

SCC Community Services Coordinating Body Meeting
January 15, 2025
SCCCMH 1st Floor Auditorium

Chair
Vice Chair

Present:

Debra Johnson	St. Clair County Community Mental Health
Scott Crawford	The Council on Aging
Karen Palka	A Beautiful Me
Misty Wojnorowicz	St. Clair County Department of Health & Human Services
Daniel Brejnak	Community First Health Centers
Mike Baranowski	Community First Health Centers
Kathleen Swantek	Citizen
Roger McClelland	St. Clair County Homeland Security and Emergency Management
Cynthia Willey-King	Professional Counseling Center, P.C.
Julie Ganhs	St. Clair County Senior Millage
Jennifer Gunderson	St. Clair County Regional Educational Services Agency
Trish Spencer	Goodwill Industries of St. Clair County
Jennifer Michaluk	St. Clair County Health Department
Karrie Davis	St. Clair County Health Department
Erica Smith	St. Clair County Health Department
Alyse Nichols	St. Clair County Health Department
Audrey Sochor	Community Foundation of St. Clair County
Jessica Flann	Community Foundation of St. Clair County
Karen Lake	Blue Water Community Action
Cliff Thompson	The Athletic Factory
Mike Mercatante	St. Clair County Library
Major Jenny Ortman	The Salvation Army of St. Clair County
Kim Burdick	Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan
Brent Gillette	United Way of St. Clair County
Sheri Faust	Friends of St. Clair River
Mike Kehoe	Day Treatment Night Watch
Courtney Eveningred	NorServ Group, Ltd.
Jennifer MacDonald	Spero Pregnancy Center
Dave McElroy	Blue Water Transit
Sharon Wilton	Blue Water Area Chamber of Commerce
Colleen Burrum	MI Works / Macomb & St. Clair
Barbara Payton	Blue Water Allies
Ann Austin	St. Clair County 31st Circuit Court – Family Division
Rachel Kudeia	Blue Water Safe Horizons
Vicki Blackburn	Ad Hoc Education NAACP
Lisa Beedon	Blue Water Developmental Housing
Brian Kerrigan	Port Huron Police Department
Christine Cook	Disability Network Eastern MI
Andrew Seppo	Operation Transformation
Brett VanDrew	Port Huron Schools
Rebecca Kettlewell	Comprehensive Youth Services – The Harbor
Lakena Hammond	Harbor Street Outreach
Shannon Benjamin	2-1-1

I. Welcome, Introductions

Ms. Deb Johnson called the meeting to order at 2:04PM. Ms. Johnson opened today’s CSCB Full Body meeting by inviting everyone to introduce themselves and share their organization.

II. **Agenda Changes**

Ms. Deb Johnson confirmed that there were no changes to the agenda.

III. **Acceptance of September and November 2024 Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Deb Johnson inquired about any corrections or additions to the September 2024 and November 2024 CSCB Full Body meeting minutes. Ms. Ann Austin made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, which was seconded by Mr. Andrew Seppo. The motion carried.

IV. **Organizational Presentation**

A. **The Athletic Factory (PowerPoint Presentation)**

Mr. Cliff Thomason delivered a concise PowerPoint presentation about The Athletic Factory, outlining its purpose, mission, and vision. The organization's purpose is to create opportunities that support both student and athlete development. Its mission is to foster growth through athletic participation, training, educational tutoring, and college preparation for student-athletes. The Athletic Factory envisions becoming a central hub that meets the needs of student-athletes in the community.

Mr. Thomason also highlighted the range of services offered, including an after-school tutoring program, specialized tutoring for at-risk student-athletes, a 7-week SAT/ACT prep course, FAFSA/TIP workshops, and assistance with NCAA/NAIA eligibility. Additional offerings include basketball skills training, Vertimax training, and various youth programs in basketball and volleyball. They also host a summer recreational open gym, an Esports program, and a golf simulator. Furthermore, The Athletic Factory provides internships, and a variety of programs designed to help young people succeed both academically and athletically.

V. **Emerging Issues**

A. **SCC Disaster Recovery Ad-Hoc Update**

Mr. Scott Crawford shared that the Ad-Hoc Committee held a meeting just last week. He mentioned that the survey had been reopened in an effort to reach a broader segment of the community. Committee members shared the survey link with individuals outside the CSCB. Mr. Crawford expressed appreciation to everyone who has already completed the survey. He also noted that individuals should contact Amy Smith if there are any updates or changes to previously submitted information. Moving forward, the committee discussed various ways to keep the information updated and expand in areas that may be helpful in the case of a prolonged recovery period due to a disaster. Homeland Security / Emergency Management is the holder of all information.

B. **SCC MIPHY Data (handout provided)**

Ms. Alyse Nichols gave a presentation on MIPHY data collection, helping the audience become familiar with the data and understand the trending insights it provides. She explained the process of gathering background information, which is collected voluntarily and anonymously through an online student health survey provided by the Michigan Department of Education. This survey is used by local schools and districts to assess the health-related needs of their students. Schools within St. Clair County have been participating in the survey since 2011. The school districts and students have the option to opt out if they choose.

Ms. Nicols highlighted the benefits of collecting this data, emphasizing how it helps the community secure grants, enhance prevention and health promotion programs, and ultimately improve student health and wellness. She also discussed the key topics from the 2023-2024 data, which include substance use, mental health, violence and sexual behavior, as well as weight, nutrition, and physical activity. This survey information helps make data driven decisions. Full survey details are available at www.scchealth.co.

C. **CMH Affordable Housing Exploration**

Ms. Deb Johnson shared details about the 10-acre SONS property at 3001 Electric Ave. The property has been purchased by CMH, and there are plans to build a children's therapeutic group home on part of it. Additionally, they are exploring the possibility of developing affordable housing on the site. They are currently considering various options for smaller homes, ideally with a maximum of 1,000 sq. ft., though homes as small as 800 sq. ft. may also be viable. However, the city would need to revise the zoning

regulations in the area before these smaller housing options can be pursued. According to Ms. Johnson, they are evaluating different housing solutions and funding opportunities through MSHDA, with approximately \$4.7 million available in the region for affordable housing.

D. Christmas Giving Program

Major Jenny Ortman provided an update on the 2024 Christmas Giving Program, noting that they served 140 more families and saw an increase of 220 preregistered individuals compared to last year. She highlighted a significant rise in both the need for assistance and the number of requests. Additionally, there were more denials this year from individuals who were unfamiliar with the program.

Major Ortman also pointed out that several other agencies and groups in the area hosted their own holiday giveaways. To address this, The Salvation Army wants to coordinate with these organizations to review the process and ensure that individuals aren't receiving assistance from multiple groups during the holidays. A meeting to discuss this will be scheduled for the end of January or the first week of February. Major Ortman encouraged anyone who knows of other agencies or groups with Christmas giving programs to reach out, so they can collaborate and refine their approach to better support the community for the 2025 holiday season.

VI. CSCB Updates

A. Steering Committee

a. CSCB 40th Anniversary Luncheon

Ms. Deb Johnson shared highlights from the successful 40th Anniversary luncheon at Alexanders on November 20th. She emphasized the two videos shown during the event and informed attendees that, for those who couldn't attend, the videos are available on the CSCB website at www.cscbinfo.org. She also mentioned that copies of the annual report are available for anyone who would like one.

Additionally, Ms. Johnson encouraged attendees to nominate any group or organization they believe would be a great addition to the CSCB committee. She asked that anyone interested, or who knows someone who might be, reach out to Amy Smith. The CSCB committee is always looking for new ways to collaborate and better serve the community.

b. 2025 MOU's & Dues

Ms. Deb Johnson informed committee members that this year's MOU and dues documents will be mailed out later than usual. The CSCB has lost four green members this year, resulting in a loss of approximately \$20,000. In previous years, CMH has covered this shortfall and will do so again this year. However, as Ms. Johnson pointed out, the committee must explore more sustainable ways to address this shortfall in the future. The Steering Committee is scheduled to meet this week to discuss potential solutions, including the possibility of raising dues—something that has never been done before. Additionally, waivers are available for those who are unable to pay. Ms. Johnson also asked members if they would consider contributing more this year to help bridge the gap. Many members expressed openness to this idea and mentioned they would contact Amy Smith for more details on how to proceed.

B. Workgroup Updates

a. Adolescent services (handout provided)

Ms. Karen Palka provided a brief update on the recent Adolescent Services meeting held in December. The group has decided to hold 10 meetings per year, scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month from 3:00 to 4:00 PM, with no meetings in January and July. Ms. Palka also expressed interest in welcoming new members to join the workgroup. If you or your organization serves adolescents, you are encouraged to join. The workgroup is expanding, with Port Huron and Marysville schools now participating, and we are excited to collaborate in supporting our youth.

Additionally, Ms. Palka thanked Mr. Mike Kehoe for his efforts in connecting schools to the workgroup. She emphasized the importance of the Adolescent Directory, which plays a crucial role not only in assisting adolescents but also in supporting the community. Included in your packet is a QR code with the words "Hurt" or "Help," which can be accessed by anyone who needs assistance

or knows an adolescent who does. This highlights the critical need for everyone to complete and update their information in the directory regularly.

Please note that staffing changes should be updated continuously to ensure the directory remains accurate and current. A form to provide your organization's details is included in your packet. Ms. Palka kindly requests that this form be completed and submitted within the next two weeks so that the information can be added to the directory. The goal is to have all updates finalized by March.

b. Early Childhood (flyer provided)

Ms. Jennifer Gunderson provided an overview of the Great Start Home Visiting program, which supports parents in their vital role as a child's first and most important teacher. The program offers a range of free services, including personal visits from a parent educator, participation in early learning playground activities, access to a network of community resources, and child health and development screenings.

Ms. Gunderson also reminded attendees about the availability of free preschool through the Great Start Readiness Program. If you know of any families interested in enrolling their children, please encourage them to contact Ms. Riley Alley for more information.

c. Housing and Support Services Workgroup (handout provided)

Ms. Kathy Swantek encouraged attendees to review the Housing and Support meeting summary included in the packet, which highlights critical information regarding funding, particularly as resources are being quickly depleted. All hotel and prevention funds have been exhausted, and Blue Water Community Action and HARA are actively seeking additional funding.

Ms. Swantek also reminded attendees about the Point in Time (PIT) count scheduled for January 29th. The purpose of the PIT is to assess the number of people experiencing homelessness in the community on a given night. Ms. Karen Lake emphasized the importance of the PIT count, as it provides valuable data to inform actions and solutions to homelessness in the coming year. Volunteers are still needed, and a sign-up sheet was distributed to attendees. Those interested in volunteering can also contact Ms. Bernie Newby. For more information and details about the PIT count, please refer to the flyers included in the meeting packet.

Additionally, Ms. Swantek discussed the upcoming Community Resource Fair, taking place on Wednesday, May 14th, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at SC4. The event will be held at a new location within the college: the Fieldhouse. Volunteers are needed both the day before and the day of the event. To volunteer, please reach out to Amy Smith.

Ms. Swantek also shared that this year, the Community Resource Fair will be accepting sponsors. A sponsorship letter is included in your packet for distribution to any businesses or organizations that may be interested in supporting the event.

d. Substance Use Disorder PTR (handout provided)

In the absence of Mr. Ken Heuvelman, Ms. Amy Smith provided the SUPTR updates. She encouraged attendees to review the summary of the SUPTR meeting held on December 18th.

Ms. Smith highlighted the MiPHY presentation led by Ms. Alyse Nichols, which focused on the results of the MiPHY survey. She also provided updates on the Overdose Fatality Review (OFR), specifically discussing the team's recommendations and how SUPTR can facilitate the sharing and implementation of those recommendations.

Ms. Smith shared that Mr. Heuvelman has accepted a position with Region 10 and is currently seeking a co-chair to assist with the SUPTR workgroup. If you know anyone who might be interested, please encourage them to reach out to either Ms. Smith or Mr. Heuvelman.

VII. **Additional Agenda Items**

A. **CSCB Help Card Update**

Ms. Jennifer Michaluk informed attendees that the help card is currently being updated. She introduced Ms. Karrie Davis, who advised that any changes or updates to the help card should be directed to her. It's important to submit this information promptly, as it will need to be reviewed by the Steering Committee.

Ms. Amy Smith expressed her gratitude to Ms. Davis and the Health Department for their prompt responses and efficient communication whenever she has reached out via email or contact.

B. **CHIP UPDATE** (handout provided)

Ms. Alyse Nichols provided an overview of the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), which focuses on three strategic priority areas to be addressed over the next five years. Each priority includes specific goals, objectives, and strategies. The report highlights the progress made in 2024 toward achieving the CHIP's goals, including updates from the community and a comparison of baseline data with current metrics.

C. **2025 CSCB Meeting Calendar**

Included in each attendee's packet is the 2025 CSCB meeting calendar, which outlines the dates, times, and locations for all workgroup meetings. Also included is the 2025 Full Body calendar.

VIII. **Announcements** (flyer provided)

- Harbor Impact – Pop-Up pantry Tuesday, January 14th (see flyer for 2025 schedule)
- BWDH – Detroit Red Wings Fundraiser on Thursday, January 23rd at 7PM
- Catholic Charities Counseling Services – Evening of Food and Fun on Thursday, February 13th from 5pm – 8pm
- BWCA – Walk for Warmth – Saturday, March 1st at 9AM
- Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home – Dueling Pianos – Friday, March 14th at 6pm
- Dementia & Alzheimers Association of St. Clair County – Tuesday, June 3rd
- MiWorks – Senior Community Service Employment Program – see flyer for more details.
- St. Clair County Day Treatment/Night Watch – volunteers needed, see flyer for more details.

IX. **Next Meeting: Wednesday March 19th from 2pm – 4pm at CMH Auditorium**

X. **Adjournment**

With no further business to address, Ms. Debra Johnson adjourned the meeting at 3:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Reviewed and Approved by,

Gloria Valentin
Recording Secretary

Deb Johnson,
CSCB Chair