MHDS COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:
  Thomas Bouska (phone)  John Parmeter
  Thomas Broeker  Rebecca Peterson
  Jody Eaton  Michael Polich (phone)
  Lynn Grobe  Patrick Schmitz
  Kathryn Johnson (phone)  Marilyn Seemann
  Sharon Lambert  Jennifer Sheehan
  Geoff Lauer (phone)

MHDS COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:
  Senator Mark Costello  Senator Liz Mathis
  Marsha Edgington  Brett McLain
  Representative David Heaton  Representative Scott Ourth
  Betty King  Rebecca Schmitz

OTHER ATTENDEES:
  Tammie Amsbaugh  MHDS, Community Services & Planning/CDD
  Theresa Armstrong  MHDS, Bureau Chief, Community Services and Planning
  Bob Bacon  University of Iowa CDD
  Sarah Berndt  Southeast Iowa Link MHDS Region
  Jill Cook  Program Director, Amerigroup
  Julie Jetter  MHDS, Community Services and Planning
  Meghan Klier  Easter Seals of Iowa
  Peter Schumacher  MHDS, Community Services & Planning/CDD
  Ryanne Wood  Southeast Iowa Link MHDS Region

Welcome and Call to Order
Patrick Schmitz called the meeting to order at 9:35 am and led introductions. Quorum was established with eight members present and four participating by phone. Tom Broeker noted that as he sits on the Board of Supervisors for a county within the Southeast Iowa Link MHDS Region, he would abstain from the vote in the Policy and Procedure Manual amendment.

Approval of Minutes
Tom Broeker made a motion to approve the December 1 and December 22, 2016 meeting minutes. John Parmeter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
Southeast Iowa Link Management Plan Amendment: Ryanne Wood and Julie Jetter

Julie Jetter introduced herself and said Southeast Iowa Link (SEIL) was here to ask for a recommendation to Director Palmer on whether to approve the amendment to their management plan.

Ryanne Wood presented a summary of the changes and said the amendments reflect what has been happening on a local level.

Patrick asked about the review and reappointment of the MHDS Region CEO every year, and if it was the intent to rotate CEOs. Ryanne said it was not intended as a way to change the person serving as CEO every year.

Jody Eaton asked about a section that would provide funding for transition services for thirty days after an individual moves out of the region. Jody asked if SEIL had a provision to guard against regions that do not have a similar program for individuals who move into their region. Ryanne answered not all Regions have similar programs, but that she thought having a transition fund was a good practice.

Tom Bouska made a motion to recommend that the amendment be approved by the Director. John Parmeter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Tom Broeker abstaining.

Mental Health Service Systems for Children and Youth – Laura Larkin

Laura Larkin introduced herself and said there were three reports required by the Legislature for 2016. Laura spoke about the implementation report on the state-funded Systems of Care (SoC) programs. There are four SoC programs, Orchard Place in Des Moines, Taneger Place in Cedar Rapids, Orchard Place in Cedar Rapids, and The University of Iowa Community Circle of Care. These programs all receive general funds and serve children with a Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED), and were established before Integrated Health Home (IHH). The SoC programs serve a similar population, but for children who are not Medicaid eligible and also cover “Wrap Around” services which are other non-clinical items or services that help the child be successful in their home and with their family. The programs combined served 469 unduplicated children.

Laura spoke about the outcomes measured by the SoC programs whether the children are staying with their families and improvement in their school functions.

Community Connections Supporting Reentry – Tammie Amsbaugh

Tammie Amsbaugh introduced herself said that Community Connections Supporting Reentry (CCSR) is part of a $3 million, three year grant aimed at reducing recidivism, and increase collaboration with resources in the community. There will be twenty-four total training sessions being done in three rounds. There will be one training in each of Iowa’s eight judicial districts every round.

Tammie said they completed their second round of training in October, and presented the Training Report that includes information from the first two rounds. There have been 770
unduplicated attendees and 224 unique agencies were represented at these sessions. The sessions included corrections staff, community providers, MHDS Region representatives, State agency representatives and people with lived experience.

Tammie said the individuals with lived experience are extremely valuable and have been highly rated in the evaluations. The sessions are designed to promote conversations between the Department of Corrections and the mental health and disability services systems.

Tammie said the resource guide has been a great tool for attendees and anyone interested, and said Peter Schumacher will send the link to it out after the meeting. She also invited the Commission members and anyone interested to attend the sessions. Invitations for the next round of training sessions will be sent near the end of February, and said Peter Schumacher would send them out as well. Laura Larkin said people are welcome to forward the invitations widely to anyone who might be interested.

Jen Sheehan noted that law enforcement participation appeared to be low, and said higher participation from law enforcement could be beneficial. Tammie thanked Jen for that observation, and said that law enforcement and representatives from the Judicial system are certainly welcome to attend, and encouraged everyone to forward invitation to them.

DHS/MHDS Update – Theresa Armstrong
Theresa spoke about the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) project, and said Iowa has a planning grant that runs through June, 2017 but that Iowa was not granted a demonstration grant. There were nineteen applications and eight states received demonstration grants. Theresa said the Department will continue to move forward with their plans for the rest of the fiscal year providing trainings and technical assistance.

Laura Larkin spoke about the other two reports the Department wrote on children’s mental health. The Children’s Mental Health Study included recommendations to build Children’s Wellbeing Collaboratives which would be child and family centered and focused on prevention and early intervention in mental health. Laura said last year’s report focused on prevention services, and this year’s shifted focus to preventing adverse events in the first place.

Laura said there were two grants awarded for children’s mental health crisis services to Seasons Center in Spencer and YSS in Mason City. Contracts for Children’s Well-Being Learning Labs were also awarded to Four Oaks in Cedar Rapids and The University of Iowa Child Specialty Clinics in Iowa City. The Learning Labs will be studying collaborative approaches to meet the needs of children and families.

Theresa spoke about the Autism Support Program (ASP) which provides funding for applied behavioral analysis services for children with autism who are not Medicaid eligible and do not have the service covered by their family health insurance. Theresa said there were changes in code last year that raised the age of eligibility to fourteen years instead of nine, and raised the income limit from 400% of the federal poverty level (FPL) to 500% FPL. The Department received thirty-one applications, of which fifteen were approved. There were three families who re-applied after the code changes, and
were approved under the new rules. Theresa said the program gets an appropriation of $1.7 million and spent $356,000 in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2016, and served thirty-three children. Theresa said the Autism Support Fund gets appropriated a total of $2 million, and the ASP is funded out of that. $250,000 goes to a program to help people become Board Certified Behavioral Analysts (BCBA), and there were two $25,000 grants that went to providers, Foura Oaks in Cedar Rapids and Mercy in Dubuque.

Theresa noted that the Department had recommended convening a workgroup to address the issue of serving individuals with severe multiple complex needs. Director Palmer is conducting a number of focus groups with stakeholders to gather feedback on many different parts of the mental health system. The groups include law enforcement, peer support specialists, family members, providers, and others.

Geoff Lauer asked about Glenwood Resource Center where there were reports of abuse and neglect. Theresa answered that the Department had issued a press release after an investigation at Glenwood, and reported the incidents to the Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA) who would conduct their own investigation. Theresa said Rick Shults is monitoring the situation closely, and the reports from DIA, the press release from the Department are available to the public. Geoff thanked Theresa and asked that the Commission receive information about the incidents for the next Commission meeting.

Jen Sheehan asked if any mental health-related programs would be effected by the budget cuts being discussed. Theresa answered that she did not know, but the Department is looking at programs that are being underspent, or are anticipated to be underspent in order to find places to save money.

Planning for February Meeting
Peter Schumacher said there would be a presentation from the Department of Corrections and an administrative rules package related to the accreditation of mental health crisis service providers.

Patrick Schmitz asked to have an update on IA Health Link.

Sharon asked for information on the focus groups Director Palmer has been convening.

Public comment
Tom Bouska said he spoke to a detention director who said they had seen more youth with mental or behavioral health needs being sent to the detention center. Tom said that this is not an appropriate venue, but other settings are difficult as well. How to serve individuals with significant needs continues to be an area of concern.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Peter Schumacher.