



SCCBI
JOINT POWERS BOARD MEETING

July 16, 2021

Present: Angela Youngerberg, Barb Dietz, Chera Sevcik, Suzi Nerison, Sue Rynda, Cassie Sassenberg, Mark Shaw, Klea Rettmann, Naomi Ochsendorf

Others Present: Amy Haas, Jamie Hayes, Teri Herder-Blahnik

The SCCBI Joint Powers Board met at Watonwan County Human Services Center in St. James. JPB Chair, Mark Shaw, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: Naomi Ochsendorf moved to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2021 meeting. Sue Rynda seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda: Chera Sevcik moved to approve the agenda. Angie Youngerberg seconded. A question regarding technology needs was added to the agenda. Motion carried with the addition.

Public Comment: None.

June Vendor Report: Expenditures included Stakeholders gift cards. Billing for mileage is starting with the resumption of in-person meetings. Sue Rynda moved to approve the June Vendor Report. Naomi Ochsendorf seconded. Motion carried.

July RMT Information Summary, Amy Haas: Amy reported on the July 8th RMT meeting which was held in person for the first time since the start of the pandemic. It was also the first time the RMT met in the remodeled meeting space at the BEC Government Center.

- The JPB report and LAC & county updates were given. Some LAC have not started meeting yet. Clubhouses are open, and many have reduced or eliminated COVID restrictions.
- Jamie and Amy Haas reported on the first AMHI Workgroup meeting.
- Received training updates and discussed suggestions for future training. Jamie brought up that she wants to assemble a Fall Conference Advisory Committee to assist in the planning.
- Jamie updated Supervisors and provided information about upcoming site visits.
- An Unmet Needs Request was received from Wellness in the Woods to fund a part-time outreach position in 2022.
- AMHI spreadsheet reporting was discussed along with a plan to address inconsistencies.
- Information was provided about a 9-8-8 Listening Session taking place on July 15 at BEC Gov't Center.
- It was announced that Blue Earth Taxi is certified for secure transportation. There was a discussion about who needs to be part of the secure transportation question or planning.
- Committee Reports
 - **Crisis Committee** – Frank Schwartz is providing urgent care services at Horizon Homes. RAP for kids has capacity, but two slots were unused last month due to provider unavailability. Slots have been utilized 50-75% of the time. SCCBI is only billed if a provider is available for the slot and it cannot be filled with anyone else. May's Mobile Assessments and Stabilizations matched the record numbers set in March. Rapid Response is now attending Crisis Committee meetings.
 - **Integrated Services** – Nova House IRTS, located in New Ulm, was the Provider Spotlight.
 - **SET Committee** – The committee met in person at the Mayo Event Center to tour the Grand Hall, our venue for the September 9 Stakeholders Meeting. It is larger than the Banquet Hall used during previous SH meetings and will allow for more space between chairs and additional vendors. All county registration tables will be in the lobby. Currently accepting nominations for the 2nd Annual Tamra Rovney Achievement Award. Nomination forms are available on the SCCBI website and will be accepted until August 4. Nomination review/decision meeting is August 10 at 2PM. Award presenters will be determined once award recipient is chosen. Tamra's family will be in attendance. No nominations have been received to date. The SET Committee may discuss a "Rising Star" award starting in October.

- Data Subcommittee – Data pulls are being redone because they weren't consistent. Jamie provided additional instructions. SSIS is a difficult system to work with.

Jamie added that she would like to see RMT and SET meetings continue in person vs. remotely. She noted that individuals were much more engaged during the in-person RMT and SET meetings this month. The virtual format has been really good for Crisis Committee and Integrated Services. Attendance numbers are up, and it's a great format for updates.

9-8-8 Updates: The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is transitioning to 9-8-8 by June 2022. Minnesota Department of Health is overseeing the transition and has been holding listening sessions in the Twin Cities with people who have lived mental health experiences. Jamie invited MDH Reps to Mankato for a listening session on July 15 that was attended by eight individuals with lived mental health experiences. The group learned that 9-8-8 calls in our region will be answered by Metro United Way. Attendees expressed concern about that. Currently, Metro's answer rate is 43%, and only 15% of their calls are referred to mobile crisis. The platform they use for information and referral is 2-1-1, which we have found includes little to no information for the SCCBI region. Attendees at the listening session brought up several items that they would like MDH to address before implementing the transition to 9-8-8:

- MDH needs to clarify what 9-8-8 is. Is it the mental health equivalent to 9-1-1? Is it a warmline? a hotline? an I&R line?
- Wait times must be reduced.
- To ensure the best caller experience possible, phone lines should be staffed by individuals with lived mental health experiences.
- There should be a call center located in the SCCBI region ensuring that operators are familiar with services and supports available locally.
- Warm transfers to regional providers (i.e., Mobile Crisis) should be the norm when referring callers to crisis services and supports.
- Callers must be offered personal choice every step of the way.
- There must be consistency among call centers.
- Maybe change the number 9-8-8 to a different 3-digit number to avoid confusion.
- Continue to hold listening sessions throughout the state.

AMHI Reform Workgroup Updates (workgroup notes and sample funding models included in meeting packet):

Jamie reported on the first of five AMHI Funding Formula Workgroup meetings. DHS reps were adamant that the process must be looked at from a **statewide approach** in order to achieve a funding formula that is "transparent, equitable, and defensible." This will be very difficult in light of our regional structure. Workgroup members were shown several sample funding formulas created by Mike Schoeberl, a contracted Actuarial Consultant. Sample formula models included the Current Allocation vs. Per-Capita Funding Allocation followed by models that included different inputs and assumptions such as: Medicare & Medicaid population adjustments; Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) & Medical Risk adjustments; Area Deprivation Index (ADI) adjustments; Addition of a Rural Allocation (an arbitrary number that they made up). Looking at our current grant of \$4,210,082, SCCBI stood to lose quite a bit in all of the sample formulas, starting with the 'smallest' cut of 47% (\$-1,984,265) all the way to 55% (\$-2,326,935) cut from the budget. It was emphasized that these are not the final numbers but just the beginning of the process. The State did add \$3.5 million for AMHI's, but we're not sure where funding will be allocated. There is more work that must be done to come up with a fair allocation that "does no harm." DHS needs to look at more than just numbers. Each region's infrastructure and other funds received (county allocations, grants) were not included in any part of the sample formulas. It is time to start working on an impact report to show how detrimental the suggested cuts would be to our region. Jamie will schedule a half-day JPB work session to start the process.

Data Subcommittee Update (info included in each county's SITE VISIT packet): Jamie reported on the data pull with Blue Plus for the month of March 2021. Some gaps were noted (few ED referrals to Mobile Crisis). Jamie emphasized that the data pulled was only for Blue Plus members, but she may still try to pull this data quarterly.

Jamie plans to obtain the same type of data from UCare and South Country Health Alliance. She continues to collect commitment data. The next Data Subcommittee meeting is coming up on July 29.

SCCBI Site Visits with Counties, review agenda/outline: Each director was given a site visit packet that included an agenda and list of information/data that Jamie will need at the time of her visit. She would also like to see clubhouse budgets. Accompanying Jamie on the site visits will be Natalia Dann. Originally hired as a nurse, Natalia recently became the new Clinic Coordinator at Blue Earth County Mental Health Center. She will be introduced to and meet with Supervisors and Case Managers during the visit.

Mental Health Promotion and Suicide Prevention Cohort (included in meeting packet): The MN Dept. of Health is inviting communities to participate in a Mental Health Promotion and Suicide Prevention Strategic Planning Cohort. Intended for strategic planning at the community level, MDH's plan is for the cohort "to meet monthly to build skills to implement community-based strategies towards mental health promotion and comprehensive suicide prevention." Information and application details will be forwarded to public health departments, LAC's (via County Supervisors), and mental health task forces.

Other Agenda Items

- **Technology Needs:** Jamie sent an email to Supervisors asking them to let her know if they have technology needs around incorporating ITV technology into Zoom appointments (i.e., higher quality cameras and audio equipment, internet access). She did not receive much response so is planning to do tech tests at each site to help determine their needs. Jamie will make arrangements with Kyle (BEC Mental Health Center) and line up a contact at each site to participate in a test appointment. She also offered to arrange tech tests with Freeborn County MHC if they're interested.

As there was no further business, Mark Shaw adjourned the meeting at 11:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Teri Herder-Blahnik, Administrative Assistant SCCBI

Next JPB Meeting:

Friday, August 20, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at [Martin County Human Services Center, 115 W. 1st St., Fairmont](#)