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**Goals:**

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**NW8 Adult Mental Health Initiative Board Meeting**

**Minutes**

**9:00 am – 12:00 pm \* March 12th, 2025**

**Sanford BH Education Room & Zoom**

**Meeting Facilitator:** Julie Hanson, Chair

**Attended:** Chris Kujava, Julie Sjostrand, Shannon Abrahamson, Karla Langaas, Shauna Reitmeier, Monica Yeadon, Danielle Alida, Miranda Solem, Karen Warmack, Jan Carr Herseth, Tim M- WITW, Nancy Rhen, Brenda Pauley Colter, Brittany Swenson, Leon Flack, Kristi Nelson, Denise Gudvangen, & Teri- Medica BH

**Absents:** Brenna Olson, Tracy Hamson, and Jode Freyholtz London, Molly Paulsrud, Sheila Fontaine, Racheal Kangesier, Paula Hedlund, Renee Sandvik, Dawn Baumgartner, Connie Spisak,

**Guests:** Kim Larson, MN Competency Attainment Board & Adult Mental Health Case Managers & Supervisors

- 9:00-9:05 Introductions
- 9:05- 9:10 Review & approve 3.12.2025 agenda
  - **Chris made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Karen seconded, all aye- motion carries**
- 9:10-9:15 Review & approve 1.8.2025 meeting minutes
  - **Nancy made a motion to approve minutes as presented, Karla seconded, all aye- motion carries**
- 9:15-9:30 Bridges: Denise Gudvangen
  - 2024 Bridges annual report
    - **Denise shared the final report for 2024. They ended up receiving an additional \$8000 from the AMHI and used \$7857.09 of the extra funding. All counties accessed funding except for Marshall County.**
    - **Counties would like to have a process put in place to contact the counties prior to authorizing housing funds as the counties did not utilize all their housing funds and want to know if they are already working with the client requesting funds. Alluma will draft a process and send to Directors to review.**
  - 2025 Bridges
    - **They are ahead on spending in 2025. Last year they spent down a little under \$2000, this year they have spent almost \$7000 in Bridges. Max per household is currently set at \$1000. Only Red Lake and Polk County have utilized these funds.**
- 9:30-10:00 ARPA Grant
  - Ipad discussion
    - **Ipad grant is up on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Alluma is working on how they are going to disengage from the I pads. They would like an assurance statement to release them from the I pads. They have about \$25,000 left in the grant and will have a majority of that unspent by the end of the Grant cycle. Shauna is checking to see if they can prepay the data plans and are working on sending**



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a letter to all agencies that have lpads about dismantling the grant and ending the program. Once the grant ends they will transfer the lpads to the counties that are interested in them.

- Karen would like to see the Verizon bill to try and see if they can get utilization for each county.
- If the counties decide to keep the lpads, we will utilize AMHI funding to sustain them
- We need to come up with a plan for the lpads that no one wants.
- We will need to include County point of contact information in the letter.
- Marshall, Polk, Norman, and Pennington all have their lpads. Pennington LEC does not use them, Marshall LEC had no interest in using them.
- Shannon will send the lpad distribution list to Shauna, Brenda, and Directors.
- These lpads would be more practical for counties to utilize for outpatient services rather than Crisis access.
- We will bring this back in May to discuss further. There is a statement in the contract about transferring equipment back to the State.
- Next steps: Shannon send an email with a list of agencies in each county and put this discussion on May agenda. We will put together an exit letter with AMHI funding sustaining the lpads if needed.

- 10:00-10:30 Budget review
  - 2025 AMHI budget
    - If counties are submitting bills monthly, those amounts will reflect on the AMHI spreadsheet right away but will be paid out quarterly.
    - Alluma looked at their 2025/2026 AMHI budget and think they may need to move some money around. Once Shauna has all the revisions finalized, she will bring to the group to review and approve.
  - 2025 Crisis budget
    - Reviewed YTD Crisis budget
  - 2025 CSP budget
    - Reviewed CSP budget.
- 10:30-11:00 NW8 AMHI Strategic Plan & Goals
  - Strategic Planning Updates
    - **Goal #1- We received the Crisis data for the Counties from Alluma but are still waiting for data from Sanford. There does not seem to be a connection between BE THE VOICE and Crisis calls. Patrick sees a significant difference between where you are located in the region and how close you are to the Crisis team. The group is starting to analyze Death by Suicide data. Combination of data and the story to collect this information. Chris is hopeful we may be able to see trending as time goes on. Miranda is going to have Sarah reach out to Patrick with Sanford Crisis data. We will start looking at gathering suicide attempts.**
    - Review & approve NW8 AMHI Outreach Survey
      - Group suggested taking out questions 3 & 4



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- Will combine questions 1 & 3 and 2 & 4
- Add phone # instead of email
- Take out question #7
- Goal#2- Group reviewed budget and determined fixed expenses and started discussions on what direction to go with outreach. Shannon will bring a rough draft of the outreach budget for 2025/2026 to May board meeting.
- Goal#3- Have not made a lot of progress with this group but Julie still has it on the radar.
- Goal#4- No one has taken the lead on this group yet, but this is organically happening right now with the other subgroups.
- 11:00-11:45 MN Competency Attainment Board: Kim Larson, Program Director
  - Slide presentation will take notes
  - Allison Holbrook, Supervisor
  - Karli Wilson, Forensic Navigator
  - GAP= Incompetent, but not Civil Commitment (Didn't fit anywhere)
  - Public safety crisis that resulted from these GAP instances (Kare 11 News)
  - 2022 Leg session- bipartisan bill and became a new statute in 611.40-611.59. There was a language error in statute so they did not begin until November of 2024.
  - If competency raised- adds Forensic Navigator to the Case
  - Changed Rule 20.01 subd 6 from must refer to civil commitment to MAY refer.
  - Screening process is on their website.
  - Case load assignments in our region is about 3-month lag.
  - What's the benefit of becoming one of the programs listed as there is not one in our region?
    - Judges would prefer to refer to a certified program vs a non-certified program. They have seen a lot of cases that the judge wants them to complete a certified program. Courts would also be familiar with you if you were listed as a certified program.
  - If someone is ordered to Anoka certified program- who is responsible for costs?
    - Insurance will cover if they meet hospital level of care. If they no longer meet hospital level of care- then counties are responsible.
  - What is the task of the approved programs?
    - It depends on the program- some provide outpatient, group, residential, etc. They do not offer the same services at all certified programs. 611.59 statute.
  - Their role is to support the defendant while they are in court. The judge is the only one that can determine whether the defendant is competent or not.
  - Do you make recommendations on competency? No, they only make recommendations of services or resources.
  - When the court orders the competency examination is when the Navigator assigned.
- 1:45-11:55 LAC Stipend- 1095's



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- **Directors will verify with their fiscal officers that they are sending out 1095's to LAC members that received over \$600.**
- WITW update via email:
  - **WITW experienced a huge increase in NW8 utilization of VPSN in January and February of this year with 80 interactions between the two months. This is compared to the 3 interactions they had in December 2024.**
  - **They hired a new outreach associate based in Crookston so they are hopeful that we will see this growth continue.**
- 11:55-12:00 Adjourn