



State of Wisconsin

Wisconsin Council on Mental Health
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Meeting of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH)
November 20, 2019 from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
1801 Aberg Avenue, Madison, WI – Conference Room 101 and Via Conference Call

Members of the WCMH in Attendance: Kimberlee Coronado, Inshirah Farhoud, Ana Winton, Carol Keen, Crystal Hester, Kevin Kallas (via teleconference), Rick Immler, Radha Kanchana Karthik, May yer Thao, Peter Thao, Lynn Harrigan, Kristin Welch, Sheryl Smith, Jerolynn Bell-Scaggs (via teleconference)

Department of Health Services (DHS) Staff in Attendance: Kenya Bright, Ryan Stachoviak, Joyce Allen, Joannette Robertson, Mike Christopherson, Alicia Boehme, Teresa Steinmetz

MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order

Read WCMH guidelines for conduct of meeting

C. Hester read the guidelines for the conduct of meeting.

Review and approval of the minutes of September 11, 2019

S. Smith moved to approve to approve the minutes.

C. Keen seconded the motion.

Motion carried, R. Immler abstained, minutes approved.

Announcements

C. Hester announced that NAMI Wisconsin is gearing up for the annual NAMI Wisconsin conference in 2020. Right now NAMI Wisconsin is accepting proposals for breakout sessions. The deadline for submitting a proposal is December 9th. I. Farhoud discussed a recent grant that was received to address mental health and domestic violence, working to help women. It will be a three year project, collaborative among several agencies in the community.

Public Comment

No public comment was made.

2. Discussion of WCMH and Committee Membership

Consideration of a new WCMH Chair

Members of the WCMH discussed the procedure for appointing a new chair. R. Immler voiced that he would be willing to take on the role of Council chair on an interim basis, perhaps only a year, depending on his availability.

K. Coronado moved to appoint Rick Immler as Chair of the WCMH.

I. Farhoud seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Members of the WCMH discussed opportunities for participating on one of the WCMH committees. The bylaws of the Council ask that each member of the Council participate in one of the committees. There are also several committees that currently need either a new chair or co-chair. Each committee is to have at least one chair who is an official member of the WCMH. There are also opportunities for participating on the State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (SCAODA). R. Stachoviak informed the group that if anyone is interested in getting involved on one of the committees they can reach out to him and he can make the connection to that group.

3. Presentation on the Department of Health Services and the Mental Health Block Grant

R. Stachoviak provided a presentation on the Wisconsin behavioral health system and the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG). The presentation detailed history of the block grant program, how states apply, how the MHBG is utilized in Wisconsin, and the steps that go into planning its use. R. Stachoviak encouraged the WCMH to inform DHS staff if there are any additional topics that would be helpful for the group to learn about.

4. Working Lunch

5. WCMH Committee Reports, Discussion, and Consideration of Motions

Executive Committee

The most recent Executive Committee was dedicated to addressing developing the agenda for the November meeting. The Committee also discussed WCMH and committee membership. The Committee did not have quorum at this meeting so no official actions were taken other than discussion.

Children and Youth Committee (CYC)

K. Coronado provided an update on the CYC. The CYC has not met for a while. A few of the members have continued to develop a workforce development. K. Coronado noted that she submitted testimony as a citizen regarding seclusion and restraint legislation.

R. Immler appointed Jason Cram appointed as the BPTR representative to the CYC.

Criminal Justice Committee (CJC)

No CJC briefing was provided.

Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC)

Motion from the LPC from November 14, 2019 LPC meeting: The LPC moved to recommend the WCMH should write a letter to the Suicide Prevention Taskforce Members expressing positive reaction to raising the issue of suicide, but address the continued needs and highlighting what more can be done.

C. Hester provided a briefing the motion that was passed by the LPC at the most recent meeting for consideration by the WCMH. K. Welch suggested that the letter also address the need for tribal nations, LGBTQ, and communities of color as communities to address as part addressing suicide prevention. Members of the WCMH suggested including data to augment the argument as well. Members of the WCMH discussed suicide prevention legislation and extreme risk protection order legislation. Members of the WCMH suggested including the language “holding a collaborative effort to reduce lethal means” and making recommendations to address other population groups as well. Members also suggested mentioning indigenous youth and indigenous veterans, and refuge populations. Support for universal background checks could also be included. People who are recently released from prison are also a population of concern.

I. Farhoud moved that the motion from the LPC be amended to include the above noted changes and recommendations.

L. Harrigan seconded the motion.

Motion to amend the LPC motion to include the above noted changes and recommendations carried.

Motion that the WCMH should write a letter to the Suicide Prevention Taskforce Members expressing positive reaction to raising the issue of suicide, but address the continued needs and highlighting what more can be done as amended carried.

C. Hester volunteered to draft a letter and provide that letter to R. Immler for consideration.

Nominating Committee

No Nominating Committee update was provided.

6. Division of Care and Treatment Services (DCTS) Briefing and Updates

J. Allen provided a DCTS briefing on the Hopeline. Funds for the Hopeline were directed to the Department of Public Instruction; however those funds were diverted to DHS. A purchase order was drafted and funding is now in place for the Hopeline.

J. Robertson discussed the Crisis System Improvements project. Early this year a crisis services workgroup was created at DHS in partnership with the Wisconsin County Health Services Association (WCHSA). The group is studying the current state of Wisconsin’s crisis system, taking a deeper dive into gaps and strengths, and how those gaps can be addressed. A crisis system survey was conducted of the counties and all but three counties completed the survey. BPTR will be evaluating the data resulting from that survey.

T. Steinmetz announced a public hearing on November 22nd for DHS Chapter 50. This rule allows for certification for up to 8 beds for the stabilization of youth. The facilities can also be used as a step down option for youth from an institution or hospital, and does allow for stays of up to 30 days. The emergency rule was published and the BPTR hopes to soon issue a funding opportunity to support 1-2 pilot programs with just under 1 million dollars in funding.

T. Steinmetz provided an update on the Child and Adolescent Day Treatment rule. The rule is in the final stages of approval and has incorporated feedback from a workgroup and members of the public.

J. Allen announced that the federal budget started October 1 under a continuing budget.

K. Bright briefed the group on the Veterans Peer Run Respite. The respite is currently being held up with zoning issues though Mental Health America Wisconsin is working with Pewaukee to get it up and running.

A. Boehme provided a briefing on the Bureau of Community Forensics and the Supervised Release program including legislative changes made by Act 184. Through this legislation counties are now required to form a committee for individuals being released from the program and people are to go back to their county of residence upon release. A. Boehme provided a briefing on the Conditional Release Program, and the Opening Avenues to Reentry Success (OARS) program.

7. Call for future WCMH agenda items

Future agenda items that were noted:

1. Review of the timeline for the block grants
2. Review of when the Council can provide feedback on the budgets
3. Conversations on data, especially looking at disparities among ethnic/racial data.
4. How can the Council support the building capacity in the communities, how can the group address cultural competency?
5. Doing research on workforce shortages including the review of the proposal for a legislative study.
6. Updates from the DPI
7. Revisit the share outs from council members
8. Continued education and sharing of information
9. Review of the block grant report

8. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:37pm.