



State of Wisconsin

**Wisconsin Council on Mental Health**

1 West Wilson Street, P.O. Box 7851  
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7851

**Meeting of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health Executive Committee**

**March 6, 2015 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**1 West Wilson Street, Conference Room 850-A, Madison, Wisconsin**

**Minutes**

**Members of the Committee in Attendance:** Shel Gross, Karen Herro, Mishelle O'Shasky, Rick Immler.

**Department of Health Services Staff in Attendance:** Ryan Stachoviak

**Item 1: Call to Order**

*Review and Approval of Draft Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) of January 9, 2015*

**R. Immler motioned to approve the meeting minutes of January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015.**

**M. O'Shasky seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes of January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015.**

**Motion carries unanimously, K. Herro abstains.**

*Announcements*

M. O'Shasky announced that Empowerment Days will be held April 13-14 in Madison. S. Gross announced the Communities in Action to Prevent Suicide Conference will be held April 29 in Stevens Point.

*Public Comment*

No public comment made.

**Item 2: Executive Committee Business**

*SAMHSA Technical Assistance*

S. Gross stated that the WCMH did not apply for the SAMHSA leadership academy as there was not enough interest. T. Hassinger did have interest and S. Gross will work with her to develop leadership skills on a more one on one basis.

*Mental Health Block Grant Review Process*

R. Stachoviak stated that the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (DMHSAS) is in the process of creating an update to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Needs Assessment and putting together the 2016-2017 Block Grant Plan and Application. The DMHSAS is planning on having a draft of the Needs Assessment to provide to the Council in early May 2015. The DMHSAS will then accept feedback from the Council and its

committees to inform the block grant plan. R. Stachoviak will offer to present either the Block Grant Plan or Needs Assessment to the Council's committees.

#### *Data Requests*

R. Immler noted that a question was raised in his presentation regarding Wisconsin's hospitalization rates. K. McCoy has identified that adolescent inpatient rates are higher in Wisconsin, but also rates overall are higher. R. Immler asked if there could be a data request made to DMHSAS to confirm these rates. It is important to not only confirm these rates but also try to learn why they are occurring. One would expect that if the state is indeed using too much state resources devoted to hospitalization these dollars could otherwise be devoted to community based resources.

S. Gross stated that J. Allen acknowledged those facts at the WCHSA behavioral health PAC meeting. The Executive Committee could ask J. Allen to comment on this and discuss about how the Division understands the dynamics and factors behind these rates. S. Gross recommended that R. Immler write up specifically what would like DMHSAS to respond to, and the Committee can present that to J. Allen and determine whether something that can be addressed at next meeting. R. Immler will provide this request to R. Stachoviak.

#### *Discussion of New Officers*

S. Gross stated that in July new officers are needed for the Council. M. O'Shasky is willing to continue on Second Vice-Chair. D. Wrenn will need to resign as Vice-Chair. The Council does have someone who is willing to serve as the next WCMH Chair. S. Gross will reach out to people to see if there is anyone who is interested in being the Vice-Chair after D. Wrenn steps down from that position.

### **Item 3: Committee Updates and Action Items for WCMH Meeting on March 18, 2015**

#### *Criminal Justice Committee (CJC)*

M. O'Shasky stated at the recent CJC meeting Michael Conwill provided a presentation regarding homelessness at release from incarceration. The Department of Corrections is aware of the problem. In addition, the Committee now has vacancies for consumers.

Sylvia Jackson announced that offenders are now able to apply for Medicaid prior to release to ensure they have insurance. Waupun is working on being Medicaid certified so the facility can bill Medicaid for medications upon leaving facility.

#### *Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC)*

S. Gross stated that the LPC discussed the Wisconsin State Budget. At the next meeting the LPC is hoping to put together a list of recommendations on the various budget proposals. One of the most significant statutory changes is regarding emergency detention for Milwaukee County. This legislation is intended to bring the County in line with the rest of the state, but there is concern about the county's ability to do so. In addition, the Family Care legislation can potentially have a big impact, there is currently a lot of controversy as the real impact of the changes are largely unknown at this time. S. Gross stated that he will be appointing Kathie Knoble-Iverson as the Independent Living Council backup representative on the LPC at the upcoming WCMH meeting.

### *Adult Quality Committee (AQC)*

K. Herro stated that the Committee met in February and as per the AQC's strategic plan the AQC is working on Comprehensive Community Services (CCS). The AQC most recently had Cheryl Lofton and Langeston Hughes speak about the program. K. Herro's major concern is the staff has too much input into how the meetings go and the committee should be the driving force behind how the meetings go. The AQC needs to slow down a bit and do some quality work. The committee will also be discussing the functional screen. An additional priority from the AQC's strategic planning process is to increase access to services.

### *Children and Youth Committee*

R. Immler announced that J. Baldwin stepped down as Co-Chair of the Committee. P. Buege volunteered to serve as co-chair on an interim basis to allow for someone else to step up. There was a motion in February regarding a budgetary recommendation to move the appointment of the Director of Office of Children's Mental Health under DHS. The motion is to write a letter to the Governor asking for him to support the original four areas which were identified as key goals of the Office of Children's Mental Health. A similar letter will be provided to the Joint Finance Committee.

Two additional motions which the CY would like to bring to the Council are one around supporting Fostering Futures and Children's COP. The CYC will not be bringing forth a motion regarding school waivers.

S. Gross announced that he will bring a table regarding types of schools and children with disabilities. The table details whether and how the schools are governed. S. Gross wants people to understand those differences and how public and private schools differ in practice and responsibility.

R. Immler stated that members of the CYC would like to have orientation materials for new members of the committee or council. R. Stachoviak discussed that there are some basic materials already written for new members of the Council. However there are opportunities for developing new, more comprehensive, materials and placing them online. R. Stachoviak will work with the WCMH staff to develop new orientation materials. S. Gross noted that a letter was sent to J. Baldwin on behalf of the Council thanking her for her years of Service to the Council.

### *Nominating Committee*

S. Gross stated that the Committee reviewed an application from Mary Helen Tulinnye. Ms. Tulinnye would be representing an advocate position. S. Gross noted that the Nominating Committee did have a conversation regarding her role as she is also a provider. S. Gross will raise this topic at the WCMH meeting to ensure the Council is comfortable with her being recommended as an advocate. P. Cork has been formally nominated by the DHS Secretary to serve as DHS representative to the Council. Hugh Johnston announced that he would need to step down as the DOC representative. R. Stachoviak will be checking with DOC to see where the DOC is in the process of identifying a new representative.

### **Item 4: Adjourn**

Meeting Adjourned at 2:38pm.