



Advisory Board Meetings
Monday, July 11, 2022
In-Person/Zoom Option
The Shores- 14 N Lawler St, Emmetsburg, IA 50536
3:30 pm to 5:00 pm
[Click here to join or click on orange arrow.](#)
Adult & Children Joint Meeting



Advisory Committee Agenda

- Welcome/Introductions

Advisory Board members present were Netti Renshaw, Amanda Schmidt-Educational Representative, Michelle Huntress -Educational Representative and Tom Jorgensen-Child Welfare Advocate.

Care Connections employees in attendance: Melissa Loehr- CEO, Sandy Pelzer-Service Coordinator, Marlee Christoffel-Service Coordinator, Anna Miller-Service Coordinator, and Jenn Dykshoorn-Office and Finance Specialist

New advisory board members include Bo Miller-Law Enforcement Representative (not in attendance) and Markie Vant Hul -Nurse Practitioner Representative (not in attendance)

- Highlights of Regional Governing Board

Regional funding-Historically the funding stream for regions were from county property taxes. In fiscal year 2022 funding changed to a hybrid model of county property taxes and state appropriations. As of July 1, 2022, the funding stream for regions will come from state appropriations only.

October-December 2021

Worked in collaboration with Department of Human Services (DHS) to create Regional/DHS Contract. Discussed the deliverables and performance measures of the Contract. Contract start date: January 1, 2022, to June 30, 2022.

January 2022-December 2022

Mental Health Disability Region (MHDS) contract responsibilities: To implement and or work to meet access standards set forth in Iowa code 441-Chapter 25 for adults and children for CORE services at a compliance rate at or above 85 percent.

DHS Contract Responsibilities: To participate in scheduled work groups, provide template for quarterly report, provide technical assistance as needed, and review reports in a timely manner.

- FY 23 Planning & Annual Budget Planning

February 2022

Began working on fiscal year 23 budget

- Impact Grant Awards-

April 2022

23 agencies submitted proposals for funding. 22 of the 23 agencies who submitted proposals were awarded some funds. A total of \$4,166,209 funds were requested and of that amount \$3,066,171.06 were unapproved with a total of \$1,100,037.94 being awarded.

-Renshaw talked about the grant awarded to Algona Police Department for the Law Enforcement Mental Health Liaison position. The position is a hybrid position, the person hired would have experience and knowledge of crisis services while also understanding the criminal justice system. Renshaw stated the grant funds received would provide enough funding for the first year and part of the second. During this time baseline data would be collected to drive how to proceed with the position in the future. It is anticipated this position will be supported by the city and county moving forward.

Loehr and Pelzer gave a general synopsis on other impact grant funding awarded across the region.

Huntress talked about the youth services worker that has been working in her school district from Seasons Center and how impactful that has been for the students receiving services.

- Coordinator Updates – Anna. Marlee. Sandy

Christoffel spoke on a couple committees/meetings she has been a part of including jail diversion and housing. Christoffel states with being apart of these meetings there has been an increase in collaboration across providers and more awareness of needs in Osceola and Clay counties. Christoffel spoke of outreach efforts she has made, along with a new Outreach Navigator position created to boost provider collaboration in Clay County, and trauma informed care training.

Miller spoke of a new Mental Health Advocate being appointed by the Kossuth County Board of Supervisors beginning May 31, 2022. Miller stated she has been meeting with law enforcement and crisis staff to collaborate and build upon programming. Miller and Pelzer work together on quarterly stepping-up meetings. Miller and Mental Health Advocates in Kossuth, Winnebago, and Worth counties are meeting to discuss more around Domestic violence. Miller just recently became a new member of the Iowa Workforce Disability team and is collaborating and developing a new relationship with this group.

Pelzer talked of an on-going concern of long wait lists or services not in place due to workforce shortages. Pelzer is working on brainstorming ways to bridge this gap. Pelzer and Miller continue to host mental health task force meetings with area providers to build relationships.

- Crisis Continuum Education

Tabled until September 12, 2022, meeting.

- Agency Updates/ Information Sharing

No updates

- Next Meeting- September 12th, 2022

- Adjourn

Meeting adjourned by Loehr at 4:55 PM

Clay · Kossuth · Osceola · Palo Alto · Winnebago · Worth

Care Connections of Northern Iowa exists to support improved access to behavioral healthcare through local resources to promote full citizenship for people with mental illness and intellectual disabilities.