



Mental Health Committee

Monday, May 1st, 2023, at 2:00pm, via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

1) Opening and Introductions

Tom Reed called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm.

2) May is National Mental Health Awareness Month

Mandy Potapenko provided a link to NACo's latest newsletter featuring resources for counties on improving care for those with mental health needs in the justice system. As part of National Mental Health awareness month, NACo will host a "familiar face" webinar on May 11th. Mandy encouraged committee members to attend to learn more about the work happening across the country. Tom Reed asked the group to shift to Agenda Item #4 to keep with the theme of familiar faces and reducing utilization.

3) Round Robin of Updates from Partners

Jim Feagles and Mike Lappen provided updates on behalf of Behavioral Health Services. Jim spoke to the new facilities. Granite Hills continues to work at enhancing its relationship with the MHEC. A new staff hire on the intake team will be focused on managing improved transportation between the two facilities. Work is underway to enhance electronic health record cohesion and seamlessly make cross-referrals through disparate providers. Jim stated that Granite Hills continues to work through hiring struggles, particularly nursing support, so the bed capacity hasn't grown as initially anticipated. In addition to the lower-than-anticipated bed capacity at Granite Hills, several local private hospitals have also struggled with hiring and have reduced their bed capacity or their units entirely.

Jim also noted they are kicking off a harm reduction campaign due to the significant increase in overdoses across Milwaukee County. They are working to install 25 harm reduction vending machines around the community that will have NARCAN, medication bags, fentanyl test strips, gun locks, and other harm reduction items.

Lastly, Jim noted that the increased Access Clinic presence has received positive feedback and has been going very well; BHS believes this expanded reach into the community will prevent the need for crisis services and help more underinsured and/or need interim care. Tom transitioned the meeting to Agenda Item #5.

4) Forensic Population Updates and Report Out from Quarterly Forensic Team Meeting

Adam Oldenburg and Beth Dodsworth provided updates. Adam shared that the Forensic Team met for its quarterly meeting last Friday. Courtney Brooks agreed to join Adam as co-chair for the committee, which convenes the State hospitals with Milwaukee stakeholders, working to address connections best to care for those who touch the treatment to competency and NGI system(s). Adam noted that volume continues to be overwhelming for both the examiners and hospitals across the state. Adam indicated they have a defined category for a "familiar face" or "repeater" in the forensic system and started looking at the data more closely over the past few years. The Forensic team will also begin addressing discharge planning barriers and enhancing connections to care. It was noted that there was interest in reviewing case-level data, similar to other local case reviews, to prevent unnecessary cycling; however, the process would require additional staff resources currently unavailable. There was also additional discussion regarding a closer case review process for those treated to competency, with their highest charge being pending misdemeanor cases. Again, there was willingness from the stakeholders. Mike Lappen noted it would be ideal to have a Forensic Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) team to serve those individuals through deflection and in place of requiring competency restoration. Adam added 103 individuals in Milwaukee County currently have open treatment to competency orders. Twenty-two have only misdemeanors pending. Relevant parties will discuss matters offline to see if or where services can be provided and/or improved within the confines of privacy laws.



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Beth shared data visuals for competency evaluations. Mandy saved the presentation to the shared team folder for additional review. Tom then proceeded to call agenda item #3.

5) Mental Health Court Continuum Update

Courtney Brooks provided an update on the Mental Health Treatment Court, which she stated is going very well. The treatment court currently has nine participants with three in the pipeline by June. It is at capacity with 12 total participants; however, a waitlist will be created. The court is in the final stages of bringing the Medical College and Froedtert on board to serve as part of the team performing assessments as participants enter the program.

6) Any Other Requested Business and Items for Next Month

Dr. Christine Apple thanked those who hosted the Racial Equity conference last month. She stated it was wonderful. She also reminded the group that the Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force will be hosting its meeting next week, and it's children's mental health month, so they will feature several speakers who provide services in the youth behavioral health space.

Erin Perkins provided an update on the MacArthur Foundation's Safety and Justice Challenge and the upcoming all-sites meeting. Several local SJC team members have been invited to the "Impact Network" pre-conference focused on traumatic brain injury and Medicaid-related content. The team will bring takeaways from the events to the next meeting.

7) Adjourn

Tom Reed adjourned the meeting at 3:15 pm. The next CJC Mental Health Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 5th, 2023, at 2:00 pm.

May 1st, 2023 – Mental Health Committee Meeting Attendees: Tom Reed, Joseph Ellwanger, Jim Feagles, Dana Blake, Rose Stietz, Sarah Wang, Christine Apple, Lisa Procaccio, Adam Oldenburg, Susan Collyard, Barbara Beckert, Courtney Brooks, Cassandra Robinson, Sara Morgan, Kimberly Lynch, Katie Holtz, Amanda, Beth Dodsworth, Mike Lappen, ***043, Susan Eckhart, Kent Lovern, Stephanie Garbo
Staff: Mandy Potapenko, Erin Perkins, Alyssa Doman
Total Attendees: 26