



Present (via Zoom): Angela Youngerberg, Phil Claussen, 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

Mark Shaw called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: Barb Dietz moved to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2020 meeting. Klea Rettmann seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda: Suzi Nerison moved to approve the agenda. Phil Claussen seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

October Vendor Report: The only out-of-the-ordinary expense was a registration fee of \$85 for an online training attended by Jamie. Sue Rynda moved to approve the October vendor payments. Chera Sevcik seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Q3 Budget Reports (AMHI, Crisis, and Crisis Appropriation):

- **AMHI** – The grant was 76% spent by the end of Q3. All expenses above 100% spent were pre-approved by the JPB. Although a small amount of money was carried over from last year, Jamie does not anticipate any underspending of the grant (depending on the number/amount of unmet needs requests). There will be no carryover to 2021.
- **Mobile Crisis Grant** – The grant was fully spent by mid-September. Funds are being drawn from the Appropriation to pay expenses.
- **Crisis Appropriation** – The grant was 24% spent at end of Q3. Some unused funding is being spent to maintain Mobile Crisis (Spending related to Mobile Crisis from the second half of September moving forward is listed in the “Other” category of the budget report). Even with spending related to Mobile Crisis, the appropriation is still underspent. Jamie has an Unmet Needs proposal to use some underspending for regional telepresence. Horizon Homes may request underspending for upgrades to their building and the addition of space for the Urgent Care provider. Jamie changed the structure of the crisis grants in the 2021 budget so that the grants may be more evenly spent.

November RMT Report, Amy Haas: Amy reported on the November 12th RMT meeting.

- RMT Consumer Representatives and Supervisors gave county, LAC and clubhouse check-ins. It was disappointing to hear about the shutdown of indoor and in-person clubhouse activities once again as the pandemic rages throughout the state and region.
- Reviewed October JPB, Q3 Budget, and Q3 Psych Allocation reports.
- Three counties still need to submit their annual clubhouse reports. Discussed changing the reporting period to reflect the calendar year instead of October-September (reflected Nov. RMT retreat when reports were reviewed).
- Received an update about the Urgent Care position at Horizon Homes.
- Looked at a 360° virtual tour of Horizon Homes which will be ready to post online soon. It will be a very helpful and valuable tool for people considering admission to the crisis center. Recording of a short (approximately 3-min.) video about crisis services will start at the end of the month.
- Reviewed funding requests. Supported bringing the following forward to JPB: Freeborn County MHC funding request for Psychiatry; and Regional Telepresence Project Proposal for Zoom. The following requests were either tabled or not supported: Flex Funds request from Faribault/Martin for IRTS bill – to be tabled until/after renegotiation attempted/completed; Sioux Trails underspending request for COVID-related technology was not supported; Wellness in the Woods \$30,000 underspending request not supported without regional utilization numbers; Freeborn County Clubhouse underspending request was not supported as it included items that would not be needed during COVID closures or would be responsibility of the County.

- Committee Updates – Crisis Committee learned that Open Door Health Center plans to have the Rapid Access Psychiatry position staffed in January or February. Integrated Services Committee shared provider updates. The Provider Spotlight was Aunt Bertha’s Community Resource Link.

Q3 Psych Allocation Report: Quarter 3 reflects the end of the budget cycle. Overall spending of the allocation is 82.34%. Looking at Sioux Trails MHC and Blue Earth County MHC, their combined unspent funds total \$60,462 for Regular Psych and \$57,568 for Urgent Care. Freeborn County MHC maxed out their Regular Psych Allocation during Q2. Unpaid Reg Psych from Q2 and Q3 added up to \$46,814.04. FCMHC had much higher slot utilization than the other two clinics, exceeding 100%.

Psych Formula 2021: Supported by the RMT, Jamie submitted her recommendation for the 2021 Psych formula. The new formula splits Urgent Care from Regular Psych, creating different rates for each. This was done to fully utilize Urgent Care funds and recognize the higher costs of providing UC services. FTE time was decreased to account for providers with accumulated sick/vacation time, as well as other job duties that took time away from direct patient care. The **overall** amounts allocated to Regular Psychiatry and Urgent Care did not change for 2021, but the uncompensated care rate for Regular Psych decreased to \$68.83, while the rate for uncompensated Urgent Care increased to \$95.94. The 2020 rate for both types of services was \$77.24. The Direct Service percentage increased to 60% which increased the number of slots. FCMHC’s 2021 allocation will increase by \$4,218.50 for Regular Psych and \$1,911.81 for Urgent Care (total difference: \$6,130.31). Sioux Trail’s 2021 allocation will increase by \$897.15 for Regular Psych and, due in part to their lowered SPMI percentage, decrease by \$5,177.56 for Urgent Care (total difference: -\$4,280.41). BECMHC’s 2021 allocation will decrease by \$5,131.36 for Regular Psych and increase by \$3,281.46 for Urgent Care (total difference: -\$1,849.89). Jamie reported that she hosted a group meeting with all three MHCs. She concluded that everyone was on the same page and appeared supportive of the new formula. Naomi Ochsendorf moved to approve the 2021 Psych Formula. Suzi Nerison seconded. Motion carried.

Funding Requests for Review (Supported by RMT):

- **Freeborn County MHC Funding Request for Psychiatry** – Freeborn County Mental Health Center submitted an Unmet Needs Request for one-time funding of \$46,820 for uncompensated care/psychiatric services. Suzi Nerison walked the Board through the application and supporting documents. The Budget and Itemized Summary portion of the funding request form provided a detailed explanation for the clinic’s overspending of their psych allocation. Demand for patients to be seen at the clinic increased throughout the year, while no-shows decreased when appointments went virtual. Psychiatric slot utilization for the past 12 months was 132.5%. FCMHC was the only provider of psychiatric services in the county for the much of the year. The local hospital does not provide outpatient psychiatric services to the community at this time which, in addition to increasing demand for patients to be seen at FCMHC, leads to the need for a greater number of premium slots. During the first two quarters of the allocation, almost 12% and 13% respectively of their psychiatric slot utilization was for required premium appointments which are paid at three times the rate of regular psychiatry (but not considered in the allocation of psych funds). This caused the allocation for uncompensated care to be drawn down at a faster pace than if the appointments were for regular psychiatry visits. Looking to 2021, Suzi and Mark Kossman (FCMHC Program Manager) are discussing options to budget for premium slots or spread them out. Suzi previously stated that FCMHC’s FTE number in the formula was not accurate and that it was actually slightly higher. Angie Youngerberg pointed out that if the higher FTE had been calculated into the formula, it would have added \$40,000 to the allocation, and the allocation would not have been overspent. Barb Dietz moved to approve Freeborn County Mental Health Center’s request for one-time funding of up to \$46,820 for uncompensated psychiatric services with the total amount of funding to be made in consideration of the amount of underspent funds that remain available at the end of the year. Naomi Ochsendorf seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- **Regional Telepresence Project Proposal for Zoom** – Jamie submitted a funding request of behalf of SCCBI to use underspent funds out of the Crisis Appropriation for 222 Zoom Medical licenses for Adult & Children’s Mental Health Case Managers, Supervisors, Intake Workers, Sioux Trails, Horizon Homes and SCCBI. The request and dollar amounts coincide with what was included in the USDA grant. If the grant is eventually awarded, the funds will be used to reimburse SCCBI. The Initiative is choosing to go with Zoom Medical because Zoom is the preferred platform of most counties, it is HIPAA compliant, and it costs much less than WebEx. Three options are available: Option 1 – 12 months for \$50,616; Option 2 – 24 months for

\$101,232; and Option 3 – 36 months for \$151,848. Option 3 will allow us to use up our underspending instead of returning the funds to the State. Naomi Ochsendorf moved to approve the Regional Telepresence Project proposal to purchase Zoom licenses for three years at a total cost of \$151,848. Sue Rynda seconded. Motion carried.

- Other requests reviewed by RMT that were declined/tabled, for update:
 - Sioux Trails – Sioux Trails Mental Health Center submitted a request for \$15,505.04 to purchase 20 “no touch” thermometers at \$39.79 each (\$795.80 total) and six laptops at \$2,451.54 each (\$14,709.24 total) to address COVID-related needs. The RMT determined that the items requested should be eligible for Cares Act funding. Nicollet County HS Supervisor shared that they had sent several requests to Sioux Trails with offers to link them to funding for COVID-related needs, but Sioux Trails never responded. Brown County did not receive responses to their outreach as well.
 - Wellness in the Woods – WitW submitted a request for \$30,000 to help fund their Virtual Peer Support Network. RMT declined to support the request because there is no funding available. Utilization data from the SCCBI region was not included in any of the documentation.

Rapid Response: Behavioral Health Tabletop Follow-up (*See attached report for more details*): The tabletop exercise was held on November 13, 2020. Four counties within the AMHI were active participants in the exercise, as well as local hospitals and community mental health providers. Following the tabletop exercise, the SCCBI held 4 meetings the next week, at which county/hospital/crisis staff were able to have some follow-up discussions. Attendees for these meetings represented not only the four counties that participated in the tabletop, but the rest of the SCCBI 10-county mental health region. The following “next steps” were identified:

- It was recommended that weekly Collaborative Outreach Meetings be scheduled, to be hosted by the Regional Manager. Regular attendees would be key hospital providers and crisis services, with county staff attending to discuss the referral process and services provided, to continue to improve and build on our support to the MH community and the hospitals during this time. Jamie will set up a weekly recurring meeting.
- Counties are working to identify the method and to whom referrals will be made by the Crisis Team to each of them. Le Sueur County is working on a checklist/packet that it is willing to share regionally. Hospital staff have requested a list of county contacts, if the individual refuses to connect with Crisis Services as a part of the referral process. They predict this would be a small number of individuals, if any, but have requested the information be provided just in case. Jamie will strongly encourage hospital staff to reach out to Mobile Crisis first.
- Initially, this structure was identified to only be utilized due to a hospital’s “COVID Surge” status. During discussions, it was learned that one hospital referring to other hospitals may not know that they are unable to take individuals due to a “COVID Surge” status, as they are not able to provide that information to one another. Perhaps this is the structure for referrals during this point in time, for those unable to access MH inpatient beds, and consideration be given as to whether this is the structure ongoing? However, it must be made clear that this is a way to provide community support (Mobile Crisis, assessments and stabilization) and not the number to call for an inpatient bed.
- It has been requested by Amy Smith with MDH, that the Regional Manager provide an update at their weekly SCLPH meeting on December 4th.

Jamie stressed that we have a great Crisis Services structure with a 24/7 Mobile Crisis team (offering Crisis Stabilization Services as a follow-up for people in the community) and a Crisis Residential program with capacity to take individuals. Outreach will need to be made to the small, rural hospitals and emergency rooms in our regions (as well as out-of-region ERs if they have patients who live in SCCBI region).

DHS Contracts (AMHI, Crisis Appropriation, Crisis Grant)

- AMHI – Jamie received verification today that we are ready to go with the AMHI contract. Suzi Nerison moved that the AMHI Grant Contract be approved and signed. Barb Dietz seconded. Motion carried.
- Crisis Appropriation - Mark Shaw reported that he attended a virtual meeting with DHS Assistant Commissioner Gertrude Mutasa, Eric Ratzmann, and Jeshua Livstrom regarding the Year 2 cash advance.

They reached an agreement about the contract. The settle up will no longer occur in Q4 of the grant cycle, only in Q8, meaning the issue of not receiving an advance at the end of Q4 is no longer.

- Mobile Crisis Grant – Jamie still has not heard back from DHS on the fourth (and last) amended application that she submitted a couple of weeks ago. We cannot approve the Crisis Grant contract until the application is approved by DHS, and we cannot sign contracts with providers and vendors until we have a signed contract. Jamie requested guidance as to whom she should reach out (beyond Lorraine) to expedite approval of the application. It was suggested that she start with Helen Ghebre.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Next JPB Meeting:

Friday, December 18, 2020, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. via Zoom

Respectfully submitted, Teri Herder-Blahnik, Administrative Assistant, SCCBI