

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

MHDS COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sarah Berndt	June Klein-Bacon
Diane Brecht	Kellee McCrory
Linda Dettmann	Kathy Norris
Mike Fidgeon	Jack Seward, Jr.
Sue Gehling	Terri Steinke
Don Kass	Dr. Kenneth Wayne

MHDS COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:

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

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Jacob Appel	Melissa Loehr
Theresa Armstrong	Patti Manna
Falicia Beck	Cheryl Plank
Lisa Bringle	Libby Reekers
Tom Brown	Flora A. Schmidt
Dylan Keller	Sonya Streit
Todd Lange	Kelsey Thien
Dree LaToure	

Materials Referenced:

MHDS_Commission_June_20_2024_Meeting_Minutes_DRAFT
MHDS_Commission_July_15_2024_Meeting_Minutes_DRAFT

Welcome and Introductions

Diane Brecht, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:32am 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 June 20, 2024, meeting minutes. Hearing none, Diane entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. Sue Gehling motioned to approve and was seconded by June Klein-Bacon. There was no additional discussion by the Commissioners. Don Kass and Kellee McCrory abstained from voting. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

Diane Brecht inquired if any Commission members had questions or changes to the July 15, 2024, meeting minutes. Hearing none, Diane Brecht entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. Jack Seward motioned to approve and was seconded by Sarah Berndt. There was no additional discussion by the Commissioners. Don Kass and Kenneth Wayne abstained from voting. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

Behavioral Health Updates – Theresa Armstrong

Theresa Armstrong, Iowa Health and Human Services (HHS) provided updates from HHS. HHS has implemented Project Recovery Iowa, a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funded grant called the Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program (CCP) with funding available for natural disasters and significant weather events in multiple counties on the western side of the state. Karen Hyatt is the project manager for 3 different immediate service grants, two for tornado and one flooding. HHS is actively recruiting part time temporary employees and is in the process of applying for grants for ongoing funding for these areas, which would provide for trained disaster outreach counselors.

The most recent update for the Behavioral Health System Alignment is the map for the Behavioral Health districts was released August 1st along with a summary of its development. The map was developed with stakeholder input through public meetings facilitated by Health Management Associates (HMA). Feedback that was received included that Iowa needs provider network adequacy, services for special populations, equitable access, and broad representation on advisory groups. Coordination and continuity of care and consistent policies and procedures across the districts were themes that surfaced. Stakeholders also value universal contracting, accountable system, timely access, good fiscal management and outcomes and responsiveness to consumer feedback. Publicly available data regarding access to care was also utilized in the development. A Request for Proposal (RFP) will be posted by early September to designate the Administrative Services Organizations (ASO's).

The Behavioral Health State Plan is in development. Stakeholder feedback will continue to be gathered, with HMA facilitation, through September and October. HHS has the authority to do emergency rulemaking and is considering what rules need to be put in place.

The Division of Aging and Disability Services (ADS) has released an RFP for one entity as to serve as the single Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Technical Assistance and Call Center for the State of Iowa.

Biennial Report Discussion

Diane Brecht stated that the Committees have been formed and have begun meeting on the revisions to the report and asked if Commissioners had questions or updates. The Legislative Priorities Committee has met and have begun discussion how to keep the focus on improvement of the system. The Mental Health Institutes (MHI) and State Resource Center (SRC) Committee is working on obtaining information for the report and is reviewing changes that have occurred with recent legislation. The Regional Services Committee has not yet met.

Diane Brecht encouraged the Commissioners, even if not on a committee, to review the report and share their priorities and recommendations.

Diane Brecht reviewed the timelines for the report. Drafts from committees are due October 3rd and should be sent to Patti Manna, HHS Program Coordinator. The combined draft will be distributed to all Commission members by October 10th for review at the October Commission meeting. There will be an opportunity at the December 6th, 2024, meeting to approve the report.

Planning for Future Meetings/Additional Discussion

Commission members were asked for input into future meetings. Patti Manna reminded Commission member that a Managed Care Organization (MCO) Executive Summary is due in September and will send a draft for Commissions to review.

An update on the State Resource Centers is in process of being scheduled.

Sue Gehling suggested receiving and update from the Managed Care Organizations (MCO's) on the value added services, which are often underutilized.

Kellee McCrory suggested there be a presentation on peer support workforce on how they are being trained with the combining of Substance Use SUD and Mental Health services. Kellee McCrory offered to present on this topic.

June Kelin-Bacon suggested there be a Brain Injury presentation as a multi occurring condition.

Public Comment

There was an opportunity for public comment.

Todd Lange has been working with Life Connections to update the peer support inventory, which tracks peer support across the state. This will be an open source document that can be utilized across the state.

Dree LaTour works for Iowa Total Care and offered to be a contact for future MCO presentations.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:28 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Patti Manna