

MINUTES OF THE BOARD
November 17, 2022, 4:00 PM
North Country Community Mental Health
Room 217, 203 E. Cayuga Street, Bellaire



BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Caroline Loper, Ed Ginop, Michael Newman, Ron Iseler, Robert Draves, Christian Marcus, Gary Knapp

MEMBERS ATTENDING VIRTUALLY: Robert Boyd, Karla Sherman (joined at 4:10 PM)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: David White, Paul Liss, Katina Banko, Allen Telgenhof

STAFF: Brian Babbitt, Kim Rappleyea, Ann Friend, Nancy Rhue, Tim Stapp Jr., Jodie Scholl, Leslie Elrod, Amy Christie, Ruth Lenz.

GUESTS: None

Mr. Ginop called the meeting to order at 4:07 PM

ROLL CALL

Mr. Ginop welcomed Board members and staff to the meeting. There is not a quorum present, this is an informational meeting.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST: No board members expressed a conflict with any agenda item.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda includes the agenda overview, minutes of the previous meeting, privileging recommendations and contracts signed in the past month. Items requiring approval will be placed on the meeting agenda.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – BOARD ACTION*

Personnel Committee Report: Minutes of the November 1, 2022 meeting were reviewed by Board Chair Ed Ginop. Agenda items included union contract negotiations and results of the 2022 employee culture survey.

Program Committee Report: Minutes of the November 10, 2022 meeting were reviewed by Ron Iseler. The agenda consisted of the November CARF Reaccreditation results.

Finance Committee Report: Mr. Marcus reviewed the Statement of Cash on Deposit and Disbursements through October 2022; Interim Financial Statements as of September 30, 2022; Revenue and Expense by Fund Source; Trending Revenue and Expenses as of September 30, 2022; and NMRE Funding Source Report. A proposal for a 4% COLA to be effective January 1, 2023 was brought forward and approved at the committee level as well.

Mr. Ginop requested the financial reports be placed on file for audit.

PRESENTATIONS – Jodie Scholl, Antrim County Center Supervisor, and Leslie Elrod, NCCMH Training Coordinator presented on Human Trafficking. Frequently on the internet and media you see that trafficking happens by strangers, it is usually someone that the individual being trafficked knows. Family members and intimate partner trafficking has increased significantly since 2019. During covid, sex trafficking recruitment tactics changed, there was an increase in using the internet for trafficking, and a 125% increase in sextortion, the use of explicit photos to extort individuals. 60% of the time, the victim knows the perpetrator in sextortion cases. A majority (71%) of the victims are under the age of 18. Sex trafficking is not the only form of human trafficking, labor trafficking is another form of human trafficking with 69% of labor trafficked victims being recruited by potential or current employers as opposed to online. Labor trafficking essentially makes a person a slave to their employer because they can never “pay off” the increasing “debt” they are incurring as they are not being paid or are being paid minimal wages while being charged for food, and lodging.

ACTION ITEMS WITHOUT COMMITTEE REVIEW:

Bylaws Amendment- Article Five- Committees of the Board- in Section I. Committees; the addition of “Standing committee appointments for unfulfilled terms shall be made by the Chairperson of the Board for the remaining term” This amendment is suggested as we have 4 board members, 2 of whom chair committees, who will not be finishing their committee terms this year. As there is not a quorum this is strictly discussion and will come back to the board in December.

Antrim and Kalkaska hours of operation- Pending the ratification of the 2022 union contract, the Antrim and Kalkaska County offices would like their hours of operation to match that of the other 4 counties making their office hours 8:30 am – 5:00 pm. As there is not a quorum there is no motion made at this time.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Babbitt referred to several items in his report. He discussed the October CMHA Fall conference that he attended October 24 and 25. He noted that he met with Wayne State University regard the Stepping- Up initiatives in our six counties on October 27 and engaged with the CARF surveyor team conducting the triannual reaccreditation survey November 2-4. He drew attention to his activity on November 15 where he attended virtually the Children’s Issues Committee meeting which he is now a member of. He shared 2 proposed policy changes one that addressed the expansion of provider types allowed to serve Medicaid Beneficiaries that will increase access to behavioral health services and assist in reducing the behavioral health provider shortage, and another that addresses the appeals process for involuntary discharges or transfers in provider owned/controlled residential settings to comply with the HCBS final rule. He drew attention to a communication from MDHHS regarding the agency’s plan of correction for our Recipients Rights review that was conducted August 16-18, they have found the corrective action plan to be sufficient to correct noted deficiencies. A communication from CMHAM was shared regarding funds available to reimburse court-appointed public guardians. Mr. Babbitt drew attention to the included PowerPoint from the CMHAM fall conference in which NCCMH staff members Suzan Petee Eubank – Utilization and Quality Specialist, Michelle Marsh – Nurse Care Manager, and Jennifer Nolan – Human Resources Manager presented on The Effects of Stress and NCCMH’s Wellness Committee and programs.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT UPDATE – Amy Christie gave an update on the Quality Improvement Council. During the October NMRE board meeting region wide no-show data for physician/prescriber appointments were shared. NCCMH data shows a lower no-show percentage for face to face (FTF) appointments than telehealth. The no-show rates for telehealth are, on average a bit high than the average for NMRE for 2022. NCCMH is conducting open learning sessions with the other boards of the NMRE to make changes to positively impact cancellations and no-shows. The HATCH program has increased the number of enrollees to 70 with 11 active referrals. In November of 2021 there were 23 people enrolled with 7 referrals. The goal of the program is to improve the health of Medicaid clients who have co-morbid health diagnoses, such as hypertension, obesity, and diabetes. Increasing the number of participants in the program who would benefit from care coordination between mental health, physical health, and substance use services remains a goal for NCCMH.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY

The final, approved minutes of the September board meeting, draft minutes of the October board meeting, and financials through September 30, 2022 were shared.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

BOARD & STAFF COMMENTS – None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 PM by Board Chair Ed Ginop.


Ed Ginop, Board Chair

