

Iowa Integrated Health Planning and Advisory Council
July 17, 2024, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
via Zoom
Meeting Minutes

MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Teresa Bomhoff	Cayleen Mesecher
Rachel Cecil	Todd Noack
Jennifer Day	Hannah Olson
Linda Dettmann	Brad Richardson
Jessica Goltz	Jennifer Riley
Jen Gomez	Kristin Roof
Lorien Harker	Brianna Steffe
Theresa Henderson	Dr. Shaad Swim
Vienna Hoang	Monica Van Horn
Michael Kaufman	William Veltri
Todd Lange	Patricia Whitmarsh
Megan Marsh	Edward Wollner
Christina Maulsby	Joel Wulff
Mary McKinnell	

MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jim Donoghue	Randy Hoover
Kyra Hawley-Preston	Rep. Ann Meyer
Sen. Claire Celsi	
Sen. Jeff Elder	

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Jacob Appel	Sara Knox
Ashley Banes	Laura Larkin
Jenna Biasco	Patti Manna
Christy Casey	Tammy Nyden
Justin Edwards	Denise Rathman
Julie Gibbons	Libby Reekers
Nancy Hunt	Stephanie Schmidt
Chandra Jennings	Laura Semprini
John Juhl	Elizabeth Wolfe

Materials Referenced:

2024-04 MHBG Recommendations
Council Committee and Workgroup Reports Summary 20240717
Intensive Residential Service Home presentation 2024.07.17
I-PAC May 14 2024 Meeting Minutes DRAFT
I-PAC Policy 5-2024
Joint I-PAC and MHDS Commission May 15, 2024 Meeting Minutes DRAFT
Medicaid Updates I-PAC Presentation July 17, 2024
Mental Health Block Grant Follow-up Questions
MHBG Presentation 3
R Place Presentation 2024.pptx

Welcome

Teresa Bomhoff called the meeting to order at 9:03 am. Quorum was established with 28 members at 10:06 am.

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Teresa Bomhoff entertained a motion to approve both the I-PAC May 14, 2024, meeting minutes and the Joint I-PAC and MHDS Commission May 15, 2024, Meeting Minutes. William Veltri motioned to approve the minutes. Joel Wulf seconded the motion. There was no discussion, the motion passed, and the minutes were approved.

Teresa Bomhoff entertained a motion to approve the I-PAC Policy 5-2024 document with revisions discussed at the May 15th, 2024, meeting. This would be considered the second reading. Todd Noack motioned to approve the document. Jenn Day seconded the motion. There was no discussion, the motion passed, and the document was approved.

Teresa Bomhoff entertained a motion to approve the Monitoring and Oversight Committee MHBG Recommendation letter. Todd Lange motioned to approve the letter. Jennifer Gomez seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the letter was approved.

Nominations Committee Report

Jen Gomez welcomed a new member, William Veltri, who fulfills the category of other.

Jen Gomez shared there are now 3 Current Vacancies which include two for a family member of an adult with serious mental illness or substance use disorder, and one for other.

Teresa Bomhoff led a discussion on the current vacancies. There are 30 of 33 positions filled with 16 of those being providers and 14 being non-providers. This does not fulfill the requirement to have at least 51% be non-providers. For diversity considerations, it would be preferred that additional members have a lived experience with a substance use disorder, be male, and/or a person of color.

Peer Run Organizations Presentations

Todd Noack and Katelyn Alright of Life Connections Recovery Services gave a short presentation on their work. Life Connections Peer Recovery Services is a non-for-profit organization that operates a Peer Recovery Center and Iowa's first Peer Run Respite House. Life Connections Peer Recovery Services connects individuals with Mental Health and Substance Use issues with services and resources and supports them in working on their recovery goals at no cost.

Jenna Brisco and Laura Semprini of Nami Johnson County/R Place gave a short presentation on their work. About Us R Place Peer Recovery Center is a wellness recovery center for adults living with mental health conditions. They provide a peer-led meeting place with provides activities, classes, groups and social events.

Sara Knox of Iowa Peer Network gave a short presentation on their work. Iowa Peer Network provides a forum for Peer Support Specialists, Family Peer Support Specialists, and Recovery Coaches to communicate and support each other. Their three primary goals are to connect Peer Support Specialists, build Peer Support Specialists' knowledge and skills and strengthen the Peer Support Specialist workforce in Iowa.

Staff from Freedom Pointe were not available. Todd Lange provided a short overview of their work. Freedom Pointe offers peer support for mental health wellness and recovery. The drop in location is in the basement of the First Baptist Church in Fort Dodge.

Workgroups

Teresa Bomhoff reviewed the Council Committee and Workgroup Reports Summary 20240717. The chair, or their representative of each workgroup gave a short verbal summary of the report.

Todd Lange reported the Orientation workgroup met with new members Cayleen and William.

Todd Lange reported the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) workgroup recommends requesting the HHS CCBHC team present updated information to the Council. The State of Iowa has received a demonstration grant award from SAMSHA with 9 providers provisionally certified. implementation scheduled to begin July 1, 2025.

Patti Whitmarsh reported the Children's Issues workgroups would like to learn more about advocacies available to address the lack of access to in-state services for children needing intensive care. They suggested inviting Kristie Oliver of The Coalition for Family & Children's Services in Iowa.

Joel Wulf reported the Older Adults workgroup would like to suggest the Council create YouTube videos regarding care issues for older adults and caregivers, especially in rural areas.

Edward Wollner reported the substance use disorder would like to suggest there be a presentation to raise awareness of the State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant and on Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD).

Kristin Roof reported the Strategic Planning workgroup is reviewing legislative bills, compiling other workgroup recommendations and collaborating in outreach to partners. This workgroup has requested an online repository of workgroup notes which is in the process of being developed.

Understanding the Iowa Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services Mental Health Services (MHBGSUPTRS) Block Grant: A Review in Three Parts

Christina Maulsby continued the presentation of the third of a three part series on an overview, of the Iowa Substance Abuse Prevention Treatment and Community Mental Health Services Block Grant.

Public Comment

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

Lunch Break

There was a lunch break from 12:05 pm to 12:30 pm.

HHS Block Grant Updates

Laura Larkin, MHBG State Planner, introduced Chandra Jennings, who will be taking over responsibilities for the Mental Health Block Grant with HHS. Justin Edwards, HHS Substance Use Block Grant Manager, was also present to answer questions from the Council.

The block grant planners shared that the joint block grant, which will be available for comment in August, is due September 1, 2024. As a reminder this is an off year with a minimal application.

The block grant planners shared responses to a list of questions from the Council had been included in the materials distributed to the Council members.

The block grant planners reviewed to that the documentation of whether priorities were met or not as well as explanations are available in the December 2023 SUD Block Grant report and answered specific questions on the report.

HOME (HCBS Waiver) redesign

Christy Casey, LTSS Policy Program Manager, provided Medicaid updates. The Hope and Opportunities in Many Environments (HOME) Waiver Redesign Project was initiated to address challenges in the current waiver design. The proposed waiver redesign structure, which includes a change from 7 waivers to 2 age based waivers was reviewed. The proposed timeline for the redesign, including public engagement, and is slated to have an implementation date of July 2025. The proposed transitions of assessment protocols were also reviewed.

Intensive Residential Service Home (IRSH) Update

Todd Lange provided an update on Intensive Residential Services, which are intended to serve adults with the most severe and persistent mental health conditions who have functional impairments and may also have multi-occurring conditions. This service provides intensive 24-hour supervision, behavioral health services, and other supportive services in a community-based residential setting.

There are currently 8 providers with a total of 10 sites and a total of 42 beds statewide. One new provider and 7 new sites are anticipated to open by the end of the year with a total of 28 new beds.

Public Comment

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

Adjourn

Teresa Bomhoff entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Todd Lange motioned and was seconded by Joel Wulf seconded. There was no discussion, and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Patti Manna.