

Present via GoToMeeting: Angela Youngerberg, Phil Claussen, Barb Dietz, Chera Sevcik, Suzi Nerison, Sue Rynda, Cassie Sassenberg, Mark Shaw, Klea Rettmann

Others Present: Helen Ghebre (DHS), Amy Haas, Jamie Hayes, Teri Herder-Blahnik

Mark Shaw called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes: Suzi Nerison moved to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2020 meeting. Sue Rynda seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Agenda: RMT Report month was corrected to June. Additions to the agenda: 1) Blue Earth County Funding Request, 2) Clubhouse Funding Requests, 3) USDA Telemedicine Grants. Klea Rettmann moved to approve the agenda with the correction and additions. Chera Sevcik seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None.

May Vendor Report: May bills included Q1 staffing allocation, Q1 Psych allocation for Freeborn County, and Mental Health Awareness Month signs, banners and yard signs. Suzie Nerison moved to approve the May vendor payments. Cassie Sassenberg seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

DHS Report, Helen Ghebre:

- AMHI Statewide Meeting – Helen gave an update about the AMHI statewide meeting that took place on June 17. The contractor hired to work on AMHI reform gave a PowerPoint presentation that highlighted the phases, factors, processes and timeline involved. He said that the goal of AMHI reform is to support initiatives in providing the same level of services while creating equity among the initiatives. However, there will be no additional funding. He does not plan to individually connect with each region in person.
- DHS Representative – There was a hiring freeze at DHS in response to COVID-19. This stalled the hiring process for a DHS rep to replace Gloria Smith, former DHS Liaison for SCCBI. Helen reported that a case has been made to hire Gloria's replacement.
- Y2 Advance of Grant Funds – Helen reported that she is working on this. Year 2 advances require case-by-case justification to accomplish. She mentioned scheduling a meeting with Phil and Mark. It was suggested that she connect with someone who is familiar with the language to include in contracts that allow for an advance in the second year of a grant cycle.
- Other Funding Avenues – Since there will be no increase in AMHI funding in the next grant cycle, Helen suggested that we explore other funding sources. There may be opportunities to access federal funds for COVID-related needs such as PPE and telepresence. SAMHSA has grants available. It was suggested that DHS simplify and streamline grant communications and make them specific to grants that we are eligible for. Due to the work of the Initiative with regional law enforcement agencies (i.e., Yellow Line), it was suggested that we may want to start a discussion with the Department of Corrections.

June RMT Report: Amy Haas reported on the June 11th RMT meeting that convened via GoToMeeting. Meeting reports were given for counties that held virtual LAC meetings. Clubhouse updates were given. There was discussion about COVID-19 transition planning for county case management and clubhouses and whether counties had contingency plans in place if there is a surge of COVID cases among staff. Jamie reported on the formation of the Rapid Response South Central COVID Mental Health Network and a survey provided to Integrated Services providers to complete. Alternative formats for the September Stakeholders Meeting were discussed (for example, a hybrid event, meeting in smaller groups throughout the region to view the meeting streamed from the Event Center). Jamie will create a survey for case managers and clubhouse coordinators to determine whether or not people possessed the technology for a virtual meeting and whether or not there is consumer interest in attending a virtual event. Committee Reports included Integrated Services, Crisis Committee and Psych Formula Committee. Mark mentioned that Rice County is thinking of having a soft opening of the clubhouse in July. Safety guidelines are being drafted that Mark will share with the Directors.

Clubhouse Requests: Jamie reported that she has been receiving requests from clubhouses to use 10-County Networking funds to purchase PPE and cleaning supplies. Directors confirmed that there are funding sources within the counties to purchase those supplies. Jamie will send a group email to clubhouse coordinators to let them know that they can make their requests to their individual counties.

Crisis Grant and Crisis Appropriation Applications 2021-2022: Jamie provided a summary of changes that she made to the Crisis Appropriation and Crisis Grant applications for the new budget cycle.

Crisis Appropriation Grant Application Summary of changes *(The Crisis Appropriation is grant funding for crisis Residential and is set at \$600,000 per year.)*

- Service Area – additional information added about the following:
 - Reference to weather and road conditions being a complicator to service delivery/response time.
 - Telehealth solutions and related barriers (limited bandwidth for example)
 - Crisis Committee work related to understanding the culture of the region and identifying “target populations” for outreach and education
- Description of programs
 - Change to integrated crisis line into the 24/7 mobile crisis response structure
 - Updated decision tree
- Work plan goals – The Appropriation application is different than any other crisis grant. Three standard goals are provided plus three of our own (increased utilization of crisis beds, increased daily structure with services more specific to comorbidity, increased comorbidity staff development.
- Advice to DHS on how they could better support our crisis services work. What has been useful and not useful (duplicative reporting on outreach activity).
- Barriers to providing crisis residential services in our region and impact of barriers.
- Budget outline – changes for 2021/22:

.25 Regional Manager and .25 BECMHC Supervisor	\$62,000	Added some time ago, but new to grant app
BRASS 416: Transportation	\$40,000	Decreased to meet anticipated actuals
BRASS 401: Information & Referral (outreach/ed)	\$100,000	Decreased to meet anticipated actuals
BRASS 436: Residential Crisis Stabilization	\$223,000	Slight decrease, underutilized in past years
Discontinued: Regional Crisis Line	-\$60,000	Former contract for crisis line

All other line items remain the same.

Crisis Grant Application Summary of changes *(Mobile Crisis)*

- Service Area – Same as the Appropriation
- Description of Programs:
 - Integrated Crisis Line
 - Decision Tree
 - Information about Crisis Stabilization work, as well as the impact of COVID on the momentum
 - RAP for Adolescents via Open Door Health Center
- Conversion Rate Information – Jamie requested guidance from the Board about how to respond to DHS’ conversion rate expectation. DHS would like to see a rate of 30% mobile screenings and assessments and 70% information and referral. Jamie has repeatedly requested DHS to provided clarification because ALL mobile crisis callers are screened (which would be 100%), and approximately 25%-30% lead to mobile assessments. Very few calls are purely info & referral calls. The Board agreed that it is imperative to convey data that is most important and accurate to convey. They directed Jamie to continue with her current method, reporting all information. The Human Services Management Team should be contacted and highly recommend that they look at the metrics and reevaluate the utility of this measure.
- Partners, Outreach, and Referrals – Point out duplicative reporting required by DHS. The data is reported quarterly, yet DHS requires reformatted, duplicate data in the grant application.
- Work Plan Goals
 - Improving Technology
 - Collaboration with SCCBI, county partners, providers, and individuals served
 - Continued submission for third party reimbursement when possible

- Advice to DHS on how they could better support our crisis services work. What has been useful/not useful. What has worked or been challenging.
- Barriers to providing mobile crisis services in our region – Duplicative reporting. Poor communication from DHS with very little relationship between the State and Initiatives/Counties. DHS must develop an effective process of soliciting and receiving input from the initiatives before making unilateral/rigid/arbitrary decisions about the needs of each region. This must be done before awarding grant funds that do not align with our needs (i.e., the \$22K in training funds that were not needed).
- Budget – Requesting \$1,506,978 per year. Grand total for the 2-year cycle is \$3,013,956. [For reference, the amount awarded by the State for 2019 was \$500,000 (\$241K less than the \$741K awarded in 2018)]. The budget in the 2021-2022 Crisis Grant application includes the following changes:
 - Budget Revenues – An increase in 3rd party payments from \$105K to \$200K and \$85K in-kind. As DHS expects to see in-kind contributions, discussion followed about the \$85K in-kind contribution listed in Budget Revenues. If \$85K is listed as a revenue in the Crisis Grant, then should it not be reflected as an expense in the Appropriation? Angie offered to take a closer look at the dollar amount of in-kind funds and how the contribution should be reflected in both budgets.
 - Crisis Response Staffing
 - Increasing MHP to full time and adding weekend MHP staff hours
 - Increasing back to a 2-person response
 - Adding a full time Certified Peer Specialist
 - Decreasing on-call MH Practitioner staff due to more Practitioner staff scheduled
 - Integrated Crisis Line staffing at 2.80 FTE
 - RAP and on-call MHP staff remain the same
 - Administrative Support
 - 3% to Rice County as Fiscal Agent
 - .25 Regional Manager position
 - Fiscal monitoring and administrative/fiscal support with provider remain the same
 - Other Admin Costs – Increase from \$102,335 to \$174,014
 - Travel expenses increasing with utilization
 - Significant Transportation increase
 - Occupancy and utilities increase significant, based on actuals for new building
 - Some equipment costs increase
 - Electric data management (\$12,600 – 15% of total expense)
 - Training/orientation, supplies and insurance remain the same
 - Public Outreach/Education
 - Full time Outreach position added
 - Increase in marketing materials, including of materials directed to target populations
 - Advertising about the same

Following Jamie’s summaries of both grant applications, JPB comments and their recommendations, Sue Rynda moved that Jamie be authorized to submit the completed Crisis Appropriation 2021-2022 Application and Crisis Grant 2021-2022 Application on behalf of the SCCBI Joint Powers Board. Suzie Nerison seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Behavioral Health during COVID: Rapid Response Network: Jamie reported that the Community Response Team met this week, but they have not met as a group since the survey results came in. She reviewed the results of the South Central COVID Mental Health Network Survey with the Board. Ten agencies responded that they are willing to participate in one manner or another. Jamie added that she does not believe the survey is representative of all agencies that would step up to help. It was suggested that the team plan a small group meeting with a tabletop exercise or simulation of bed unavailability resulting from a COVID outbreak. Consider inviting County emergency management staff to participate. Counties are in the process of identifying their point person of contact.

Psych Formula Committee Update: The Psych Formula Committee met on June 16th. Jamie shared a graph showing the administrative costs that were submitted to her by each clinic and the number of appointment slots

that were billed for the course of each quarter for Q2, Q3, Q4 of 2019 and Q1 of 2020. The administrative expense information she received from the three clinics differed, so it was difficult to make accurate comparisons among the clinics. Jamie will request more detailed administrative cost information from Freeborn County MHC and Sioux Trails.

Blue Earth County Funding Request: The Blue Earth County Behavioral Health Unit requested funding from the SCCBI to purchase technology which will allow their Behavioral Health staff to resume full team meetings attended in person by approximately half of their staff members and via video technology by the rest of the team working remotely. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Case Managers participated in weekly face-to-face meetings, but they were discontinued when COVID-19 social distancing was put in place. The purchase of an all-in-one camera/microphone/speaker (\$900), microcomputer (\$1,100) and keyboard, mouse & cabling (\$100) will also allow Case Managers to conduct team meetings with clients and providers via video technology in a safe and efficient manner. As Blue Earth County is currently in a spending freeze, the Behavioral Health Unit will first look to use remaining staffing allocations funds (if available). If CARES Act funds ever become available, they will be used to reimburse SCCBI the cost of the technology. Barb Dietz moved to approve Blue Earth County Behavioral Health Unit's request of \$2,100 to purchase technology to facilitate staff and team meetings, to be reimbursed to SCCBI if/when CARES Act or staffing allocation funds become available. Chera Sevcik seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

USDA Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grants: The DLT grant program helps rural communities acquire the technology and training necessary to connect educational and medical professionals with the teacher and medical providers who serve rural residents at the local level. Grant funds may be used for

- Audio, video, and interactive video equipment
- Broadband facilities that support distant learning or telemedicine
- Computer hardware, network components, and software
- Acquisition of instructional programming, and
- Acquisition of technical assistance and instruction for using eligible equipment

Grant funds are awarded through a nationally competitive process, and awards can range from \$50,000 to \$1,000,000. A minimum 15% match is required and cannot be from another federal source. There will also be a \$500 grant-writing fee plus Region 9 (CREST) costs.

With the limitations of Vidyo capacity coming to the forefront during COVID-19, the platform is no longer able to serve our purpose. Discussion followed about the need to identify a more stable platform that is simple, reliable, consistent throughout the region and **HIPAA compliant** (essential). Conversation moved to determining deliverables, shopping for a platform, partnering with the ag community, and how much the initiative is willing to spend. A specific dollar amount was not introduced at the time of the meeting. Barb Dietz motioned to move forward with the grant application. Suzie Nerison seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Jamie will reach out to Tim Hunter, CREST Regional Coordinator. Suzi, Chera and Barb will help Jamie and Angie with the application.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Next JPB Meeting:

Friday, July 17, 2020, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Platform yet to be determined:

Respectfully submitted, Teri Herder-Blahnik, Administrative Assistant, SCCBI