

# MENTAL HEALTH AND DISABILITY SERVICES COMMISSION

February 21, 2019 - 9:30 am to 2:30 pm  
Iowa Lutheran Hospital – Room 1  
700 E. University Ave, Des Moines, Iowa  
MEETING MINUTES

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## MHDS COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Thomas Bouska (phone)  
Jody Eaton (phone)  
Marsha Edgington  
Kathryn Johnson  
Betty King (phone)  
Brett McLain (phone)  
Mary Meyers

John Parmeter  
Rebecca Peterson (phone)  
Rick Sanders  
Richard Whitaker (phone)  
Russell Wood  
Lorrie Young (phone)

## MHDS COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:

Thomas Broeker  
Dennis Bush  
Sharon Lambert  
Geoffrey Lauer

Senator Mark Costello  
Representative David Heaton  
Representative Scott Ourth  
Senator Liz Mathis

## OTHER ATTENDEES:

Theresa Armstrong	MHDS, Bureau Chief Community Services & Planning
Jim Donoghue	Department of Education
John Hedgecoth	Amerigroup
Linda Keelen	Department of Inspection and Appeals
Julie Maas	MHDS, Community Services & Planning
Tony Raymer	Candeo
Flora Schmidt	IBHA
Rik Shannon	DD Council
Michele Tilotta	Iowa Department of Public Health
Lisa Welsh	Prairie Ridge
Derrick Willis	University of Iowa Center for Disabilities and Development

## Welcome and Call to Order

John Parmeter called the meeting to order at 9:32 am and led introductions. Quorum was established with six members present and seven participating by phone. No conflicts of interest were identified.

## Approval of Minutes

Tom Bouska made a motion to approve the January 17, 2019 meeting minutes. Kathy Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## Children's Behavioral Health System State Board Update – John Parmeter

John reported that the Children's Behavioral Health System State Board met and there was discussion about the Governor introducing legislation for a children's system and they hope to see the legislation soon. A copy of the bill will be sent to the Commission when it is introduced. John said the Board decided to establish a few subcommittees to discuss immediate needs,

educator training, metrics and outcomes, workforce, governance and screenings. John said there was concern about universal screening and there is a screening panel that will meet to address some of the concern around screenings. John said the legislators are also having a subcommittee to discuss funding. John said each of the subcommittees will be led by a Board member and will have 2 or 3 additional Board members and will also include experts from the public. John said anyone who wants to participate can send their contact information to Andrea Schaa who is staffing the Board. John said the next Board meeting is scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>.

There was discussion on the overlap between the Commission and Children's Board and the legislation will hopefully lay out the Children's Board's role and responsibilities. There was discussion on having an integrated children's and adult system versus two separate systems.

There was discussion about suicide awareness and prevention grants and legislation that is related to the Departments of Public Health and Education.

### **MHDS Update – Theresa Armstrong**

Theresa said that to add to John's update on the Children's Board some subcommittees are going to move more quickly than others due to deadlines and waiting for legislation but each of the meetings will be posted and open to the public to attend. Theresa said that Mid Iowa Health Foundation approached DHS with dollars to help assist with universal screening and DHS is the process of finalizing the grant. Theresa said that the grant will be used to hire a facilitator to manage the group which will have multiple sessions. Theresa said the group will include high level clinicians and doctors and the grant will be used to help support their time away from their practice.

Theresa gave an update on legislation that has been introduced. Theresa said there are a few different bills related to Autism and the Autism Support Program including how telehealth can be used for ABA services. Theresa said there has been a lot of conversation about using telehealth as a fast fix but also discussion about how telehealth is one tool that can be used not the only tool. Telehealth is also being looked at as a way to provide services to the CUSCO program at Cherokee instead of driving to the University of Iowa and DHS is in support of that.

Theresa gave an update on the following bills:

HF10 tells DHS to do an analysis of prevocational rates under HCBS and that hasn't moved.

HF205 is related to the disclosure of mental health information for minors 14 and older and allows a minor to voluntarily put themselves inpatient without telling parents or getting permission from a parent or guardian. This bill hasn't moved.

HF243 allows regions to use fund balances over 25% in current fiscal year and FY 20 use to fund substance use disorder or co-occurring services and the development for new complex needs services. The bill hasn't moved.

HF235 directs Human Rights to do a study on jail diversion. There is discussion about the need to talk to regions and counties as many are already providing the services.

HF294 removes the cap to the BI waiver and went to subcommittee.

HF372 is related to a medical residency programs and giving priority to grant funded residencies to lowans and those who earned their undergrad Iowa universities. It includes requiring a rotation in rural communities. Bill passed out of subcommittee.

HF451 is related to inpatient bed tracking and establishing a clearing house for individuals and using telehealth to share information. Bill goes to subcommittee next week.

There was discussion about Assertive Community Treatment being a recommended core services for children in the report from the Children's Board. There was concern that ACT is not

a service geared towards children but there are similar EBPs that would be more appropriate for children such as multi systemic therapy or functional family therapy. Theresa Armstrong said that some of that can be fixed in administrative rules and ACT was more of a placeholder for intensive services in the home for children.

### **Family First Legislation – Janee Harvey**

Janee Harvey introduced herself and thanked the Commission for inviting her to present on the new federal legislation related to how child welfare services are provided. Janee said that Iowa is calling this legislation Family First Legislation because putting families first is the priority. Janee said the legislation is actually a financing bill that restructures how the federal government will distribute money to states for child welfare services. Janee presented her power point on Family First Legislation.

There was discussion on the new eligible population of children who are imminent risk of placement into the foster care system and how other states like New York have greatly reduced the number of children in foster care by funding prevention services and allowing parents to self-identify as needing help without going through the court system. The voluntary programs and services are the same as those for formal child welfare cases.

There was discussion on how funding will be limited to evidence based practices the federal government approves of in order to focus on the quality of services being provided. Janee said the federal government determines the list of approved EBPs and will continue to add to the list.

There was discussion on how the funding changes are only related to child welfare dollars and will not impact any other funding streams providers utilize.

Janee said that Iowa has already submitted their implementation date as July 1, 2020 to give providers time to be ready for the change and the feds allow 2 years to implement.

There was discussion on looking at what EBPs are currently being in Iowa and what models are needed. There was discussion on how these changes could impact providers who serve out of state kids under the juvenile justice system if they are not an approved placement.

### **Public Comment**

Derrick Willis encouraged the Department to look at social determinants of health in the child welfare system and how they can be used to identify children who may need assistance. Derrick asked Janee if the Department is working on anything related to social determinants and if so if they are partnering with anyone. Janee Harvey said that they are they are currently partnering with the University of Nebraska in regards to the Parent Partner Program which they are trying to make an evidence based program. Janee said they are also partnering with all the state universities.

The commission broke for lunch at 11:35am and reconvened at 1:02pm

### **Mental Health Services through the VA - Lori Reynolds**

Lori Reynolds introduced herself and thanked the Commission for inviting her to speak about mental health services provided at the VA. Lori said that her presentation would be focused on services specific to the central office and to let her know if they would like additional information about other offices. Lori presented a power point on mental health services at the VA.

There was discussion about how many individuals receive mental health services through the VA and eligibility requirements. Lori said that she would send out additional information on the number of individuals and eligibility. Lori said that eligibility for VA services is very complicated and the best way to determine if someone qualifies is to have them contact the VA.

#### **MHDS Report – Laura Larkin**

Laura Larkin introduced herself and said the Department is required by the legislature to submit an implementation status report for mental health services for children and families. Laura presented the report and highlighted the fact that the report contains information on the Children's Well-being Collaboratives and the Children's System State Board. Laura said the report also gives an overview of the Systems of Care programs in Iowa.

#### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **Planning for Future Meetings**

The Commission requested a presentation from the regions on the implementation of complex needs services, an update on Totalcare's rollout, a presentation from Abbe Center and Seasons Center on CCBHC.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Julie Maas.