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**STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON MENTAL HEALTH**  
*and Subcommittee on Children's Mental Health*

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March 4, 2021 – 10am-1pm

## Attendees

Addyson Moore, Al Levin, Alison Wolbeck, Amanda Larson, Ari Dionisopoulos, Ashwak Hassan, Beth Prewett, BraVada Garrett-Akinsanya, Cecilia Hughes, Claire Courtney, Claudette Larson, Claudia Daml, Cynthia Christensen, Dave Johnson, Dave Lee, David Nathan, Donna Lekander, Erin Sutherland, Helen Ghebre, Jeffrey Lind, Jennifer Geisen, , Jennifer Pedersen, Jode Freyholtz-London, Ken Morman, Linda Hansen, Maleenia Mohabir, Mary Kjolsing, Michael Gallagher, Michael Trangle, Michelle Schmid-Egleston, Renee Edelhauser, Rodney Peterson, Rozenia Fuller, Sam Smith, Stephanie Podulke, Tabatha Amundson, Tanya Carter, Thomas Delaney

## Joint Meeting Minutes

Welcome, Approved Minutes, Approved Agenda

### Workgroups

Discussed workgroup goals, reviewed duties and rosters.

#### Integrated Care and Access

Duties are accurate. Parity and access been added to what they are considering. Workgroup has created documents and talking points that are available. Have pushed a few telehealth matters over the past few years and some are moving through the legislature due to COVID. Roster is accurate.

#### Family Systems, Prevention, Intervention and Support

Duties are accurate. Workgroup looks at matters from a child/family perspective. Would like to increase membership of the workgroup. Updated roster with people that indicated interest during meeting.

#### Local Advisory Council (LAC)

Duties are accurate. LACs are a good opportunity for people with lived experience to work together with communities regarding unmet needs. Counties are mandated to have LACs but no resources from DHS are allocated to LACs. Their legislative ask was for DHS to have a full time person to help support LACs and they have sent a letter to DHS. Also, the workgroup is talking about funding for LACs. Workgroup is interested in connecting with Native American communities. Roster is accurate and they have a new member from outside of the Council/Subcommittee.

#### Mental Health and Juvenile Justice

Duties are accurate and on target. Have developed talking points and every workgroup member will email talking points to their legislators and then report back on responses. Have talked about presentations they would like to see. Conversation was had about possibly including adults in the justice system as a topic within this workgroup. Updated roster.



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#### Mental Health and School

Duties are accurate. Have been looking more at third party billing for the recommendation spoke about for 2020 so they can present to full group at some point. Had people from Department of Education (MDE) talk to the workgroup. Would like time on the agenda to discuss Children's Therapeutic Support Services (CTSS) and third party billing to dispel some of the myths that there are out there and get everyone on the same page. Updated roster with people that indicated interest during meeting.

#### Outreach to Cultural Diversity

Duties are accurate. LAC workgroup and Recovery Supports need a representative from the Cultural Diversity workgroup, so they were invited to join a cultural diversity workgroup meeting. Recent topics discussed have been, an update on BIPOC workforce development in legislation, sharing support in workgroup duties and bracelet IDs. Also talked about how we as a group and larger group deal with racial reckoning issues and use it as an opportunity to join as a group and issue support to communities from or various perspectives. Updated roster with people that indicated interest during meeting.

#### Recovery Supports

Duties are accurate. Three of the 5 members are state employees, so they are trying to broaden representation. Most recent meeting was in February and legislative talking points were created. Updated roster with people that indicated interest during meeting.

#### State Fair

Duties are accurate. Focus has been preparing for Mental Health Awareness Day at the State Fair. Early indications are moving full speed ahead for Aug 30. It will be a full day event, 8a-6p. Need to have interactive activities for fair goers and are planning for stage acts. Feedback/ideas are welcome. Updated roster with people that indicated interest during meeting.

#### Request for Proposals (RFP)

Duties still in development. The intent for this workgroup is to develop the idea of how to begin to liaison with DHS to review RFPs. Updated roster with people that indicated interest during meeting.

#### RFP Process Update

Gary Travis, from Department of Human Services (DHS), would like to involve the Council/Subcommittee in reviewing Housing with Supports for Adults with Serious Mental Illness (HSASMI) RFP. Gary gave an overview of the RFP.

Title of RFP: Housing with Supports for Adults with Serious Mental Illness (HSASMI)

#### *Brief description:*

To provide supportive services for people with serious mental illness (SMI) who are homeless, long term homeless, or exiting institutions who have complex needs and face high barriers to obtaining and maintaining housing. Services provided will assist persons to transition to and sustain permanent supportive housing (PSH) which meets the PSH evidence-based practice (EBP) fidelity standards. Proposals must also address one or more of the behavioral health priorities of program linkage, peer services, veterans, and equity.



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Approximately \$2.2 M per year will be available for grants July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024. Historically grants average \$130,000 to \$300,000 per year depending on the size and scope of the project. Using these averages the number of projects would range from 7 to 16.

*Timeline, including how fast input is required:*

Input is requested within 1 to 3 months. The RFP revisions should be completed by July.

*Time commitment:*

Time to read application, comment and provide feedback in addition to 1-2 meetings.

*Next Steps for Council/Subcommittee involvement*

Michelle will set up a meeting for interested Council/Subcommittee members and coordinate with Gary.

### **Early Childhood Mental Health**

*Dr. Catherine Wright from DHS* gave an overview of Early Childhood Mental Health in Minnesota. PowerPoint is available upon request.

### **Future meeting Ideas/Topics**

The following is a list of topics members would like to explore for future meetings:

- Supported Employment/Vocational Rehabilitation
- Supported Housing
- Family Peer Support
- Adult Mental health Initiative Redesign
- Family first overview and impact
- Federal block grant information
- Information on Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTFs)
- Look at implicit bias and impact on systems-BraVada will work with Cultural Diversity workgroup to come up with panel.
- How state provides funds for mental health and related issues.
- CTSS and third party billing

### **Next Council/Subcommittee Meeting:**

Date: April 1, 2021  
Time: 10:00am-1:00pm  
Location: WebEx Only

### **Request:**

Submit written updates from your Agency/Organization/Community about current mental health activities by 9am on the day of Council and Subcommittee meetings. These written updates will be included in meeting minutes.



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## Reminder:

More information about the State Advisory Council on Mental Health and Subcommittee on Children's Mental Health, including meeting minutes, reports, and membership lists, can be found online:

<https://mn.gov/dhs/mh-advisory-council/>

## Updates from state agencies

### DEED / Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS)

*Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS) at the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) provides employment services directly to individuals with disabilities, as well as through community service providers. VRS provides specialized, one-on-one employment services for individuals with disabilities such as job counseling, job search assistance, training, and job placement services.*

#### *Vocational Rehabilitation Stories of Impact.*

Cindy turned to DEED VRS to help her find work in February 2019. Inexperienced and unsure, Cindy nevertheless put plans on paper to do what she loves: organizing and decluttering homes. With help from the VRS Small Business Specialist, Cindy rewrote her business plan in just three days. In September, Cindy opened her business, Utter Declutter MN, which specializes in organizing and decluttering private homes. The number of satisfied customers quickly grew – until COVID-19 shut down the business and led to six weeks without income. Then a few loyal customers returned, along with a handful of new ones. By the end of 2020, Cindy had six weekly customers. Despite the interruption, Cindy says December 2020 was “one of my best months yet!” The new year finds her teaming up with a realtor to prepare multiple homes for sale. His key question was, “How big is your crew?” and Cindy is now hiring her first employees.

Kevin hoped to find a technology-related job and his VR Counselor suggested that he might be a good candidate for the **Connect 700 program**, a pre-probationary trial work program that allows for a non-competitive selection process for individuals with disabilities who want to work in Minnesota state government. Kevin noticed an attractive job opportunity with MNIT and decided to apply for the position as a C700-eligible applicant. With critical assistance from a job coach, he completed his C700 tryout, and in November Kevin completed his probationary period and is now a full-time employee with the state's information technology agency.

### **DEED Updates**

#### **Top 30 Jobs in Demand Now in Minnesota**

The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) has updated its list of the top 30 jobs in demand now in Minnesota. You can see the list at [CareerForceMN.com/JobsinDemand](https://www.careerforcemn.com/jobsindemand).

#### *CareerForce*

**CareerForce** is the state's official career exploration and job search resource and is available to help Minnesotans at no cost to them. CareerForce staff and partners have helped thousands of Minnesotans find work during the COVID-19 pandemic. CareerForce can help Minnesotans with: Exploring career options that match each person's experience, interests and skill set; Fine-tuning job search strategy and



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networking skills; Updating resumes and improving interviewing skills; Determining eligibility for tuition assistance or even free training through the Dislocated Worker program to help prepare for an in-demand job; Determining eligibility for other support services to help a person find and keep a job; Connecting with jobs in demand and employers hiring now. CareerForce services are available over the phone or online. Call 651-259-7501 to be connected with your local CareerForce location or visit [CareerForceMN.com/locations](https://www.CareerForceMN.com/locations) to find contact information for a CareerForce location near you.

*DEED has announced multiple awards.*

Included in this is the \$1.89 million in Job Creation Fund that has been awarded since July, the \$450,000 in Launch MN Education Grants awarded to six organizations in the continued development of statewide innovation ecosystem, and as mentioned last week, \$20.6 million in broadband grants for 39 different projects. DEED awarded over \$13 million in relief grants to convention centers and movie theaters across Minnesota as part of the \$216 million Minnesota recovery package from December 2020. With convention centers and movie theaters being heavily impacted by the pandemic due to gathering restrictions, these grants will assist the venues in bouncing back during Minnesota's economic recovery. You can see the full list of awardees [here](#).

*New Data Tool Demonstrates the COVID-19 Pandemic Recession Remains Unique from Past Recessions*

DEED's New Data Tool Demonstrates the COVID-19 Pandemic Recession Remains Unique from Past Recessions. To illustrate just how different today's economic crisis is from the past, DEED's Labor Market Information team built a [new Comparing Recessions data tool](#) for the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED). The tool underscores just how the pandemic recession is different from recent recessions in several important ways, and how it has had an unprecedented impact on employment in certain industries.

The dramatic drop, quick recovery and subsequent late-in-the-year employment dip of the pandemic recession look very different in comparison to the Great Recession and the 2001 recession, when looking at change in employment over the year, by month, during each recession. And the industries hardest hit this time around are decidedly different than those most impacted during our most recent recessions.

The industries that were hit hardest by job loss in those last two recessions – such as Manufacturing, Construction and Retail Trade – are faring relatively better in the current COVID-19 economic crisis. Meanwhile employment in Leisure & Hospitality, which remained flat during the previous two recessions, was devastated in the current recession. Because of the particularly dramatic employment loss in Leisure & Hospitality and in some parts of the Other Services industry, service industry workers are more at risk for prolonged job losses now than in the past. From Unemployment Insurance data, we know those particularly at risk include part-time, low-wage workers are among the hardest hit.

Reskilling is necessary because employment opportunities in some of the most affected occupations will take years to return to pre-pandemic levels – and some of those jobs may never return due to automation and other changes. The good news is that service industry workers have transferrable skills to many in-demand occupations, particularly in health care, but they may need education and training to help with knowledge gaps.

**Department of Human Services (DHS)**

No updates provided at this time



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**Department of Corrections (DOC)**

No updates provided at this time

**Department of Education (MDE)**

No updates provided at this time

**Department of Health (MDH)**

- MDH is applying for the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) grant through the federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The grant supports activities to integrate health into prenatal-three systems. The MDH application is focusing on improving screening and referral for high-risk and underserved populations. We should hear about whether we get the grant in summer/fall of 2021.
- Elise Holmes (subcommittee member) is now working in COVID-19 response in two areas: people experiencing homelessness (shelters, encampments, DV shelters etc.) and people in corrections settings (jails/prisons/DOC facilities). Please feel free to contact her and/or the general congregate settings email ([Health.R-Congregate@state.mn.us](mailto:Health.R-Congregate@state.mn.us)) if you have questions around vaccination, testing, outbreaks, or anything else related to the populations.

**Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA)**

No updates provided at this time

**Governor's Office**

No updates provided at this time

**Governor's Children's Cabinet**

No updates provided at this time

**Workgroup Minutes**

**Family Systems, Prevention, Intervention, & Supports**

Notes not yet available.

**Integrated Care & Access**

Notes not yet available.

**Local Advisory Council**

Notes not yet available.

**Mental Health & Juvenile Justice**

3/04/2021

Attendees: Cici Hughes, Linda Hansen, BraVada Garrett-Akinsanya, Jeffrey Lind, Corey Harland, Melissa Dau, Stephanie Podulke, Angie Hirsch, Rod Peterson

Workgroup Goals: How to move the word out to public and legislators

Discussion:



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-Do we want to recommend to comm that the PRTF and Child and Adolescent Behavioral Services (CABHS) groups to come back and present? Will request in full meeting. Feedback received from PRTF rep. is they get mixed messages from governing bodies. Would like a discussion on the barriers PRTF and CABHS providers are having with accepting our highly acute youth.

-Angie Hirsch has been working on a Grant for Healing to Wellness court models, and MH education for law enforcement. She sent description/info to the JJ workgroup members.

New meeting time is the first Thursday of month at 9:00 am before the whole council meeting.

Discussion talking points.

Decisions made:

***Enhanced rate for treatment of highly acute youth***

- Aggressive youth with Mental Health issues are still not being served in Minnesota
- These youth continue to be placed out of state and in correctional settings which are at higher cost to the counties.
- CABHS and MN PRTF's not taking these youth
- These youth's behaviors are directly connected to their mental health and or cognitive deficiencies.

***Grant program to reduce residential care recidivism rates***

- When youth go to the residential treatment center (RTC) they do okay it's when they go back into their community that they regress. We have not done a good enough job supporting them back in their own communities.
- We need coordination before and after discharge from residential care to reduce recidivism.

This falls in-line with Families First initiative request a presentation for the whole group.

Jeff is pulling together a group Beltrami Providers to look at the array of services that are billable. How can we develop wrap around services through Families first initiative services that are billable.

Action items:

Action Steps	Person Responsible	Due Date
Schedule Regina Acevedo to a future JJ workgroup meeting	Linda Hansen	Will call by next meeting and give update.
Minimum E-mail talking points to your Legislators	Each workgroup member	4/1/21 report back on responses from Legislators
Request presentation on Families First initiative for full council meeting	Cici Hughes	3/4/21
Request presentation update on PRTF's and CABHS from providers and DHS to discuss barriers.	Linda Hansen/Jeff Lind	3/4/21



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Next meeting: 4/1/2021, 9:00 am (Prior to full Council/subcommittee meeting)

**Mental Health & Schools**

Notes not yet available.

**Outreach to Cultural Diversity**

Notes not yet available.

**Recovery Supports**

Notes not yet available.

**State Fair Planning**

March 3, 2021

**Agenda**

1. Introductions
2. Tents, Tables & Chairs
  1. Captain Melanie has been contacted. Sara will alert the group when she has had a response.
3. Exhibitors
  1. The group agreed we should send a Save the Date email to all invitees over the past two years letting them know the date is Aug. 30, but we will know more in April, and we will communicate details to them then.
  2. If you have anyone who would like an invite that is not on our list, please email the agency, name, and contact information to [directorofoutreach@namimn.org](mailto:directorofoutreach@namimn.org).
  3. We will include language that says "while you may not have been able to attend in the past we hope you consider attending this year."
4. Stage Acts, Emcees & Photographer
  1. Dave talked about expand outreach to cultural communities and making them feel more welcome and featured at this event. He suggested having Angela Davis's show broadcast live, possible featuring Bravada & suicide prevention.
  2. Dave will ask chair of American Indian Mental Health Advisory Council, Melissa Wright, for advice on inviting a drum circle to the event.
  3. "Elska" (Elsa Lee) has performed at the first two State Fair events and has new songs focusing on mental health that she is willing to perform – her CD will be released on March 26<sup>th</sup>.
  4. Fidgety Fairy Tales, positive response – Had them 2 years, but they are a great draw and well received.
  5. Desdmona, was not able to go on stage two years ago because of rain. She may be a good person to ask back.
  6. Ag panel on suicide prevention and mental health might be a good fit. Ideas for inclusion – VP Farmers Union and Commissioner of Agriculture. Was going to be on Angela Davis's show. Com Peterson would come back. Farmers Bur. Suicide Prevention UMASH.
  7. Therapy Dogs
  8. Sara will talk with Sue about Emcees





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9. The group also talked about a panel or something featuring sports players and mental health. Sara will talk with Sue about her connections.
  10. Dave is going to request a proclamation from the Governor for the event as he has done in the past.
  11. Sara will ask Sue to connect/request the Lt. Governor or Governor to read the proclamation. She will also ask if she can request the Lt. Governor as an emcee for a 2 hour slot.
  12. Yoga was not lively and didn't draw. Focus more on more active and lively activities.
  13. Drum circle – both open and close stage – Could also be from another cultural community.
5. Logos
    1. Same from last year. On flags. On banner. On materials. On shirts. Let's stay the same!
    2. NAMI has banners and flags.
  6. T-shirts
    1. Did decide to go with higher quality shirts. Lighter shirts pref.
    2. Decided between 2 designs. Dave is sending copies of the designs out to committee.
  7. State Fair Proposal
    1. Will need to complete. Will know more on what we will have to complete and by when around mid-April. Sara will touch base with Nate and get that done.
  8. Program/event details – not sure on due date, last year was June 22
    - Logos
    - Activity contact name:
    - Contact email:
    - Contact phone(s):
    - Activity name (Example: "Cooking with Honey"):
    - Presenter/Speaker/Group:
    - Day(s) and time(s):
    - Location:
    - Is this a new activity in 2021>
    - Short description of activity:
    - Any special acknowledgements? (Example: "Presented by Minnesota Farm Bureau"):
    - Other info/notes:
  9. Next Steps and Roles
    1. Financial report – Sara will get from accountant so we can look at this to see what we have for carry overs, refresh our memories for expenses, and plan for the 2021 budget.
  10. Next Planning Meeting
    1. 31<sup>st</sup> of March