health Coalition, including public library and local business events. Diane Brecht shared events such as the NAMI walk in Iowa City and Linn County fundraisers.

HHS Updates

Iowa has been named a recipient of a Certified Community Based Health Clinics (CCBHC) planning grant through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). HHS is working with the 10 providers who have been awarded contracts to be CCBHC's to ensure data systems are in place and are receiving an enhanced Medicaid reimbursement rate beginning as early as July 1, 2024.

Disaster Behavioral Health and Project Recovery Iowa has applied for 2 Federal Emergency Management Agency Grants (FEMA) grants to support outreach resources. Written confirmation of the award of those grants is expected soon.

HHS has a grant that is focused on youth suicide prevention. A Request for Proposal has been posted for up to 3 awardees, who will work with local coalitions in developing evidenced based practices for youth suicide prevention, services and follow up.

Public meetings for the Behavioral Health Alignment and Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Expansion and have begun with facilitated question and response sessions to obtain public feedback. Presentation materials and maps, which will be finalized in August, are available on the HHS webpage. The HHS transition report is due next month and will include quarterly updates. HHS will be issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Administrative Service Organizations (ASOs) and finalizing the process in December.

There was a question on whether the Statewide Access and Provider Capacity Assessment was open. This survey will be forwarded to the Commission members.

MHDS Commission Members Role and Involvement with BH Alignment

There was a discussion with the Commission their role over the next year prior to sunseting, and how they would like to be involved in the Behavioral Health Alignment.

There was clarification on the responsibilities of the MHDS Commission. Reports that have been submitted in the past should continue to be developed. Policy and procedures changes for the Regions will still come to the MHDS Commission for review and recommendations.

The HHS rules administrator will decide if emergency rules or other rules related to Mental Health and Disability Services, which have traditionally been in Chapter 24 and Chapter 25, will go to HHS Council or MHDS Commission

Feedback from the Commission included a request that HHS finds ways to access the expertise of the members on the MHDS Council, providers, and persons with lived experience in advance of decision making, rather than seeking feedback on decisions that are already in progress. The Commission would like information on the representation on the HHS Council, and this will be forwarded to them. There was a request to have Brain Injury representation on the HHS Council.

Cost Increase Letter

The drafted 2024 Cost Increase Letter, which communicates the recommendations of the MHDS Commission for addressing the increase in MHDS service costs in HHS was reviewed and edited. Commission members will have the opportunity to provide additional feedback and will vote to approve or deny the letter at the July 2024 meeting.

Commission Planning Calendar

The Commission Planning table with timelines was reviewed and committees' membership was reviewed. Mike Fidgeon and Sarah Berndt joined the Regional Services Committee and Don Kass joined the Legislative Priorities Committee.

Planning for Future Meetings/Additional Discussion

Commission members were asked for input into future meetings, with no suggestions given. There was no additional discussion.

Public Comment

There was an opportunity for public comment, with none being offered.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Patti Manna