

St. Clair County
Community Services Coordinating Body
Full Body Meeting

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

Present:

M. M. Tettch- BCBSM Foundation, D. Johnson- SCCCMHA, K. Pelka – A Beautiful Me, L. Belleau – BWAT, C. Cook- BWAL, R. Alley- RESA/GSC, M. Mercatante- SC Library, Dr. A. Mercatante-SCC Health Department, J. Posey- SCC, S. Crawford- Council on Aging, M. Weaver- Harbor Impact, J. Rolling – Recovery School, P. Patterson- BWROC, S. Steenberg – New Shores, A. Thomas- Lakeshore Legal Aid, L. Stoneburg- PCC, M. Wojnarowicz – DHHS, S. Hall AAA 1-B, W. Nordin- Offender Success, K. Posey – City of Port Huron, E. O’Brien- MI Works!, A Sochor- CFSCC, K. Burdick- CCSEM, B. Gillett – United Way, A. Austin, B. DiNardo-St. Clair County Community College, J. Shinn – Ennis Center S. Currie – The Harbor, K. DiNardo – McLaren, L. Clink – SPERO, and K. Heuvelman- PH Odyssey House.

Staff Support: A. Smith-SCCCMHA, and B. Murdick – SCCCMHA

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Ms. Debra Johnson. Members were welcomed to the meeting and asked to introduce themselves.

II. Agenda Changes

Ms. Debra Johnson asked if there were any agenda changes. There were none.

III. Acceptance of May 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Debra Johnson asked if there were any corrections or additions to the May 19, 2021 CSCB Full Body meeting minutes. Mr. Scott Crawford moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. Sally Currie **MOTION CARRIED**

IV. Blue Cross / Blue Shield Foundation

Ms. Myra Tetteh presented to the full body members on possible funding opportunities offered by Blue Cross Blue Shield. She explained that there are many grants available to help improve the health of Michigan residents. She stated Blue Cross is currently looking to expand their services to the thumb area. She briefly review five different types of grants that BC/BS offers and provided everyone with a handout. She explained that the grants are available to non-profit organizations. She also expressed that organizations can receive money from the grant on behalf of another organization. Discussion followed.

V. Organizational Presentation

Blue Water Area Transit – Mr. Lee Perry Belleau gave a brief presentation regarding the history of BWAT. He stated that there are many organizations in the area that work with BWAT to ensure individuals have transportation. He explained DTE and Blue Water Area Transit partnered together to have two electric buses available in the blue water area. There are two charging stations in Port Huron with one only taking 15 minutes to recharge to 80%. Lee-Perry also explained the trolley process and the operating hours.

VI. COVID-19 Update

Dr. Annette Mercatante announced there is a surge in the southern states along with more hospital stays. She expressed that the Delta variant is more contagious. She noted that there has

been an increase in hospital stays along with an increase in pediatric admissions. She informed everyone that there is a slow increase in St. Clair County. There is currently 11-12% positivity rate of tests. Daily case rates are at an average of 45 per day, which means the county is still in a very high-risk level. Dr. Mercatante explained it is important to encourage and recommend everyone get the COVID-19 vaccine and wear a mask. Dr. Annette Mercatante explained the Health Department is not currently given booster shots, and explained you have to receive one the booster 8 months after your second dose. Dr. Mercatante stated the importance of getting the vaccine explaining that unvaccinated people are 10 times more likely to end up in the hospital because of COVID-19. Ms. Johnson announced that SCCCMH is providing walk-in Johnson & Johnson vaccines 9-4pm Monday – Friday and if a person receives the vaccination they can receive a free 3 month membership to the YMCA.

VII. Emerging Issues

- A. Blue Water Center of Independent Living Update-** Ms. Christine Cook explained that CIL was a victim of embezzlement from 2013-2019. As a result, their last open day of operation will be 9/30/21. She stated that BWCIL is being absorbed by Disabilities Network in Macomb and they are trying to make the transition as smooth as possible. She thanked everyone for all the support they have shown.
- B. New Shore Recovery High School-** Mr. John Romaine and Mr. Scott Steenbergh presented that there is a new high school option for children in grades 6th-12th grade if they are struggling with substance use recovery. Mr. Romaine stated there isn't any requirements for a student to join other than wanting to be in recovery. He stated that this is an alternate high school where individuals who attend can work towards their high school diploma and receive tools to stay in recovery. There is no cost to attend this program. Mr. Steenbergh explained that New Shore Recovery School is located on the same property as the St. Clair County Intervention Center. He stated this is an opportunity for students to learn how to enjoy life without drugs and/or alcohol. Anyone who is interested in learning more about this new high school or knows of someone who may be interested can contact wither John or Scott for more information.

VIII. CSCB Updates

A. Membership Endorsements –

Odyssey house- Ms. Debra Johnson explained in June the CSCB Steering Committee approved to recommend membership to the CSCB Full body for Odyssey House in Port Huron. Mr. Ken Heuvelman gave a brief overview of the Odyssey house for members understanding. Mr. Scott Crawford motioned to approve, seconded by, Mr. Brent Gillet

MOTION CARRIED

Robert Furtado – Center for the Legally Blind- Ms. Debra Johnson announced that the CSCB Steering Committee also approved an individual membership for Robert Furtado from Blue Water League for the Blind. Mr. Brent Gillet motioned to approve, seconded by, Mr. Scott Crawford **MOTION CARRIED**

B. Steering Committee

Ms. Debra Johnson expressed that the CSCB July Full body meeting was cancelled because at the end of the CSCB annual MOU, there is a sentence that states “the CSCB would follow the Open Meeting Act of 1985”. Since the Governor’s Executive Order covering virtual only meetings had expired, in which the committee could not meet virtually. Based on legal

counsel's opinion, the CSCB does not officially fall under the intent of the Open Meeting Act, but to be safe the meeting was cancelled. At the August Steering Committee meeting this issue was discussed. The decision was made to change the wording of the MOU as well as to relook at and update the CSCB Guiding Principles if needed. Once all documents are updated, they will be shared with members for comments and endorsement.

C. Workgroup Updates

- a. **Housing Workgroup-** Ms. Amy Smith presented the ESG Allocation for 2021-22 in Kathy Swantek's absence. These recommendations were supported by the Housing & Support Services Workgroup and submitted to MSHDA. She stated the 21-22 ESG Allocation Amount is \$212,528 and it will be spilt multiple ways. Mr. Brent Gillet motioned to approve, seconded by, Mr. Pat Patterson **MOTION CARRIED** It was noted that there is not enough safe, affordable housing in St. Clair County, and they are currently trying to come up with a solution to address this problem.
- b. **Adolescent Services Workgroup-** Ms. Karen Palka stated that the workgroup members are currently trying to fill the gaps of services in the new Adolescent Service Directory. She explained there is a QR code on it that will take the user to a website that has all the information on whatever program the user is looking to learn about. Ms. Amy Smith asked that if anyone knows of a program not currently listed to please contact her and she will be able to add it to the document.
- c. **Business Resource Network-** Ms. Ann Austin stated that due to multiple job changes currently occurring within Michigan Works, there is no update at this time.
- d. **Early Childhood-**Ms. Riley Alley stated they are currently looking for children to join the Great Start Readiness Program and the Head Start preschool program. She also reminded everyone on October 11, 2021 there will be a community Baby Shower. The event is free for all expecting mothers and fathers in St. Clair County, and new moms with babies under 3 months old. The Baby Shower will be a Facebook Group event. She stated the participants will receive an email invitation to join the private group after registering. The event will start Oct 11 and participants will have until October 14 to view videos and resources.

IX. Additional Agenda Items

- A. **Walk 2 Remember, Walk 2 Prevent** – Ms. Amy Smith reminded everyone the Walk 2 remember, Walk 2 prevent will be held Sunday, October 10 2021 and will be a free event. She also stated the Suicide Prevention Committee is selling raffle tickets for \$5 apiece and can supply those to anyone who is interested.
- B. **End of the Year CSCB Meeting-** Ms. Deb Johnson stated the annual End of the Year CSCB meeting is being planned for Wednesday, November 17th. She reminded everyone that this meeting is open to Full Body members, all of the workgroup members and the Associated Initiatives. She stated that all the collaborative work that has been accomplished throughout the year, as well as the progress on the strategic outcomes will be presented. Ms. Amy Smith asked committee members if anyone has any recommendations for a location large enough for 100 people along with and recommendations on an inspirational speaker on a topic that would benefit CSCB members to please contact Ms. Amy Smith. Ms. Johnson also reminded everyone that they are accepting nominations for the annual CSCB Community Collaborative Award, and asked if anyone has, any pictures of events that took place at a CSCB sponsored event to send them to Ms. Amy Smith.

X. Announcements

- A. Empty Bowl-** Ms. Deb Johnson mentioned there was an Empty Bowl Fundraiser on Thursday, September 23, 2021 from 430-700 pm at Colonial Woods Missionary Church. Tickets are available for \$25 before the event, or \$30 at the door.
- B. Men’s Series-** Ms. Deb Johnson announced there was a Men’s Health Series going on, and the next one was Thursday, September 16, 2021 with the guest speaker of Mr. Mike McCartan. This is located in the Auditorium at Municipal Office Center from 6-8 and is open to all men.
- C. MI works!- Clean Slate Program** – It was announced that MI Works! currently has a program to help individuals expunge their felony’s. It was stated that if anyone knows an individual that needs help with expunging their felony to call 810 966-300 and ask for the Clean Slate Program.
- D. SC4-** St. Clair Count Community College provided a hand out for late start classes. 12 week classes start September 20th, and 8 week classes start October 18th.
- E. Hunter Hospitality House-** Hunter Hospitality House provided a handout for their Endowment Fund Awareness raffle. Tickets are \$100.00 each with many prizes. This event will take place on September 30th, 2021 at 5pm at the Hunter Hospitality Family House.
- F. Survivor Advocate Ally-** This event will take place Saturday, October 9th from 12:00pm-5:00pm at Pine Grove Park in Port Huron. This event will provide information about the waning signs of domestic violence.
- G. Run for Recovery-** St. Clair County CMH provided a handout for the Run for Recovery, which will take place on October 9th, at 8:30am at the Community Mental Health Building on Electric Ave. The cost for this event is \$30.

Next Meeting:



H. Adjournment

With no further business to address, Ms. Debra Johnson adjourned the meeting at 3:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Reviewed and Approved by,

Bethany Murdick, Recording Secretary

Debra Johnson, Chair