



Community
MENTAL HEALTH
CLINTON • EATON • INGHAM

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
HYBRID MEETING
MINUTES
Thursday, February 17, 2022
6:00 p.m.**

Staff Present (Via Zoom):

Dr. Afiah Ahsan, Shana Badgley, Sharon Blizzard, Karla Block, KC Brown, Joanne Holland, Jennifer Stanley, Gwenda Summers, Jessica Stewart, Joyce Tunnard, Suzanne Panetta

Excused:

None.

Staff Present (In-Person):

Aleshia Echols, Sara Lurie

Public Present (via Zoom):

**Elizabeth Pratt, NAMI
Caitlin Arduin, MSW Intern
Julia McClellan, MSW Intern**

Public Present (In-person):

Daniel Arnold

Union Representation:

None.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Joe Brehler at 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call (In-Person):

Joe Brehler, Al Platt, Ken Mitchell, Emily Stivers, Timothy Hanna, Randolph-Back, Raul Gonzales

Maxine Thome arrived at 6:03 pm

Dale Copedge arrived at 6:10 pm

Board Members Observing on Zoom

Dianne Holman

Paul Palmer

Excused:

Adam Matson

Settlement Agreement

Board Chair, Joe Brehler announced that as a result of a stipulated agreement and Court Order, Board Member, Paul Palmer is authorized to fully participate in this evening's meeting including being counted in the quorum with full voting privileges, noting that during Agenda review, a request will be made to add Item XI. B., Under New Business entitled: Settlement Agreement.

Previous Meeting Minutes:

ACTION:

MOVED by Timothy Hanna and SUPPORTED by Emily Stivers that the Board of Directors of Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties (CMHA-CEI) approve the January 20, 2022 meeting minutes as written.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Adoption of Agenda:

ACTION:

MOVED by Al Platt and SUPPORTED by Paul Palmer that the Board of Directors of Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties (CMHA-CEI) approve the February 17, 2022 Agenda with the following additions under New business:

- **XI.A. Expense Contract Renewal: ProAssurance Casualty Company (professional Liability Insurance Renewal)**

- **XI. B. Settlement Agreement**

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Public Comment:

None.

Mid-State Health Network (MSHN) Update:

Board Chair, Joe Brehler reported that Mid-State Health Network (MSHN) Board of Directors did not meet since the January 20, 2022 CMHA-CEI Board of Director Meeting.

CEO Report

CEO, Sara Lurie introduced K.C. Brown, Director, Integrated Treatment & Recovery Services, who introduced Dr. Afiah Ahsan, Staff Psychiatrist at The Recovery Center (TRC,) and announced that she has enjoyed having Dr. Ahsan as part of the team. In addition, Director Brown introduced Jessica Stewart, Supervisor at TRC.

Dr. Afiah Ahsan provided an overview of the Medically Assisted Treatment program at the Recovery Center (TRC), sharing that this pilot was initiated after learning that Hope Network decided to abruptly terminate their contract with CMHA-CEI and TRC. The pilot includes the following:

- 1. The use of suboxone for any Opioid withdrawal as part of the standard of care.**
- 2. Streamlining services with the use of the Electronic Medical Record (EMR.)
All documents and all records are entered into the EMR within 2 hours of arrival at TRC.**
- 3. Change in protocol to reduce the risk of Adverse reactions.**
- 4. Educated nurses in the area of substance use protocol including stigma**
- 5. Trained staff in the area of chronic mental illness**
- 6. All patients are seen every day!**
- 7. The offer of Naltrexone – Dr. Ahsan commented that she is working on setting this up as a standard practice.**
- 8. 4 out of 4 clients TRC is able to say yes and treat and do not have to send to alternative locations (i.e. hospital).**
- 9. Injections offered to reduce (seizing and withdrawal)**
- 10. Offer patients to call in for prescreening and speak with a nurse.**

Dr. Ahsan reported that since the use of suboxone, the stabilization rate is 3.7 which allows medical staff to reach the next level of care and we have seen less ER transfers, reporting that with the help of Medical Director, Dr. Jennifer Stanley approving the use of diazepam, the number of seizures has also been reduced.

Dr. Ahsan reported that the demand is higher than what we can keep up with. However, we have noticed that people are staying and receiving treatment and we believe it is because of the new protocols. However, more data is needed.

Board member, Kay Randolph-Back agreed that more information is needed to attribute the interventions we are providing to the reason why more clients are staying and receiving treatment and inquired as to whether there are ways to collaborate around some sort of demonstration, approaches to care?

Dr. Ahsan commented that we are continuing to collect data to substantiate that we are providing better care. However, it takes time and agreed that we must have more data regarding the treatment protocols and stated that TRC will continue collecting data before any information is published as it has only been 6 months since the pilot was initiated. However, commented that she strongly believes that we will get there!

Unfortunately, Jessica Stewart was unable to access the g:/drive and share statistics to support these statements due to an issue with working remotely. However, reported that TRC has definitely seen a decrease in hospitalizations reporting that the average was 4 per month, now it is less than 1 per month. Additionally, Supervisor Stewart reported that all level 4 are referred to a higher withdrawal management and different resources are offered. However, since Saint Lawrence, which was a level 4 closed their doors, individuals are not being treated as a priority and patients are being discharged before they are actually stable. We have found that Three Rivers welcomes anyone.

ACTION: Board Chair, Joe Brehler requested to have Supervisor, Stewart provide Sara Lurie, CEO with the statistics to share with board members via email.

Medical Director, Jennifer Stanley reported that some of the things that TRC is working on include:

- 24-hours services
- Admissions on the weekends
- Weekend coverage

- LOU with union to allow current Psychiatrist to provide coverage 7-days a week, not just stabilize since we have been unsuccessful filling this need externally.

ACTION: Dr. Stanley and CHRO, Sharon Blizzard working on an LOU.

Dr. Ahsan then fielded questions from the board which included:

1. How many beds in the unit?

Answer: 10 beds on the unit.

2. Is TRC always full?

Answer: Most of the time between 5 – 6 beds out of 10 are full.

3. Is there too much demand?

Answer: The obstacle to the demand is that we do not have medical back-up for clients who require a higher level of care, and there are patients that we cannot take because of certain medical issues.

4. For folks that we cannot serve, does TRC refer them to other places?

Answer: Yes, that is what we have to do to ensure that they receive the medical attention needed (i.e. if someone needs insulin.)

5. What do you do with patients who are on a psychedelic drug or ecstasy?

Answer: A psychedelic is a powerful drug or plant that can change your mood, thoughts, and the way you see things. We use a stimulant and they typically end up in the ER due to psychosis. However, we offer a stimulant for withdrawal as well. If methamphetamine involved individuals may experience severe depression and withdrawals.

Sara Lurie thanked Dr. Afiah Ahsan, Dr. Jennifer Stanley, Director, KC Brown and Supervisor, Jessica Steward for all of their efforts with regards to the pilot at TRC, then shared the following CEO Updates:

- Governor's Budget

Will continue to follow Shirkey and Whiteford bills as neither has moved to vote to date.

ACTION: For those board members who may be interested in reviewing Representative Felicia Brabec's report, please refer to the written CEO Report for more information.

- **CMHAM Regional Meeting**

This meeting is generally a meeting that is held in-person at the conference. However, since the recent winter conference was changed to a virtual meeting, regional meetings were delayed to a later date. The Southeast Regional Meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2022.

ACTION: An email was sent out by Aleshia Echols with the Agenda and meeting materials for your review and information. All board members are welcome to participate. Kay Randolph-Back, Raul Gonzales and Paul Palmer have participated in the past.

ACTION: Board member Paul Palmer requested to have the information resent.

Special Project Committee

CEO Sara Lurie recognized members of SPC for their hard work to organize a virtual event to acknowledge the 2021 EOM and EOY. The Employee of the Year Virtual Event was held on Friday, January 28th and presented an opportunity for leadership to honor and recognize CMHA-CEI colleagues and staff for their dedication and resilience while serving the most vulnerable citizens within our community. Approximately 83 CMHA-CEI attended the virtual event, which was organized by the Special Projects Committee (SPC). The Employee of the Year for 2021 was Denise Johnson-Reeves. To view the entire Employee of the Year Virtual Countdown Event, please click here: <https://youtu.be/ZANpNOnNgns>.

Save the Date for the Spring Employee Appreciation Event

CEO Sara Lurie expressed excitement when announcing that the Save the Date has been released for the Spring Employee Appreciation Event scheduled for Thursday, June 9, 2022 at Hawk Island County Park. This event will be much different from what we have done in the past so we are excited about an opportunity to gather safely outdoors for the Spring Event. Plans are underway to coordinate caterers, food trucks, and make arrangements for other employee wellness activities as the focus will be CMHA-CEI employee wellness.

Board Member Timothy Hanna inquired as to whether there has been any further discussion with McLaren Hospital regarding the Crisis Stabilization Units, as he saw a write-up in the CEO written report

CEO, Sara Lurie reported that CMHA-CEI staff along with TBD Solutions staff recently toured the McLaren (Green lawn) facility to see the space and the Governor Relations staff mentioned to us that they were expecting to receive some Federal & State funds for some of the renovations. She told me Federal Government resolved the budget issues. However, we have not heard back from Senator Debbie Stabenow's office to date. However, will keep the board posted on any new developments.

Board Member Kay Randolph-Back commented that the Crisis Stabilization Units are a statewide initiative and that there will be parameters and RFP opportunities, which is encouraging.

CEO, Sara Lurie shared that we will continue to position ourselves to be prepared if and when things come together, we will be ready to move.

Finance Committee

Revenue Contract: New Lease - 13768 Airport Road, Lansing MI, 48906

ACTION:

MOVED by Emily Stivers and SUPPORTED by Maxine Thome that the Board of Directors of Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties (CMHA-CEI) authorize CMHA-CEI to enter into this new lease revenue contract to lease the property at 13768 Airport Road, Lansing MI, 48906., to Open Arms Care Link whose address is at #107A 4700 Hagadorn Road, East Lansing, MI 48823, for the period of February 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022 in which Open Arms Care Link will pay as follows: Twenty Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Five dollars and 28/100 (\$27,875.28) per annum and payable in installments of Two Thousand Three Hundred Twenty Two dollars and 94/100 (\$2,322.94) per month.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Consumer Advisory Council

CAC Board Liaison, Raul Gonzales provided an update from the February 3, 2022 Consumer Advisory Council Meeting. Highlights included:

- Introduction to CMHA-CEI Client Portal
- Review of CMHA-CEI Consumer Advisory Council (CAC) By-Laws & MSHN Regional (RCAC)
- MSHN Regional Consumer Advisory Council (RCAC)
- CMHA-CEI COVID-19: Phased-In Recovery Plan/Vaccine

- Updates: Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC), MDHHS Redesign of Michigan’s Behavioral Health System, VOICES Newsletter
- Focus Groups on Crisis Stabilization Unit (CST) with TBD Solutions

Board member, Kay Randolph-Back shared that during CAC, the committee took up the matter of 2 members of the committee (1) of which is a returning member and the other who is new, due to some administrative issues were not able to start their terms until January 1, 2022 although the actually period of the term started October 1, 2021 and expressed concern regarding the shortening of their terms by 2 months.

ACTION: CEO, Sara Lurie advised Board member, Kay Randolph-Back that this matter will be addressed during the bylaws review during CAC ensuring that those 2 members terms will not be shortened.

The next virtual meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2022 at 3:30 pm.

Community Access Committee

The next Community Access Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 28, 2022 at 5:30 pm, and will be held as a hybrid meeting.

Board member, Raul Gonzales expressed concern that he did not feel that Community Access Committee was addressing disparities of this community, specifically racial disparities, and voiced that if a prodding was required, he was happy to do so! Board member Gonzales expressed that he felt as if the focus has been on commercial/private insurance. Several members of the CAC, expressed that they did not feel that this was a true statement. Board member, Kay Randolph-Back shared with Board member Gonzales that the committee is continuing to deliberate and seek ideas and as a board member, his concern can be discussed. However, clarified that the emphasis has not been on commercial insurance. However, this has been part of the discussion.

Board member, Paul Palmer agreed with Board member, Raul Gonzales and requested to make this a discussion item at the next CAC meeting scheduled for March 28th.

ACTION: Any additional Agenda item suggestions should be forwarded to Dianne Holman for consideration as Chair of the Community Access Committee and welcomed Board member, Raul Gonzales to be part of the process as well as the discussion.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Expense Contract Renewal: ProAssurance Casualty Company (professional Liability Insurance Renewal)

ACTION:

MOVED by Joe Brehler and SUPPORTED by Tim Hanna that the Board of Directors of Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties (CMHA-CEI) authorize CMHA-CEI to enter into policy renewal with ProAssurance Casualty to provide professional liability (malpractice) insurance for the period of April 1, 2022 through April 1, 2023 and pay \$80,019.00 for this insurance coverage.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Settlement Agreement

ACTION:

MOVED by Joe Brehler and SUPPORTED by Tim Hanna that the Board of Directors of Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties (CMHA-CEI) authorizes Andrea Pike, Attorney to provide legal counsel in the matter of Palmer vs. CMHA-CEI to pursue legal settlement and sign settlement paperwork on our behalf.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Public Comment

Daniel Arnold who focused on his definition of disability (which is the ability to learn differently), commenting that every day is a gift.

Elizabeth Pratt, NAMI provided the following announcements:

- Connection Recovery Support Group did not meet in February and March. However, is scheduled to regroup in April, 2022.
- Thanked CMHA-CEI for the opportunity to participate in the CSU Focus Groups commenting that they were a great experience.
- Reported that NAMI will be CMHA-CEI neighbors as they will be moving to 3500 S. Cedar Street location, effective April 1, 2022, and are very excited to have this type of space as in the past McLaren donated space for their use. This space offers street level parking, and conference rooms. However, the office will offer only limited hours due to staffing initially.

- All are invited to the Grand Opening on April 1, 2022.

Dianne Holman commented that in the last 2 years, things slowed down a bit due to the pandemic, and expressed that the Community Access Committee has focused on future interests of the committee and although commercial insurance has been discussed. It is not the focus of this community, highlighting that discussion has taken place regarding eight topics including various strategies of ways to increase Access (areas where individuals may have fallen out of care.)

Board member, Dianne Holman shared that she looks forward to tackling some topics in the area of Equity related to access (as a matter of fact, she shared that during the recent CMHAM Winter conference there was a workshop in which she attended which highlighted inequity in the public health system overall as it relates to access), and agreed that this is a topic that should be discussed.

ACTION: Dianne Holman will be meeting with Sara Lurie to explore next steps and long term projects.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:07p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 17, 2022, beginning at 6:00 p.m., and will take place at 812 E. Jolly Road, in the Atrium. Because CMHA-CEI is a health care provider, distancing and face-mask requirements will remain in place regardless of an individual's vaccination status. The meeting space will be set up with at least 8 feet between seats.

Minutes Submitted by:

Aleshia Echols

Executive Administrative Assistant