

**SAGINAW COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 6, 2025, 6:00 PM
Minutes**

PRESENT: Ann Finta, Cheryl Nelson, Jim Nesbit, Vicki Mikolajski, Lyn Bradfield, Tracey Roat, Lesia McAfee, Lisa Sawyer, Duke Peltier, Bridgett Townsend

ABSENT: Maggie Davis-excused

STAFF: Sandra Lindsey, Nancy Johnson, Ryan Mulder

GUESTS: Deb Nagel, Ariyana, and Tom

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ann Finta, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Verification of the public posting was acknowledged, and a quorum was established.

Vicki welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting. Review and Acceptance of the Minutes of November 7, 2024.

Motion made by Vicki Mikolajski and supported by Lisa Sawyer to approve the minutes of November 7, 2024, as written. Motion carried.

II. CONNECT, PROTECT & SERVE ACTIVITIES

Nancy Johnson presented the Connect, Protect & Serve Update for the Ends Committee. The following was noted in the presentation:

- Advocates and Leaders for Police and Community Trust (ALPACT) Mission Forward Grant funded by The Michigan Department of Civil Rights
- Goals for Grant
- Creating a Supportive Environment / Connecting as a community
- Event
- Pre / Post Event Surveys
- Measuring Impact
- Using Questions to Encourage Sharing
- SCCMHA is potentially applying for grant again if available through MDCR.
- Upcoming Training to local Law Enforcement (Topic: Building a Partnership Between Mental Health and Law Enforcement)
- Nancy regularly visits Saginaw Police rollcalls every other month (for all rotations). Brief training on Mental Health or Substance Abuse as well as new officer orientations. Relationships and networking are so important.

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

Motion made by Tracey Roat and supported by Vicki Mikolajski to receive and file the Connect, Protect & Serve Activities Update as presented. Motion Carried.

III. DIVERSITY EQUITY AND INCLUSION REPORT

Sandra M. Lindsey, CEO reported on the recent SCCMHA Diversity Equity and Inclusion Action Plan 2021 – 2024 document included in tonight's packet. Paul Elam, PhD of MPH, has been assisting SCCMHA in our work in this space. The SCCMHA Board is very supportive of our efforts. This document is also available on the SCCMHA website at:

<https://www.sccmha.org/about/diversity-equity-and-inclusion-initiative/>.

She also informed on recent President Trump Executive Orders relating to DEI and Federal Cuts and their impact on CMHs and community partners. SCCMHA will continue our DEI efforts until we are told otherwise by the State of Michigan. Paul is reaching out to local community partners as well looking for ways we can work collaboratively.

Motion made by Bridgett Townsend and supported by Duke Peltier to receive and file the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Report as presented. Motion Carried.

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

No Report

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. MSHN Citizens Advisory Council Update – No Meeting

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 Baucus has given an update / orientation)
- Veterans Navigators
- Service Delivery / Barriers
- Community Inclusion / Respite

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Attendance Log

The Attendance Log was reviewed by the Citizens Advisory Committee.

Motion by Vicki Mikolajski and supported by Lisa Sawyer 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 four (4) vacancies:

Three (3) Community

One (1) Primary/Secondary Person Served

Deb Nagel, a former SCCMHA Board and CAC member, is interested in joining the committee. She completed an application. Jim Nesbit sponsored her membership.

Motion by Tracey Roat and supported by Lesia McAfee to approve the Membership Log. Motion carried.

Motion by Jim Nesbit and supported by Duke Peltier to recommend Bridgett Townsend for new appointment to the SCCMHA CAC Committee. Motion carried.

VII. CEO REPORT – SANDRA LINDSEY

Recent Board changes announced with members stepping down in December 2024 and were replaced by Jaime Wilson, Jacob Kern and Susan McInerney.

A lot of Sandy's time has obviously been spent on reading the voluminous documentation related to recent Presidential Executive Orders and Proposed federal Medicaid Cuts.

Sandy noted that for FYE 2024, CMHs in Mid-State Health Network are not in good shape financially. MSHN Will need to cover the CMH shortfalls using most of their Internal Services Fund by year end.

Waskul Settlement and impact on CMH Budgets. The MDHHS class action settlement for persons served in Self Determination arrangements and enrolled in the Medicaid Habilitation Supports Waiver are anticipating significant rate increases for their CLS staff. CMHSPs across the state will not be able to issue rate increases without a mid-year Medicaid rate increase. CMHSPS across the state are already struggling to meet legislatively mandated rate increases for ABA Tech services as the additional Medicaid funding allocated for this purpose will not cover the 2025 cost.

Sandy mentioned the recent MDHHS Press Release announcing a new Procurement to replace the 10 regional PIHPs across the state with no warning. Embedded in the PR was a survey from MDHHS for stakeholders of all types to complete electronically. Survey respondents will remain anonymous and must be completed by 3/31/25.

Key Items that you may want to consider if wishing to respond:

- MSHN (region 5) is the largest geography PIHP in the state (second only to Detroit Wayne / 500,000 Medicaid lives served.

- PIHP with the most CMHs (12) members that work well together.
- Always compliant with rules / regulations / file our documents on time
- The CMHSP Partners in the region and MSHN itself, are all great payers and have excellent relationships with their provider networks.

The U.S. House of Representatives recently passed a "Big Budget Bill" that included \$800 Billion in federal Medicaid cuts over the next 9 years. This is deeply concerning not just for the public mental health system but for healthcare, as states will not be able to make up these federal Medicaid cuts. Sandy encouraged CAC members to reach out to US Representative Kristen McDonald Rivet & US Senators Gary Peters and Elissa Slotkin, about continuing to fight against these disturbing cuts and thank them for their opposition.

The Federal Government provides matches to State dollars in the Medicaid program through the FMAP formula based upon a state's average per capita income. The lower a state's per capita income, the higher the federal Medicaid match percentage. CMHs in Michigan Counties receive funding based on the number of Medicaid lives in county borders. This fiscal year 80% of our budget comes from the Medicaid Program.

See the attached SCCMHA Request Call to Action document for details. Encouraging CAC members to reach out to their federal members of Congress with your concerns. Sandy has reached out to her colleagues in Saginaw, at HealthSource, Great Lakes Bay Health Centers, Covenant Hospital, also highly dependent and concerned about cuts this size.

VIII. OTHER INFORMATION

A. March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness, Social Worker, Women's History Month

B. SCCMHA Provider News – December 2024

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Duke Peltier and supported by Bridgett Townsend to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 PM. Motion carried.