

**SAGINAW COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 8, 2022 – 5:15 PM
ROOM 190/191**

PRESENT: Cym Winiecke, Mike Cierzniewski, Andrea Schrems, Tracey Raquepaw, Jill Armentrout, Deb Nagel, Joan Williams, Robert Woods , Steve Fresorger, Lisa Coney, Jane Sills, John Pugh

ABSENT:

GUESTS:

STAFF: Sandra Lindsey, Laura Argyle, Jan Histed, Ryan Mulder

I. CALL TO ORDER

Tracey Raquepaw, Chair called the meeting to order at 5:17 p.m. A quorum was established, and verification of posting was determined.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public comment.

III. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

A. Board Meeting – July 11, 2022

Motion made by Cym Winiecke and supported by Mike Cierzniewski to approve the July 11, 2022 SCCMHA Board Meeting minutes as amended. Motion carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Recipient Rights Committee – July 20, 2022
Robert Woods, Chair – Deb Nagel, Vice Chair
Reported by Robert Woods

Motion made by Robert Woods and supported by Andrea Schrems to receive and file this report as written. Motion carried.

B. Governance Committee – No Meeting
Mike Cierzniewski, Chair – Jane Sills, Vice Chair

C. Ends Committee – July 25, 2022
Jill Armentrout, Chair – Tracey Raquepaw, Vice Chair
Reported by Jill Armentrout.

Motion made by Jill Armentrout and supported by Cym Winiecke to receive and file this report as written. Motion carried.

D. Executive Limitations – July 27, 2022
Andrea Schrems, Chair – Robert Woods, Vice Chair
Reported by Andrea Schrems.

Motion made by Andrea Schrems and supported by Jane Sills to receive and file this report as written. Motion carried.

V. CEO REPORT

Senator Debbie Stabenow to Visit SCCMHA Re: CCBHC on Wed., August 10

Senator Debbie Stabenow, who you remember is one of the main architects of the federal legislation, the "*Excellence in Mental Health Act of 2014*", that funds CCBHCs across the country, is coming for a visit to the Hancock building this Wednesday afternoon. Her staff spokesperson indicated that she would be visiting to speak with involved staff and to tour the Hancock Building. Her visit will be for an hour, and SCCMHA is the only stop she is making in Saginaw County on this traveling tour. Tracey Raquepaw, Board Chair and Com. Cynthia Winiecke have also been invited to attend the meeting.

MDHHS CCBHC Virtual Mid-Year CCBHC-Demo Check-In Meeting August 9

MDHHS CCBHC staff leadership, together with MSHN will be conducting a virtual meeting with SCCMHA CCBHC leadership to discuss our status as a CCBHC Demonstration site. The meeting will run for 90 minutes with the first hour devoted to Clinical Services and workflows and two case study reviews. They will also be reviewing documentation of policy changes and other document development promised at Certification. The last 30 minutes will be devoted to Data Quality Reports, Trending Utilization, and Cost Reporting for Year 2 which commences in October.

Reduction in State Facility Capacity and Admission Criteria Changes

George Mellos, MD, MDHHS Director of State Hospitals and Facilities, at 2 recent meetings with CMHSPs, reported the significant staffing shortages at all state hospitals. Subsequently there will be a reduction of 110 beds across Walter Reuther, Kalamazoo, and Hawthorn State Hospitals. Reducing capacity will impact CMHSP consumers placed at state facilities in two ways.

- A. Discharges of select CMHSP consumers from State Facilities is imminent.
- B. Prohibition of admission for adults and children with primary Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and ASD whose needs are behavioral in nature and not psychiatric

These changes are of great concern as the community-based services in CMHSP networks are also significantly understaffed and lacking adequate resources to meet the supervisory and complex behavioral treatment needs of these consumers. Dr. Mellos further indicated that persons in county jails awaiting competency evaluation and those with a primary psychiatric diagnosis in the forensic process remain admission priorities. CMHSP directors state-wide, believe that Dr. Mellos and MDHHS lack the understanding of real conditions on the ground in local CMHSP communities to serve these consumers and the negative impact of pre-mature discharges of such patients. Mellos further commented that perhaps CMHSPs need to consider out of state placements.

In evaluating the 14 SCCMHA consumers now placed in state hospitals most all have a primary psychiatric diagnosis and a majority have forensic involvement. It is our hope therefore that the consumers we have placed in state facilities will not be priorities for discharge.

The primary concern for SCCMHA considering these changes, remains the lack of access to new admissions to state facilities particularly at Hawthorn for state wards, consistently being brought into the Covenant Emergency Care Center by local Child Caring Institutions, which most always are the responsibility of out of county jurisdictions making discharges and transfers very complex. These wards are in fact the responsibility of MDHHS and in our opinion need to be priorities for admission when this level of care is needed.

Transportation Challenges for Consumers Discharged/Diverted from the Covenant ECC.

The most recent challenge to SCCMH Crisis Services at the Covenant ECC, involves the lack of transportation services to get consumers back home from the Covenant Emergency Care Center that are being Discharged. None of the cab companies we have under contract are working after 5 p.m. or on the weekends due to staffing shortages. SCCMHA Administration is brainstorming solutions short and long term, about how to address this problem. The ECC is too busy to have patients that no longer need services there hanging around for days because of the lack of transportation. The SCCMHA Transportation Department is working on plans to expand services afterhours and offering premium pay to have drivers be on call and provide transport.

Not unlike private transportation companies, we too are having a difficult time hiring and retaining drivers to transport consumers to daytime services. In the meantime, while this service is under development, we are evaluating moving an agency vehicle over to Covenant that professional staff at CIS could use for such urgent transports.

MSHN Provider Credentialing

Pursuant to the requirements of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) for a Provider Credentialing Processes, State Health Network is required to re-credential its provider network at least every two years and this process includes CMHSPs. SCCMHA Network Services has completed the Provider Credentialing Process for the entire SCCMHA Network as of July 7.

The following qualifications had to be demonstrated in the application materials for MSHN to accept our application:

- License: A current unrestricted, unconditional license to practice mental health and/or substance use disorder services in the State of Michigan;
- Certification (if applicable): Current certifications to provide specialized services as required by the State of Michigan;
- Accreditation: Current accreditation from a national body approved by the State of Michigan;
- Insurance: Current malpractice insurance, professional liability and cyber-liability insurance in the amount required by MSHN (minimum \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate).

SCCMHA Launches Expansion of Agency Field Instruction by Clinical Supervisors

The greatest workforce challenges this year, have been the recruitment of masters and bachelor level social workers to fill clinical vacancies as supports coordinators, case managers, and therapists. Last week, final arrangements were made and approved by AFSME, to launch a new opportunity for expanded supervision of social work students for practicum placement at SCCMHA. The supervision of social work students in university

practicum placements at SCCMHA, has been going on for some time, but the number of students has been small and has tended to reside with only a few staff supervisors and universities. The new expanded arrangement will now offer appropriately credentialed clinical supervisors who volunteer to take students and receive a stipend for up to \$1,500 per completed internship, paid in two installments over the university term. Supervisors are limited to two students per term. To date there has been significant supervisor interest and students are approaching SCCMHA with practicum placement interest for the fall term.

MI Kids Now Loan Repayment for Medical Education Debt Relief to Behavioral Health Care Service Providers (See related MDHHS Press Release in Board Packet)

MDHHS issued a press release about this new medical education debt relief program for behavioral health care providers on July 13, 2022, to incentivize practitioners to practice in underserved areas in Michigan. It is open to providers rendering service to both adult and child consumers with a priority on children.

The program will provide participants delivering direct service to consumers up to \$200,000 to repay educational debt if they, participate in the program for eight years. The employer, SCCMHA needed to identify full time eligible staff that qualified and were interested in the program. Communication was sent in an email broadcast to identify interested staff members on July 25, 2022. The instructions to employers were not clear on some topics and we had to send questions into the program to clarify some nuances of eligibility.

There was significant interest from clinical staff members and a very short window of time for the employer to register our desire to participate as an employer and to complete the necessary paperwork for each eligible staff member to submit to MDHHS by the July 29 deadline. After all our questions of MDHHS about the program finally got answered to inform criteria for the identification of eligible staff, we completed the application process for each staff member by the deadline.

The following service community-based providers were eligible for this program:

- Psychiatrists (MDs or DOs)
- Psychologists
- Psychiatric Nurse Specialist
- Licensed or limited licensed masters' social workers
- Licensed or limited licensed professional counselor
- Licensed or limited licensed marriage or family therapist
- Wrap-around Specialists
- Case Managers
- Supports Coordinators
- Board Certified Behavioral Analysts (BCBA)
- Board Certified Assistant Behavioral Analysts (BCABA)

SCCMHA qualified 37 full time staff for the program of the 58 staff that were interested. Those that did not qualify were not providing direct service full time to consumers or did not qualify under the job titles eligible. SCCMHA staff members certified as eligible, will now need to make their direct applications to the program with their loan agent by 8-16-22.

Our thanks to the HR Department and administrative staff volunteers from other buildings that dropped everything to make this happen for staff.

Woman of Colors Michigan Health Endowment Grant Funded Project on Behavioral Health Disparities for African Americans, Seeking SCCMHA Partnership

Senior members of SCCMHA and myself, met with Evelyn McGovern of Women of Colors (WofC) on July 28 about the completion of their planning year for a project to investigate and remedy the disparities of access, treatment experience and post hospital follow-up care for African Americans. Jill Armentrout representing Great Lakes Bay Health Clinics also attended the meeting.

Kristie Wolbert, Tim Ninemire and Collen Sproul, all senior staff at SCCMHA, have been participating in the project's first year of planning meetings as their time permitted. The Michigan Health Endowment Fund has invited WofC to apply for a second year of funding in FY2023 and the application is due September 1st.

The meeting late last month was to learn about the first-year discovery process and planning, and the recommendations for activities to address disparities in service access navigation. SCCMHA is being asked to review the first-year recommendations and respond to ways we might become involved with implementation. I am in the process of reviewing the recommendations and strategies to inform a letter of support for their next application for funding.

SCCMHA FY 2023 Preliminary Budget Preparation Under Way

Jan Histed assisted by Laura Argyle has started the preparation of the FY 2023 Preliminary Budget. Our final Medicaid revenue forecast was submitted to MSHN last month and the final submission of all Medicaid revenue sources next year is \$88,261,000. As you may recall other revenue will be added to the forecast as we prepare a final Preliminary Budget for next year for Board approval.

Assumptions at a high level are as follows:

- 5% Increase for the Contracted Network
- 4% Staff Increase (as per union contracts and me too for unrepresented staff)
- 5% staff healthcare cost increase
- 4% General Operating Expense Increase

We are still calculating needed Network Stabilization Funding and incurred but not recorded (IBNR) claims expense.

We hope to bring the completed budget to the Board at the September 12th meeting and the required Public Hearing as per the MHC will be scheduled in early October.

Governor Whitmer Appointment to Another Term on the Michigan Committee on Juvenile Justice

Sandy received word last week from the Governor's Appointment Office that she has been appointed to a third term on the Governor's Committee on Juvenile Justice.

Her appointment and all other members appointed to the committee were reported and identified by name in an MDHHS press release and in Gongwer's *News Service On-line* that same day.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra M. Lindsey, CEO

Motion made by Lisa Coney and supported by Cym Winiecke to receive & file this report as written. Motion carried.

VI. BOARD ACTION

- A. Approval of FY 2021 Financial Audit Report / Governance Letter**
- B. Approval of FY 2021 Compliance Audit Report**
- C. Approval of FY 2021 Single Audit / Federal Awards Report**

Motion made by Robert Woods and supported by Jane Sills to approve the FY 2021 Financial Audit / Governance Letter, Compliance Audit, Single Audit / Federal Awards Reports. Motion carried.

- D. Resolution to Approve the Plan of Correction to MI Treasury and Additional Contribution to MERS Account for Future Employee Pension Liability**

Motion made by Robert Woods and supported by Cym Winiecke to Approve Plan of Correction to MI Treasury and Additional Contribution to MERS Account for Future Employee Pension Liability Resolution.

Roll Call Vote Yeas (12): Winiecke, Cierzniewski, Schrems, Raquepaw, Armentrout, Nagel, Williams, Woods, Fresorger, Coney, Sills, Pugh

Nays (0): None

VII. BOARD INFORMATION

- A. CMHA Weekly Update – July 2022 links: <https://cmham.org/resources/weekly-update/>**
- B. SLindsey email re: SCCMHA Annual Report Delay – 07/15/22**
- C. SCCMHA Sponsored Community Events – Walk for Hope on Aug. 7 & Saginaw African Cultural Festival & 5K on Aug. 13**

VIII. MEDIA / PUBLICATIONS

- A. Press Release: MI Kids Now Loan Repayment Program offers medical education debt relief to behavioral health care service providers – 07/13/22**

IX. OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Robert Woods supported by Cym Winiecke to adjourn this meeting at 6:04 pm. Motion carried.

**Minutes prepared by:
Ryan Mulder
Executive Assistant to CEO**