

ST. CLAIR COUNTY
COMMUNITY SERVICES COORDINATING BODY
November 15, 2023 MEETING

Present:

Chair: D. Johnson, St. Clair County Community Mental Health Authority; S. Benjamin, 211; L. Hillman, Blue Water Allies; S. Wilton, Blue Water Area Chamber of Commerce; L. Belleau, Blue Water Area Transportation Commission; K. Lake, Blue Water Community Action; N. Bickel, Blue Water Recovery Outreach Center-BWROC; P. Patterson, Blue Water Recovery Outreach Center-BWROC; C. Burrum, Blue Water Safe Horizons; J. Doyle, Blue Water Safe Horizons; K. Swantek, Citizen Representative; J. Gittings, Citizen Representative; P. Repp, City of Port Huron; D. Goetze, Colonial Wood Christian Counseling Center; L. Goetze, Colonial Wood Christian Counseling Center; D. Brejnak, Community First Health Centers; C. Cook, Disability Network Eastern Michigan; T. Spencer, Goodwill Industries of St. Clair County; B. Hanneke, Harbor Impact Ministries; A. Austin, Macomb/St. Clair Employment & Training Agency/MI WORKS!; E. O'Brien, Macomb/St. Clair Employment & Training Agency/MI WORKS!; J. Rabine, MSU Extension Services of St. Clair County; C. Eveningred, NorServ Group, Ltd.; K. Heuvelman, Odyssey House; M. Kotelman, Offender Success/Catholic Charities of Sanilac and Genesee County; A. Seppo, Operation Transformation; S. Hunwick, Port Huron Area School District; B. Keerrigan, Port Huron Police Department; J. Platzer, Port Huron Police Department; S. Baker, Port Huron Police Department; J. Young, Port Huron Police Department; L. Stoneberg, Professional Counseling Center; K. Herber, Salvation Army; J. Ortman, Salvation Army; J. MacDonald, Spero Pregnancy Center; S. Archibald, St. Clair County Child Abuse & Neglect Council; A. Hadwin, SCC Community Mental Health Authority; J. Stoner, SCC Community Mental Health Authority; K. Gallagher, SCC Mental Health Authority; M. Wojorowicz, SCC Department of Health and Human Services; J. Michaluk, SCC Health Department; A. Nichols, St. Clair County Health Department; C. Livingston, St. Clair County Health Department; M. Mercatante, SCC Library System; C. Griswold, St. Clair County Probate Court; C. Sexton, SCC Probate Court; A. Bolotta, St. Clair County Probate Court; B. Gorinac, SCC Regional Education Service Agency; M. King, SCC Sheriff Department; L. Hammond, The Harbor; S. Bednar, The Harbor; B. Gillette, United Way of St. Clair County

Staff Support:

A. Smith, B. Murdick & G. Valentin – SCCCMHA

I. Welcome & Introductions

Ms. Deb Johnson welcomed and asked everyone to introduce themselves and state what organization they are from.

II. CSCB New Membership Endorsements

Ms. Debra Johnson noted The Dementia & Alzheimer's Association of St. Clair County and The Salvation Army had requested membership to the CSCB. Ms. Johnson made a motion to accept the applications. Mr. Brent Gillette moved to approve the new memberships, seconded by Mr. Andrew Seppo. **MOTION CARRIED**

III. CSCB End of the Year Report

A. Updated Org. Chart.

Ms. Deb Johnson noted that an updated Organization Chart of the Community Services Coordinating Body has been provided to each attendee.

a. New 2023 CSCB Members

It was noted that the Blue Water Allies, The Dementia & Alzheimer's Association of St. Clair County and The Salvation Army were added to the document. Ms. Johnson noted that the theme for 2024 is "Building Bridges, Connecting Our Community".

b. Homeless Shelter Ad-Hoc Committee

Ms. Johnson expressed over the last 16 months, a group of community key stakeholders have been focused on finding a location and opening a shelter for men who are homeless. This group has been added to the Org. Chart as an ad-hoc committee. The Homeless Shelter Ad-Hoc Committee was instrumental in collectively opening a temporary warming center at All Nations Church. Ms. Johnson thanks the committee for the hard work the committee continues to do to have a permanent shelter.

c. Associated Initiatives

Ms. Johnson noted Dementia & Alzheimer's Association of St. Clair County has been removed since they are now members of the CSCB. Healthy Lifestyles has been removed due to combining with the subcommittee working on the 3 strategic areas of the CHIP.

d. Overdoes Fatality Review

Ms. Johnson expressed the Overdoes Fatality Review has been added as an Associated Initiative. This initiative reviews the circumstances surrounding the lives of people who died by overdose with the intent of preventing others from doing the same.

B. 2023 Annual Report

Ms. Deb Johnson noted that the theme for 2024 is "Building Bridges, Connecting Our Community". It was expressed that as part of the CSCB Strategic Plan creating an annual report was a strategy to highlight the many successes and collaborative efforts that the CSCB has been involved in throughout the year. Ms. Johnson explained the report and where to find the Collaborative Award winners, community issues, the accomplishments of each workgroup, 2023 memberships, and the organizational chart.

C. Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Snapshot

Ms. Deb Johnson noted each attendee has received a copy of the CHIP Snapshot. She explained that the document is a quick overview of everything that needs to be worked on in the hopes of making St. Clair County healthier over the next 5 years. The three strategic areas include mental and behavioral health, substance use, and obesity and associated health behaviors.

D. Steering Committee

Ms. Deb Johnson explained what the Steering Committee's role is and how their support helps the community. Ms. Johnson explained the Steering Committee is responsible for the content and updated material on the CSCB website. Ms. Johnson noted what information is on the website.

IV. CSCB Workgroup Reports

a. Adolescent Services

Ms. Courtney Everingred reviewed the Workgroup's goals and accomplishments.

Goals

1. Develop a comprehensive list of existing resources to support children, their families, and providers serving those 8 –18 years of age.
2. Identify gaps in services based on survey data/needs assessment data.
3. Help support the development of needed programs as identified through the needs assessment process.
4. Develop a countywide Speakers Bureau listing.

Accomplishments

1. An electronic version of the Adolescent Resource Guide was developed and a postcard with a QR code to access it was distributed at the Community Resource Fair, to all school districts at the beginning of the school year, as well as to the CSCB membership. It was updated in January, and the committee continues to monitor and identify additional supports to be included, and additional locations to market it. A link to the Adolescent Resource Guide can be found on the banner of the CSCB website.
2. A comprehensive speakers bureau was created on a variety of adolescent topics and is available to any group, committee, or school that would be interested in a presentation.
3. Work is underway to expand the workgroup membership to be more inclusive of all types of adolescent services.
4. The workgroup is in the final stages of creating and disseminating a survey that will be completed by youth to identify what supports they believe they would benefit from. This data, once collected will assist the committee in developing future goals.

Ms. Evergingred noted the workgroup is currently looking for more members and expressed in anyone would like to join, to contact Karen Palka or Amy Smith. This work group meets the first Wednesday of every month at Community Mental Health at 1:30pm.

b. Business Resource Network

Ms. Ann Austin reviewed the Workgroup's goals and accomplishments.

Goals

1. To focus on system issues that may interfere with people applying for and maintaining employment once hired.
2. Advocate with employers the need to break down barriers that prevent people from obtaining and maintaining employment -including the role employers can play in driving solutions.
3. Identify and advocate for support for employees who may need extra assistance to maintain employment.
4. To become a strong advocate for legislative solutions that meet the needs of our workforce families and thereby benefit area employers by developing a more stable workforce.

Accomplishments

1. Worked across agencies/counties to win collaborative grants allowing for data collection from child care providers and parents from which the group hopes to derive solutions that better meet our families/workforce needs.
2. Working to expand workgroup membership to include employers, human resource specialists, and human services providers.

3. Staying informed on other community barriers: workforce housing, transportation, living wages, etc.

Ms. Austin noted the workgroup meets on the 4th Wednesday of every month Community Mental Health at 2:00pm

c. Early Childhood

Ms. Becky Gorinac reviewed the Workgroup's goals and accomplishments.

Goals

1. Early childhood services/programs are reaching and engaging all families in need of support/early childhood programming and information.
2. Improve maternal and child health outcomes through an active collaboration with WIC, GSC, and GSPC.
3. Increase access to high-quality early care and education services and supports.
4. Children in St. Clair County have access to early literacy services that are of high quality.

Accomplishments

1. Partnered with Women Infant Children (WIC), Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP), and other preschools to distribute 100 WIC Talking is Teaching bags promoting WIC and literacy.
2. Two new StoryWalks were installed - Marysville Park and Pine River Nature Center.
3. New Talking is Teaching literacy space created at Megan Simmons -State Farm. This project will bring literacy opportunities to the families in the spaces they visit.
4. Help Me Grow is supporting partners in providing Ages & Stages Questionnaires® (ASQ) to their families. Three new partners joined this year: Great Start Home Visiting, Community First Health Centers, and Dr. Barnes.
5. 260 Talking is Teaching bags were distributed to Maternal Infant Health Program families.
6. The Great Start Parents Coalition (GSPC) hosted its first Parent Education event with 10 parents attending. The parents left positive feedback and asked for another educational event.

d. Housing Workgroup

Ms. Kathy Swantek reviewed the Workgroup's goals and accomplishments.

Goals

1. Provide community education and awareness regarding the issue of homelessness in St. Clair County.
2. Work collaboratively to reduce the number of people struggling with homelessness in St. Clair County.
3. Re-evaluate and update the St. Clair County Strategic Action Plan to End Homelessness to coordinate with various federal, state, and local requirements.

Accomplishments

1. November 15, 2022, the Workgroup held a virtual housing summit, titled, "From Homeless to Housed: Community Driven Solutions." This event started with a keynote address from author Matthew Desmond, Ph.D., followed by a presentation with local data, video interviews of people with lived experiences, and ended with a panel discussion with community

stakeholders. The recorded presentation can be found on the CSCB website.

2. Annual Point in Time Count was conducted on January 25, 2023, and 133 people were identified as homeless: 92 adults, 41 children, and 23 families.
3. For the first time, a summer Point in Time Count was conducted on July 26, 2023 and 184 people were identified as homeless: 150 adults, 34 children, and 29 families.
4. The Housing Assistance Resource Agency (HARA) spent the remaining Federal COVID Relief funding allocated to St. Clair County.
5. During FY '23 - The HARA screened 215 families, 287 Adults and 169 children, a total of 456. Also, the HARA fielded 1,275 calls from people who were homeless and 1,116 calls from people facing eviction.
6. The 15th annual Community Resource Fair was held on May 10th and in-person at St. Clair County Community College. More than 300 people registered and visited with 66 different vendors. The committee has begun planning for the May 8, 2024 event.
7. Emergency Solutions Grant award from MSHDA totaled \$204,027 for FY '23, to be used for HARA supports, emergency shelter, rapid rehousing, and prevention efforts. The FY '24 allocation totaled \$209,267, an increase of more than \$5,000.
8. The Workgroup finalized the 2022 Strategic Action Plan and developed and endorsed the new plan for 2023-2025.

Ms. Swantek noted that there will be a warming center opening sometime before Christmas. She also expressed there will be a Walk and a Road Rally for Hunger and Homeless Week. On 11/15/23 there will be a walk from Wings of the Harbor, to The Harbor for Youth, to Pathway's Homeless Shelter. The Road Rally will be held on 11/16/23 1-3pm. Ms. Swantek noted the Housing Workgroup held on the second Wednesday of every other month 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

e. Substance Use Disorder PTR

Mr. Ken Heuvelman reviewed the Workgroup's goals and accomplishments.

Goals

1. Data Collection: Increase accurate, relevant, and current local data that will be used to increase community awareness of and support informed decision-making to decrease the negative impact of substance use in St. Clair County.
2. Community Education: Create a public awareness and education marketing campaign to promote awareness of substance use concerns, with a focus on prevention, treatment, and recovery.
3. Resources & Support: Identify, assess, and promote current resources and support for people who have a concern regarding substance use and recovery.

Accomplishments

1. Made presentations to organizations about the scope and mission of the workgroup, broadening their understanding of its goals.
2. Initiated the Overdose Fatality Review Team, led by the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI), to analyze local overdose deaths, our local team will formally commence case discussions in early 2024. Recommendations arising from the committee aim to prevent further overdose deaths.
3. Established the Opioid Settlement Task Force to prioritize ideas for using opioid settlement funds to enhance services for people in treatment,

recovery, and for prevention. These priorities will serve as suggestions to the County Opioid Settlement Committee.

4. Sponsored a virtual town hall on August 31st, on International Overdose Day. Supported by an MDHHS grant, the event featured a panel discussion with individuals with lived experiences, medical and mental health professionals, and law enforcement. Streamed live on CSCB's Facebook and recorded for future viewing, this town hall aimed to raise community awareness and share resources.
5. Strategies outlined in the 2023-2027 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) focusing on Substance Abuse align with the goals of this workgroup. With overlapping membership between the two committees, collaboration ensures support without duplicating efforts.
6. The annual Recovery Summit concluded on September 29th, featuring workgroup members as presenters covering diverse topics and specialties. Professionals attending any of the one-hour workshops could acquire continuing education credits, enhancing their expertise.

Mr. Heuvelman noted this workgroup meets every even month at Blue Water Recovery Outreach Center at 10:00am.

V. CSCB Community Collaborative Award

Ms. Ann Austin presented Ms. Barbra Hannake, Harbor Impact Ministries with the 2023 CSCB Community Collaborative Award. Ms. Hannake was presented with this award for her commitment to offering immediate assistance and providing individuals with the resources necessary for long-term success.

Sheriff Matt King presented the Port Huron Police Department with the 2023 CSCB Community Collaborative Award. PHPD was presented with this award for their commitment to fostering collaboration and community engagements.

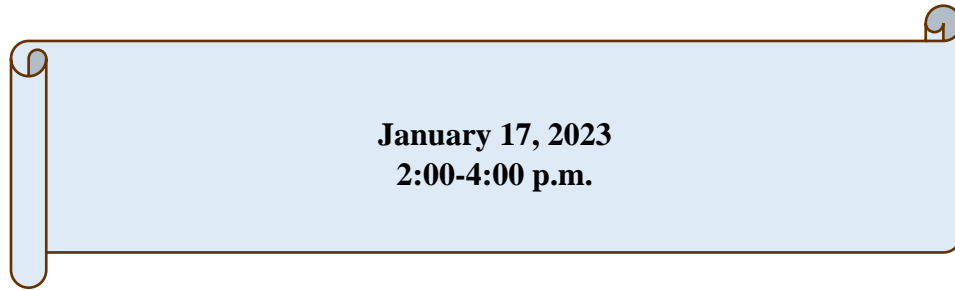
VI. Guest Speakers – “There is NO I in Team”

Chief Joe Platzer gave a presentation titled “There’s no I in Team.” The presentation focused on the Port Huron Police Department’s team-building culture and the activities they do to support this.

VII. Closing Remarks

Ms. Deb Johnson noted that there are calendars for each workgroup, along with the Full Body, Steering Committee and the Suicide Prevention Committee. Ms. Johnson reminded each attendee that MOU’s will be going out to each CSCB Member at the beginning of December and are due January 2024. Ms. Johnson expressed that there is a need for organizations to make a 15 minute presentation at a Full Body at one of the 2024 Full Body Meetings.

VIII. Next Meeting



IX. Adjournment

With no further business to address, Ms. Debra Johnson adjourned the meeting at 3:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Reviewed and Approved by,

Bethany Murdick
Recording Secretary

Debra Johnson
Chair