



State of Wisconsin

Wisconsin Council on Mental Health
mhc.wisconsin.gov

**Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) Fall Visit to Dane County
September 12-13, 2017**

Fall Tour Day One, Tuesday, September 12th
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
1801 Aberg Avenue, Madison Wisconsin
11:45 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Members of the WCMH in Attendance on Day One: Beth Clay, Inshirah Farhoud, Rick Immler, Karen Iverson Riggers, Bonnie MacRitchie, Mishelle O'Shasky, Matt Strittmater, Kimberlee Coronado (via teleconference)

Department of Health Services (DHS) Staff in Attendance on Day One: Joyce Allen, Holly Audley, Sarah Coyle, Kay Cram, Dan Kiernan, Ryan Stachoviak

Guests in Attendance on Day One: Mary Grabot

Fall Tour Day One Summary

On Tuesday, September 12th members of the WCMH met with and heard presentations from several community providers and advocacy organizations. Nate Schorr and Crystal Hester from NAMI Wisconsin provided a presentation on the work that NAMI Wisconsin does state-wide, including their involvement in Crisis Intervention Team training. Brad Schlough and Tanya Lettman-Shue discussed the Journey Mental Health Center and the services the agency provides in Dane County and recent expanded efforts in surrounding counties. Mr. Schlough and Ms. Lettman-Shue also discussed the Promoting Recovery from Onset of Psychosis (PROPs) early intervention program. Hugh Davis and Joanne Juhnke discussed Wisconsin Family Ties, including the organizations efforts to develop parent peer specialists. Members of the Council traveled to Cornucopia Arts and Wellness in Madison. There the members met with Karen Herro and other staff and volunteers who worked at Cornucopia. Staff provided a presentation on the history of the organization, programs offered, and events at Cornucopia.

Wednesday, September 13th
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
1801 Aberg Avenue, Madison Wisconsin
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Members of the WCMH in Attendance on Day Two: Barb Buffington, Beth Clay, Inshirah Farhoud, Rick Immler, Karen Iverson Riggers, Mark Lausch, Bonnie MacRitchie, Mishelle O'Shasky, Matt Strittmater, Kimberlee Coronado (via teleconference), Amy Polsin (via teleconference)

Department of Health Services (DHS) Staff in Attendance on Day Two: Joyce Allen, Holly Audley, Sarah Coyle, Kay Cram, Dan Kiernan, Ryan Stachoviak

Guests in Attendance on Day Two: Mary Grabot

Fall Tour Day Two Summary

On Wednesday, September 13th members of the WCMH met with and heard presentations from three local and state-wide organizations. Shel Gross, Director of Public Policy, provided a presentation on Mental Health America. Mr. Gross provided a detailed presentation on suicide prevention efforts throughout the state and how these efforts have been impacted by reductions to funding. Trish Grant, Meg Nelson, and Mishelle Sterling provided a presentation on the Building Bridges collaborative effort among Dane County School Districts and Catholic Charities. The Building Bridges program supports children’s educational experience by working with students, family, community agencies and school staff to develop and promote emotional wellness. The program also works with school staff to connect students and their families to mental health resources. The goal of the program is to provide short term mental health intervention and support (90 days) to begin the stabilization and recovery process for students and families. Jessica Armbruster, Cheri Linehan, and Autumn Croft presented on SOAR Case Management, a non-profit mental health provider organization in Dane County. Additional time was spent discussing Recovery Dane, a non-crisis access point for information and referral regarding mental health and Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (AODA) services within Dane County. The team also provided a presentation on the Solstice House Peer Run Respite in Madison that is operated by SOAR Case Management.

Meeting of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health

MEETING MINUTES

Item 1: Call Council Meeting to Order

M. O’Shasky called the Council meeting to order at 12:45pm. Roll call was taken and guidelines for the conduct of the meeting were read.

Review and Approval WCMH meeting minutes of July 19, 2017

M. Strittmater moved to approve the minutes of July 19, 2017.

B. MacRitchie seconded the motion.

Motion carried, minutes of July 19, 2017 approved.

Review and Approval WCMH meeting minutes of July 26, 2017

B. Buffington moved to approve the minutes of July 26, 2017.

B. MacRitchie seconded the motion.

Motion carried, minutes of July 26, 2017 approved. M. Strittmater, B. MacRitchie, M. Lausch, B. Clay abstained.

Announcements

M. O'Shasky announced that Empowerment Day will be held on September 20th In Madison. Dr. Pamela Keye will be a guest speaker at the event.

Public Comment

No public comment was made.

Item 2: Fall Tour Debriefing and Feedback

Members of the Council discussed the fall tour and suggested feedback for various presenting agencies and organizations. Members noted that overall Dane County has a complex mental health system and it was hard to see how all the pieces fit together in certain circumstances. It may be helpful in the future to hear more about the Dane County system. R. Immler noted that many systems seem to working collaboratively in the county, and that overall the system is evolving. The presentations highlighted the importance of and need for continued collaboration. B. Clay noted the value of hearing how a reduction in the mental health block grant could impact many of the organizations. D. Kiernan highlighted that a need for Certified Peer Specialists was an overarching need among many of the presenters. Members of the WCMH noted the benefit of hearing about the impact of block grant cuts on the organizations. Members of the Council provided the following thoughts and feedback for the organizations that presented at the fall tour.

NAMI Wisconsin

- Regarding NAMI Wisconsin's legislative issue 'access', it would be helpful to hear more specifics about this area. What does NAMI Wisconsin propose to do regarding issues of 'access'.
- NAMI Wisconsin presented quality data, in particular noting the impact across the state. It would be helpful to have a presentation that would focus more on the direct impacts of the NAMI Wisconsin organization, separate from those impacts of the NAMI affiliates across the state.
- It may be beneficial to develop resources for families to get involved in systems change. For example, it may be helpful to provide information about opportunities for involvement on boards or parent advisory committees.
- NAMI Wisconsin has been a strong partner and participant on the Legislative and Policy Committee.

Journey Mental Health Center

- It would be interesting to hear from line-staff and more information regarding the populations served by Journey Mental Health Center (JMHC).
- At a future meeting the Council would like to get an update on the Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis programs operated by JMHC.

Wisconsin Family Ties (WFT)

- WFT presented a lot of quality data. It was impressive the amount of data that has been collected and the presentation of that data.
- Members of the Council expressed their appreciation for the WFT's participation on WCMH committees.
- The WCMH appreciated the broad scope at which the WFT is conducting analysis of state needs.

- Members of the WCMH expressed hope that WFT and the DHS could collaborate on future Certified Peer Specialist efforts given the Mental Health Block Grant dollars received by WFT. Members of the WCMH discussed whether there were some ways that the Council could facilitate bringing these agencies together and means for increased collaboration.

Cornucopia Arts and Wellness

- Members of the WCMH noted that they were impressed by the services offered by the organization and the passion expressed by the staff and volunteers.
- It was beneficial to hear from people who received the services.
- It is impressive how much Cornucopia does with limited resources.
- Members commended Cornucopia on how much they value the voice of their members and the clear impact the organization has had on people's lives.
- Liked to hear from people who received services.

Mental Health America – Wisconsin

- Members offered thanks to MHA-Wisconsin for tirelessly working to address suicide in Wisconsin, especially in light of how big of a problem it is and the limited resources available.
- The WCMH appreciates the past and continued involvement of MHA-Wisconsin on the Council and the Council's committee.
- Members noted that it may be helpful to have another presentation on the Zero Suicide Model as there are many new Council members.
- It is impressive how the agency has shifted to meet the current needs of the state and nation as funding allows.
- Ongoing suicide prevention efforts should look to engage health care payers.

Building Bridges

- Members of the Council noted their appreciation for a great presentation by the representatives from Building Bridges.
- The initiative appears to be having impressive positive impacts for those families involved.
- Members expressed their interest in investigating how an initiative of this type would function in high school. Moreover, what would be needed to operate the program at the high school level?
- It may be worth further investigation to see if there is a way via the county that Juvenile Justice or child protection systems could be brought in. The program may be able to illustrate cost savings for these systems.
- Utilizing a "Handle with Care Model" may be an added benefit to the program.
- Parental training may also be available through the Parents United Learning Collaborative.

SOAR Case Management

- The peer driven recovery focus utilized by SOAR is impressive. The organization has been creative in filling gaps in service in the community. SOAR's new respite program is impressive. It is good to see SOAR has engaged funding opportunities.

- Members of the Council were impressed by the Recovery Dane program. Access is often an issue for people, a lack of providers is a common barrier to access, but also navigating a system is a large barrier. Having these services available to the residents of Dane County is a great benefit and should be recognized.

Item 3: Strategic Planning

K. Iverson Riggers introduced Council strategic planning and discussed potential processes for planning. The WCMH will set aside time at the November meeting to discuss strategic planning further. There is also the potential for forming a workgroup to address strategic planning. Overall the WCMH addressed a breadth of topics over the course of a year, however it is often hard to tell what specific actions or changes the WCMH has made. It may be beneficial to take a more focused approach, doing deep dives on a few specific areas. Members of the Children and Youth Committee (CYC) noted that this approach has been beneficial for the CYC.

M. O'Shasky noted that WCMH leadership has previously asked each committee to present on a key issue that the WCMH could focus on over the course of the coming year. K. Iverson Riggers suggested in addition to deep dives into topics some space is available to allow for emerging issues or topics.

The WCMH's proposal was to change the strategic planning model to focusing more on big issues and focus efforts around those areas. Committees could be encouraged to look at these areas as well. The Council also wants a broad strategic plan to let committees work within their frameworks. Members of the Council noted that most of the work that is done by the WCMH comes from the committees and it is important to give a focus on those efforts. R. Immler added that it is important that the Council spends time considering the limits and focus of the Bureau of Prevention Treatment and Recovery. What resources does the BPTR have and what do they need?

A large portion of the November meeting will be devoted to strategic planning. Each committee will also provide a briefing on the main body of their work. The Council will work to identify a focus for the coming year.

M. Strittmater, K. Iverson Riggers, B. MacRitchie, and K. Coronado volunteered to form a strategic planning ad-hoc workgroup.

M. Strittmater moved to create a Strategic Planning Workgroup, and asked for staff support from the BPTR for this workgroup.

K. Iverson Riggers seconded the motion

Motion carries, workgroup approved.

Item 4: Council Committee Reports, Discussion, and Recommendations

Executive Committee

K. Iverson Riggers announced that the Senate Appropriations Committee met and voted to restore the MHBG funding to the full amount. That budget will next move to the Senate. The LPC will continue to monitor this legislation.

Council Vice-Chair Julie-Anne Braun resigned in late August. K. Iverson Riggers is now the Vice-Chair, and the Council is in need of a new Second Vice-Chair. R. Stachoviak will send information out to the members of the WCMH regarding the position and responsibilities.

Children and Youth Committee (CYC)

B. MacRitchie introduced a motion from the CYC to support, and recommend an amendment to, AB349/SB261 prohibiting mental health providers from engaging in conversion therapy with a minor. AB349 / SB261 would prohibit mental health providers from engaging with a minor in any practice that seeks to change an individual's gender expression, gender identity, or sexual orientation. In addition, the bill specifies that a violation of the prohibition in the bill by a mental health provider is grounds for professional discipline by the appropriate credentialing board. The CYC recommends that the Council support AB349/SB261 and also support an amendment in the definitions section, to more accurately represent the therapeutic role.

Motion to support, and recommend an amendment to, AB349/SB261 prohibiting mental health providers from engaging in conversion therapy with a minor carries.

B. MacRitchie introduced a motion from the CYC that the Council affirm the proposed allocation in the 2018/19 Community Mental Health Services Block Grant application of \$1,826,500 for Children's Mental Health/Coordinated Services Teams. In July 2017, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services received direction from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to base the 2018/19 Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG) application on a proposed federal allocation for FFY 2018 of \$6,386,701, a reduction of \$2,346,187 from FFY 2017. Given the ongoing children's mental health needs in Wisconsin, the importance of supporting the work that is currently underway, and the remaining uncertainty in the federal budget process, the Children and Youth Committee recommends that the Council affirm the currently proposed MHBG allocation of \$1,826,500 for Children's Mental Health/Coordinated Services Teams. SAMHSA has changed the children's set aside requirement from a maintenance of funding at the 2008 spending level to that of the 1994 spending level. The 2008 spending level was roughly 2.1 million dollars. The 1994 spending level is roughly 1.1 million dollars, a significant reduction in the required funding of children's services. R. Immler noted the importance of looking at outcomes of the spending in the future to ensure funds are being spent in a manner that is achieving outcomes.

Motion that the Council affirms the proposed allocation in the 2018/19 Community Mental Health Services Block Grant application of \$1,826,500 for Children's Mental Health/Coordinated Services Teams carries. B. Buffington abstained.

Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC)

K. Iverson Riggers introduced a motion from the LPC recommending that the WCMH write a letter to the DHS providing comment on the concerns regarding changes to Managed Care. The Council should highlight the impact on people, concerns regarding people being informed of their choices, exceptions, and continuity of care. The letter should ask that stakeholders be involved in the evaluation of the proposal, DHS should consider how to better facilitate people joining networks, and that the proposal be open for comment. DHS is proposing an expansion of SSI Managed Care Medicaid to current SSI fee-for-service members who have opted out of managed care. This will impact over 28,000 Wisconsinites with disabilities, including many people who live with a mental illness. The shift from fee-for-service to managed care has the potential to be disruptive as current providers may not be in the managed care network. Many of those impacted have worked hard to put together a care team that meets their needs and disrupting these long term relationships has the potential to have significant health impacts. It is essential to have stakeholder representation from the mental health community including peers, advocates, counties, and other providers to provide input on the proposed changes and implementation plan, and offer recommendations to mitigate the possible negative impacts on members. The LPC provided a draft letter that could be provided by WCMH leadership to the DHS.

Motion that the WCMH write a letter to the DHS providing comment on the concerns regarding changes to Managed Care carries.

M. O'Shasky delayed discussion and voting on a motion from the LPC regarding Regulatory Licensing Reform (SB288/AB369) to the November WCMH meeting as no motion introduction was provided to the WCMH from the LPC.

K. Iverson Riggers informed the WCMH that the LPC is working on developing legislative tracking documents that can be shared more easily and be accessible for Council use.

Criminal Justice Committee (CJC)

M. O'Shasky noted that the CJC is in need new of members and is looking to address the Committee's membership. M. O'Shasky hopes to identify a new chair of the CJC and step down from that position in the near future.

Adult Quality Committee (AQC)

The Executive Committee had spent time discussing the AQC recently. The group had discussed finding means to increase collaboration with other standing committees to boost membership and involvement. M. Strittmater suggested additional discussion regarding the scope and role of the AQC could be done during strategic planning.

Nominating Committee (NC)

K. Iverson Riggers is now the chair of the NC. R. Stachoviak will send out information to the members of the WCMH in order to recruit new members to the Committee.

Item 5: Division of Care and Treatment Services (DCTS) Updates

J. Allen provided information on the Governor's Executive Order 235. This order established a new public meeting notification website. Effective September 1st the DHS will post agendas and minutes on this site. These changes may impact other procedures but more information should be available soon. Council staff will work with the WCMH and the Committees on any changes.

D. Kiernan stated that Medicaid Fee for Service will no longer require prior authorization for mental health or AODA outpatient services. The removal of this requirement is a broader effort to implement mental health parity. It is anticipated that this will be a large shift for providers, and it is hoped that it increases access to services.

Item 6: Call for Future Agenda Items

M. O'Shasky recommended that the Council look to address the Certified Peer Specialist Program. There are various considerations in regards to recommendations such as recommending opening testing up to people who have already been working in a peer specialist capacity. The WCMH should consider what mechanisms are available to support DHS and BPTR in these efforts. J. Allen suggested that the Council could become involved with the Certified Peer Specialist Advisory Committee. K. Iverson Riggers offered to serve as a Council liaison to this committee.

Future agenda items that were noted:

- How could the MHBG be used for seed money? Much of the MHBG is used long-term, what are the barriers for those agencies becoming independent? How could the MHBG be freed up so that other agencies could be funded?
- WCMH strategic planning.
- A workforce development update from the Children and Youth Committee
- Starting dialogue for the WCMH fall tour of 2018.
- WCMH 2018 meeting schedule.

Item 7: Adjourn

M. O'Shasky adjourned the meeting at 3:16 pm.