

CommUNITY Adult Mental Health Initiative
Advisory Committee
 June 2, 2022

Voting Members Present: 11

Quorum Required: 10 Representative	“X” = Present	Stakeholder	Alternate	“X” = Present
Knowles, Nikki	X	Benton County	Koscielniak, Peggy	
(Vacant)		Benton County Community Advocate	N/A	
(Vacant)		Benton County Community Advocate	N/A	
Kelly, James		CBHH	Lange, Mary	
Krupa, Jaime		CSP – Stearns/Benton	Sheehan, Meg	X
(Vacant)		CSP – Sherburne/Wright	(Vacant)	
Hinz, Tracy		MHC – Sherburne/Wright	Bills, Alyshia	X
(Vacant)		MHC – Stearns/Benton	Link, Shannon	X
Johannes, Victoria		Sherburne County	(Vacant)	
Popfer, Stephany	X	Sherburne County Community Advocate	N/A	
(Vacant)		Sherburne County Community Advocate	N/A	
Bershok, Joel	X	St. Cloud Hospital	(Vacant)	
Young, Leslie – Chair		Stearns County	Salsness-Tvedten, Jennifer	
Long, Lori	X	Stearns County Community Advocate	N/A	
Brown, Polly	X	Stearns County Community Advocate	N/A	
Pine, Mary Jo		VA Medical Center	Hovland, Voni	
Eich, Krissy – Vice Chair	X	Vocational Sherburne/Wright	Tornell, Jo	
Danda, Julie	X	Vocational Stearns/Benton	Gaeddy, Maureen	
Thorpe, Lori		VRS – Sherburne/Wright	Krukenberg, Hillary	
Chirhart, Andrea		VRS – Stearns/Benton	Outhwaite, Jessica	
Erkens, Diane	X	Wright County	Pooler, Jill	
(Vacant)		Wright County Community Advocate	N/A	

		Ex- officio members
Oberg, Bethany	X	Initiative Coordinator
(Vacant)		DHS

		Other attendees
Bruns, Mary Jeanne	X	Wellness in the Woods
Jiang, Jennifer	X	BCBS
Frye, Angela	X	Refractions IRTS
Magaard, Derek	X	Sherburne County HH
Flack, Leon	X	UCare
Keeville, Samantha		Solutions
Anderson, Ashley	X	Northway IRTS
Rocheleau Dorholt, Jennifer	X	SCSU
Hansen, Jacey	X	Solutions Behavioral Healthcare
Giddens, Jennifer	X	Housing Link/Beyond Background
Bennett, Keith	X	Wright County
Shoberg, Sandi		Benton County
Dooley, Retha	X	Wellness in the Woods
Higgins, Brandon	X	WeCare MN
Fruth, Donna	X	Vocational Rehab Counselor
Stadtherr, Eva	X	Sunflower Communities
Callahan, Sara	X	Options for Employment

Call to order:

Krissy Eich called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. The mission statement was read, and introductions were made.

Current Agenda:

Lori made a motion to approve the agenda; Diane seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Minutes – April 2022:

Diane made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 2022; Nikki seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Highlighting Area Providers/Services

- a. CentraCare Helmsley EmPATH Unit: Joel Bershok

To provide the *right* treatment by the *right* people in the *right* setting at the *right* time for the *right* amount of time.

They are focusing on having a mental health presence in the ER for those having a mental health crisis. Four Tenets of EmPATH: 1) patients stay for brief periods of time, generally 12-24 hours 2) the programs that feature large, comfortable central room or “milieu” where all patients are situated 3) all staff are intermingled with the patients on the milieu – there is no

glass - enclosed “fishbowl” nursing station and 4) all patients see a psychiatric provider as quickly as possible and have treatment implemented promptly.

Two EmPATH “criteria” 1) the patient is experiencing a psychiatric decompensation that is limiting function and is expected to stabilize within 24 hours and 2) the patient can maintain safety for self and others while on the unit.

Anticipated outcomes in the EmPATH Unit: robust assessment, intervention, and discharge planning. Community involvement, safety planning, reduced admissions and readmissions, improving transitions between levels of care, improved patient experience, and improved provider/team experience.

Anticipated Outcomes in the ER: increase throughput, reduction in waiting times, reduction in people leaving without being seen, increase “traditional” ER work, improved patient experience, and improved provider/team experience.

Currently have: nurses, behavioral health technicians, crisis stabilization officer, psychotherapy, psychiatry, and HUC (scheduling and creating follow-up appointments). Future state considered additions: chemical dependency (crossover) and peer support specialists.

Client capacity when fully staffed is 12 people.

- b.* 988 & Mobile Crisis: Shannon Link, Director Crisis Services CMMHC – Rebranding the national suicide hotline. Minnesota will have four primary hubs taking calls. Stearns, Benton, Sherburne, and Wright Counties will all share the same hub called First Call, which is in Grand Rapids, MN. First Call will be responsible for 40 counties and is the biggest hub in Minnesota. They expect to be live mid-July. Minnesota was selected as 1 of 5 states to pilot how 988 and 911 can have better collaboration with one another.

Financial Report: *Peggy*

Bethany summarized the financial report.

Joint Powers – Advisory Committee In-Service: *Bethany*

There will be a combined meeting between the Joint Powers Board and the Advisory Committee in place of the October meeting. It is tentatively scheduled for October 6 from 10:00 to 3:00 at the Wright County Government building.

CommUNITY Mental Health Initiative Committee and Grant Updates:

- a. Housing Coalition:*
 - a. Voucher Programs* – Meg Sheehan shared updates
 - b. Beyond Backgrounds* – Jennifer Giddens shared updates
- b. Vocational Grant:* Krissy will have updates for Goodwill Easter Seals and Functional Industries (shared grant) at the next meeting
- c. Anti-Stigma Workgroup:* Bethany participated in an event in May at Big Lake. The MN Suicide Prevention Coalition will be attending two of the Summertime by Lake George events this summer on Wednesday evenings. Will be additional events in the fall that they attend.
- d. Training Workgroup:* Bethany shared upcoming trainings; they can also be found here:

[Calendar :: Minnesota Mental Health \(mnmentalhealth.org\)](http://mnmentalhealth.org).

- e. *Peer Socialization – VPSN*: Mary Jeanne shared updates. Retha shared new support programs being offered.

Community Based Mental Health Services:

- a. *IRTS*:
 - i. Northway – Alyshia shared updates. Had significant staffing shortages for the last 6 months but are getting back up to full coverage.
 - ii. Refractions – Angela shared updates.
- b. *ACT*: Ashley shared updates
- c. *Crisis Response Team*: Shannon shared updates
- d. *Crisis Bed Program*: Shannon shared updates
- e. *Inpatient*:
 - i. St. Cloud Hospital: no one available for updates
 - ii. Buffalo Hospital: continuing to see an increase in chemical dependency
 - iii. Monticello Hospital: no one available for updates
- f. *V.A.*: Mary Jo shared a group guide and calendar for mental health. Chaplains have started a grief and loss group. New group called Strength at Home for women to learn interpersonal communication skills. Have a new peer support specialist starting a new recovery group. Mary Jo will be stepping down from this group and Bonnie will be replacing her. An adult day health care opened back up last month, and they have about 18 clients.
- g. *CBHH*: no one available for updates
- h. *V.R.S.*: no one available for updates
- i. *Website*: Bethany shared updates

Open Forum:

Polly shared that the Veteran's Resource and Enrichment Center is having an open house on June 12 from 1:00 – 4:00. They are located at 501 17th Avenue North, St. Cloud.

Jennifer from BlueCross shared Affordable Connectivity Program to help people connect with internet and technology services: <https://www.affordableconnectivity.gov/>. Growing resilient Communities - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/growing-resilient-communities-gathering-of-collaboratives-tribal-nations-tickets-315072399027>

Next Meeting:

August 4, 2022, from 1:00 to 3:00 at Sherburne County Government Center Board Room, Elk River and online

Adjourn

Nikki made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Diane seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

