

**SAGINAW COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 5, 2026, 6:00 PM
Minutes**

PRESENT: Ann Finta, Cheryl Nelson, Tracey Roat, Lyn Bradfield, Maggie Davis, Duke Peltier, Deb Nagel, Lesia McAfee, Vicki Mikolajski

ABSENT: Jim Nesbit-excused, Lisa Sawyer-unexcused, Bridgett Townsend-unexcused,

STAFF: Sandra Lindsey, Kristie Wolbert, Melynda Schaefer, Ashley Blackmer, Ryan Mulder

GUESTS:

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ann Finta, ex officio called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Verification of the public posting was acknowledged, and a quorum was established.

Ann welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting. Review and Acceptance of the Minutes of November 6, 2025.

Motion made by Tracey Roat and supported by Maggie Davis to approve the minutes of November 6, 2025, as written. Motion carried.

II. HCBS IN RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

Melynda Schaefer, Provider Network Auditing Supervisor/Ashley Blackmer - Residential Coordinator and Provider Network Auditor presented and overview of Residential Placement & Home and Community Based Services. The following was noted in the presentation:

- Home and Community Based Services History
- HCBS Residential On-Going Monitoring Visits (Facility Access, Kitchen Access, Community Integration, Individual Choice)
- 36 AFC homes within our county
- In-County Providers
- Provisional Approvals/Providers
- MSHN HCBS Workgroup
- Day to Day Placements
- Day to Day HCBS & Auditing
- Training

The Committee was able to ask questions / make comments. See document for details.

Motion made by Vicki Mikoljaski and supported by Maggie Davis to receive and file the Residential Placement & Home and Community Based Services Overview as presented. Motion Carried.

III. CERTIFIED COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLINICS (CCBHC) ADVISORY COUNCIL – UPDATE [FEB / MAY / AUG / NOV]

Kristie noted that SCCMHA is working on outpatient clinic. Therapy rooms have been completed and staff have moved from departments to clinic here at Hancock. Offered position for supervising this area (Mary Baukus). She has past outpatient experience as well as expertise with EBPs. Will have both board op and contract therapist available for MI, DD and mild/moderate persons served. Aim is to be able to serve a lot more individuals. We're really excited about this space.

Met with State of Michigan about CCBHC and they noted they are fully staffed now and therefore will be going through everything with more detail. Looking at IDDT program specifically. We've been reviewed in past but not fully compliant in MIFAST piece. Have 6 months to get our programs up and running and get within fidelity standards. SCCMHA really wants to build group therapy back up also.

Urgent Behavioral Health Clinic will be upcoming by 10/1/26 with 24 hour services available. Will be staffed at Hancock by nurses, Crisis, MRSS, etc. (triage as well as brief focused assistance / collaboration with other services).

HUD grants was approved recently (not entire amount) but this is good news. There were proposed cuts coming from federal government but a lot of local/federal advocacy had a major effect on this area. Coordination of care for homeless system providers. Sandy has been extremely worried specifically about permanent public housing assistance (no rental subsidies). Very promising.

Motion made by Tracey Roat and supported by Vicki Mikoljaski to receive and file the CCBHC Update as presented. Motion Carried.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. MSHN Citizens Advisory Council Update

See page 25-26.

B. Future CAC Agenda Items

If the CAC has any other subjects they would like to see covered, they are encouraged to send their ideas to Ryan. Recommendations as of today's meeting include:

- MRSS Follow-up
- CMU Co-Location Project
- Transition Aged Youth TAY Program
- School-based Mental Health
- Client Health Self-Management Project
- STARS Rides for Wellness
- Zero Suicide (Mary Baukus has given an update / orientation)
- Veterans Navigators
- Service Delivery / Barriers
- Community Inclusion / Respite
- Mental Health Court Update **NEW TOPIC**

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Attendance Log

The Attendance Log was reviewed by the Citizens Advisory Committee.

Motion by Vicki Mikolajski and supported by Duke Peltier to approve the Attendance Log. Motion carried.

B. Membership Log

The Membership Log was reviewed by the Citizens Advisory Committee. It was noted there are still three (3) vacancies:

Three (3) Community

Motion by Vicki Mikolajski and supported by Tracey Roat to approve the Membership Log. Motion carried.

VI. CEO REPORT – SANDRA LINDSEY

MDHHS PIHP Procurement Litigation Update

There had been no related communication with the PIHP/CMHSP System attorneys or system leadership from MDHHS or MDTMB regarding the January 8, 2026, ruling/order from Judge Yates.

Then on January 29th, 2026, the State of MI Procurement Office at DMTMB issued a "Notice of Intent to Award Number 260000000197 for Request for Proposal (RFP) 2500000002670 Cancellation Date: January 29, 2026" on the MI SIGMA Website. The notice read as follows:

"Per the RFP Proposal Instructions, Section 11 (b), Reservations, the State has elected to discontinue the RFP Process, and no Awards will be issued."

This one-page notice can be found on page. 57 of the Board Packet.

Then on January 30, 2026, we received communication from Neil Marchand, lead counsel from Miller Johnson, that MDHHS/MDTMB filed a motion with Judge Yates to "dismiss the RFP litigation as moot". The state is claiming that, because they cancelled the RFP, and made no contract awards, that there is nothing further in dispute with the plaintiffs. Our position is that we do not have any information to ascertain whether that is true. The involved CMHSP and PIHP attorneys asked the State what their plan is, and the State refuses to talk with them or disclose any information. So, for all we know, the State will reissue the same RFP or engage in a new RFP with a similarly flawed process.

Neil Marchand explained that until we know how the State plans to procure the PIHPs, we cannot agree that anything is moot and the issue is very much alive.

The plaintiff response from our attorneys in response to the State's motion to dismiss, is due on February 13, 2026. Neil has indicated to the plaintiffs that he will circulate a draft of his filing in advance of the deadline.

Once the filing on behalf of the plaintiffs is sent to Judge Yates, he then will determine the date of the next related hearing on the State's motion.

General Updates on SCCMHA Network

One of SCCMHA's larger residential providers, Valley Residential decided to close up shop and get out of the business (moving legally to another corporation, Listening Ear). VRS currently have 6 homes they have been running on our behalf (all SCCMHA owned). When we learned of this merger, we set up visits, discussion. Decided to allow for 3 of them to move Listening and 3 to Resident Advancement. A map was brought up the showed the locations in Saginaw county.

VII. OTHER INFORMATION

- A.** February is Black History, American Heart Month, National Wear Red Day [6th] & President's Day [16th]
- B.** STARS Wants to Hear from You – Take the Regional Partnership Study Survey
- C.** Media coverage of Judge Yates opinion on Region 10 et al v State of MI

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Vicki Mikolajski and supported by Duke Peltier to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 PM. Motion carried.