

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Name of Governmental Body: Wisconsin Council on Mental Health		Attending: WCMH members: Sheryl Smith, Crystal Hester, Ana Winton, Holly Audley, Kimberlee Coronado, Jerolynn Scaggs, Carol Keen, Dennis Hanson, Peter Thao, Rick Immler, Dawn Shelton-Williams, Kevin Kallas DHS Staff: Ryan Stachoviak, Teresa Steinmetz, Andrea Jacobson, Rebecca Main, Hayley Young, Kenya Bright, Maddie Johnson, Joannette Robertson, Mike Christopherson Guests: Kia Kjensrud (Wisconsin Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (WIAAP)), Roger Frings (State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (SCAODA) Chair), Ramsey (member of the public), Harold Gates (SCAODA), Jessica Barrickman. Thai Vue (SCAODA)	
Date: 1/20/2021	Time Started: 10:00AM	Time Ended: 3:30PM	
Location: Zoom		Presiding Officer: Dr. Rick Immler	
Minutes			

1. Call Meeting to Order

R. Immler called the meeting to order. S. Smith read the WCMH Guidelines. The Council members and others at the meeting introduced themselves.

C. Keen made a motion to approve the minutes from November 18th, 2020.

D. Hanson seconded this motion.

This motion passed unanimously.

K. Coronado discussed Council attendance and participation. She specifically mentioned that members of the Council are required to participate in a committee (a work group is different than a Committee). R. Immler is drafting a letter to members that have missed a number of meetings.

Announcements

C. Hester mentioned the [NAMI virtual advocacy day](#) is on February 25th from 1-3PM. R. Immler mentioned that he is a member of a volunteer group that focuses on DBT training and to watch for announcements.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2. Discussion of fall presentations, workgroup, recommendations, and next steps

R. Frings and H. Gates from the State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (SCAODA) shared their work on access and equity. C. Hester shared an article in the chat focused on the [difference between equity and equality](#). H. Gates mentioned that the SCAODA workgroup is looking for other members. K. Kjensrud shared another link in the chat focused on the [impact of racism on children](#). M. Johnson shared R. Frings email in the chat box (roger.frings@wisconsin.gov). R. Immler asked about diversity and inclusion efforts through SCAODA. H. Gates mentioned presenting at workshops, providing training on implicit bias, speaking at public hearings, advocating for the behavioral health gaps study, and recruiting new members.

R. Immler began a broader discussion on next steps and mentioned the scope of the block grant funding. A member of the public, Ramsey, mentioned the Governor's Health Equity Council. H. Gates stated that this advisory council is still

being established. The member of the public mentioned that they are a member of the Governor's Council on People with Disabilities which K. Coronado is also a part of. K. Coronado asked if there has been any focus on educational equity work, but H. Gates mentioned the group has not met yet. The member of the public asked for H. Gates' email and he shared his email in the chat (haroldgates101@gmail.com).

T. Vue joined the meeting from SCAODA to share his perspective and shared information on refugee communities. The member of the public shared his email in the chat for H. Gates (leeramsey2@hotmail.com). R. Immler mentioned that the Council will get back to R. Frings with the next steps. R. Immler mentioned potentially having a zoom training focused on Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) standards. H. Gates mentioned that there are some free webinars. The member of the public shared the information on the Governor's Health Equity Council in the chat. R. Frings mentioned there will be overlap with this Council and SCAODA's efforts. K. Kjensrud mentioned in the chat that American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) does training on implicit bias. K. Kjensrud then shared information on implicit bias training and making connections to clinicians. D. Shelton-Williams asked for K. Kjensrud to share her connect information the chat. K. Kjensrud shared her contact information in the chat (Kia Kjensrud, kkjensrud@wiaap.org, 262.751.7003).

R. Immler shared the draft thank you letter to fall presenters and summary of themes from the fall speakers focused on access and equity. K. Kjensrud mentioned in the chat that advocacy groups are supporting Medicaid expansion. She also mentioned Sixteenth Street's Community Health Center's model with mental health services for pediatric patients.

The Council took a 5 minute break.

R. Immler then opened up the conversation to the next steps. C. Hester mentioned in the chat that NAMI Wisconsin supports the expansion of BadgerCare. K. Coronado mentioned the importance of literacy and educational equity.

R. Immler asked the members of the WCMH what their recommendations would be regarding working independently on access and equity or to work with SCAODA. The WCMH has developed this set of recommendations that the group can work off of. SCAODA also seems to have a strong foundation in place. The WCMH could work with SCAODA and then report back to the WCMH. The SCAODA group is meeting monthly so this would be a quick timeframe to move forward with.

Members of the WCMH expressed support for working collaboratively with SCAODA, though it may be helpful to know what options the group has for moving forward as well. Members of the WCMH and guests discussed the natural overlap in the behavioral health system of mental health and substance use and the importance of integrated discussion. J. Barrickman discussed that the WCHSA behavioral health PAC also often takes an integrated approach in their discussions and efforts.

T. Steinmetz mentioned that there are limitations to the support the Bureau can offer. SCAODA's workgroup is working to be self-sufficient.

K. Coronado made a motion to collaborate with SCAODA.

D. Shelton-Williams seconded this motion.

This motion passed unanimously.

K. Coronado asked when there is another Ad Hoc Workgroup and M. Johnson mentioned she will find out when the next meeting occurs. R. Immler asked who is willing to volunteer to serve on this Workgroup and K. Coronado volunteered. R. Immler mentioned also potentially asking for volunteers via email. A. Winton mentioned that the WCMH still needs to decide about having a workgroup and that it is also challenging to volunteer without knowing the dates of the Ad Hoc Workgroup through SCAODA. K. Coronado suggested perhaps each Committee chair sharing a few talking points from their committee. R. Immler mentioned he will work with M. Johnson to send out an email to the Council and Committee chairs regarding the Ad Hoc Workgroup.

R. Immler mentioned that perhaps there should be a brief workgroup focused on this collaboration. M. Johnson asked about the next steps regarding the Access and Equity letter. K. Coronado mentioned she would like to see educational equity as a portion of the letter. R. Immler and K. Coronado agreed to work on a section to add focused on educational equity. A. Winton mentioned the importance of sending out the letter soon.

A. Winton made a motion to send the Themes and Opportunities letter to fall pres enters with the additions from K. Coronado.

D. Shelton Williams seconded this motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

M. Johnson mentioned she is happy to help send out letter once she is sent letter updates. The Council took a lunch break and reconvened at 1:10PM.

R. Immler noted that there will be one addition to the letter.

3. WCMH Committee Reports, Discussion, and Consideration of Motions

Executive Committee

R. Immler mentioned creating a strategic plan for the council as a potential approach for the Executive Committee.

Adult Quality Committee

S. Smith mentioned there is an Adult Quality Committee meeting next week. J. Barrickman asked if she can attend as a member of the public and A. Nobis as well as M. Johnson said yes. R. Immler mentioned that members of the public can also join Committees.

Children and Youth Committee

K. Coronado mentioned that the Children and Youth Committee has not met, but will be meeting on February 4th. She mentioned the focus this year will be on school safety.

R. Main reported on the Criminal Justice Committee and that the Committee is working on creating a draft response to the Blueprint for Change (from the Wisconsin Professional Police Association).

R. Main shared in the chat that the Criminal Justice Committee will be a hosting a presentation from the organization [Stepping Up](#) (national initiative focused on reducing the number of individuals with mental illnesses in jails) on February 10th from 10AM-12PM.

Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC)

C. Hester mentioned the discussion of the Access & Equity Letter as well as a presentation on DBT. She also discussed that equitable requirement was discussed at the meeting as well as the attack on the U.S. Capitol since this event impacts individuals with mental illness.

C. Hester provided background on the motion brought forth by the Legislative and Policy Committee. Currently, the Legislature does not allow virtual public comment, so this letter is asking the Legislature implement virtual public comment for vulnerable populations who cannot attend meetings in-person. C. Hester also mentioned having additional ways to submit public comment if individuals do not have access to technology.

R. Immler asked if the letter needs to be signed by the chair and R. Stachoviak said yes.

The motion from the LPC was brought to the full Council for a vote. The motion would send a letter to the Legislature advising that options for virtual public comment are created because of the safety concerns for the pandemic.

The motion passed unanimously and the finalized letter will be sent to the legislature.

K. Coronado asked about the Blueprint for change and C. Hester mentioned that they will be monitoring the Taskforce on Policing.

Nominating Committee

K. Coronado mentioned that the Nominating Committee meets monthly and they are open to having more individuals join them. She also mentioned they are working to streamline the Council application process. There were two paths to apply to the Council. K Coronado mentioned the Committee has met with the Governor's Office and that there is a new Council Website. K. Coronado also mentioned the pending appointment of J. Barrickman. K. Coronado also talked about the state appointed position and the Governor's Office wanting to support the creation of a diverse Council. K. Coronado also mentioned looking at the bylaws which includes having Council members attend a Committee and that the workgroups are different from the Committees.

R. Immler stated that T. Steinmetz and H. Audley can help with seeking Medicaid representation. R. Immler said that a letter should be sent from the chair to the other departments and asked if there was a past letter used. R. Stachoviak mentioned there may be a letter, but there wasn't something specific he thought of.

C. Hester shared this correction in the zoom chat stating that the Task Force mentioned prior is the Task Force on Racial Disparities and that one of the [subcommittees focuses on law enforcement](#) which was formed in response to the police shooting in Kenosha.

The Council discusses the second chair position of the Council which has not yet been filled. The two potential nominees for the position (L. Harrigan and May yer Thao) were not present. R. Immler asked K. Coronado to share the responsibilities of the co-chair position with the Council. K. Coronado stated that if the chair cannot attend a meeting, the co-chair runs the meeting. K. Coronado asked about the next steps and R. Stachoviak mentioned that these individuals should be present in order to attend. A. Winton suggested adding a note in the email asking folks to attend if they are interested in this chair position. K. Coronado asked if anyone wanted to come forward today.

K. Coronado said that this point can be tabled. R. Immler mentioned that non-state staff have served on committees, but it may be challenging for state staff to serve on Committees. R. Immler mentioned looking at what Council members have Committee assignments and what Council members do not. R. Immler said this letter could be sent to these Council members.

4. Division of Care and Treatment Services (DCTS) Briefing and UpdatesHolly Audley and Teresa Steinmetz

A. Jacobson was present to share updates for T. Steinmetz.

H. Audley mentioned that DHS Secretary Andrea Palm will be working in President Biden's administration. The interim DHS Secretary replacement is Karen Timberlake who will be with the department for 6 months. Additional updates were that more employee positions are being added to the Bureau including Budget and Policy Analyst positions.

DCTS staff then gave updates on COVID-19 outbreaks in the care and treatment facilities. There has been an audit to assess how effectively policies on masks and social distancing have been put forward at the facilities. There was unfortunately 1 COVID-19 death at a facility and there are currently no COVID-19 cases at the facilities. All interested staff at the facilities are being vaccinated. After the vaccine rollout, the facilities still plan to test staff and use strong PPE protocols.

R. Immler asked if the policy analysts will look at overuse of WI state facilities. H. Audely stated yes and that the new office will try to work with R. Stachoviak's section. R. Immler mentioned there is a big increase in the use of the Winnebago facility. R. Immler said many individuals in institutions could be served from an outpatient facility or their conditions could be prevented.

A. Winton asked about vaccines for individuals who are 65 and older and if these vaccines will be available. H. Audley mentioned that getting these vaccines will take some time. H. Audley mentioned that this population needs to be prioritized. R. Immler said that Winnebago staff have to deal with a lot.

A. Jacobson mentioned the DHS 75 administrative rule will move to the Governor's Office and legislature by Feb 6th. Additionally, the emergency COVID-19 federal grant has been extended until May 2022 and this effort is led by R. Stachoviak. A. Jacobson also mentioned that residential substance use disorders will be covered by Medicaid. A. Jacobson stated that the AHAM training was posted and 700 individuals may attend.

K. Coronado shared two articles in the zoom chat, one focused on how the pandemic has impacted [children's mental health](#) and [survey responses from families and children impacted by COVID-19](#).

A. Jacobson mentioned there are still some staff vacancies, but there are also new hires, including a recent hire for the State Opioid Response Grant. R. Immler mentioned that ASAM is a much better tool than UPC. A. Jacobson responded that the Bureau is working with CUPH on using ASAM.

5. Call for future WCMH agenda items

K. Coronado mentioned that she shared two articles in the chat which focus on system issues with mental health. R. Immler asked if K. Coronado is connected to a health system. K. Coronado mentioned that her family has private insurance and used Medicaid. K. Coronado shared about her family's experience. The Council then discussed focusing on issues related to Medicaid services. H. Audley shared this link in the zoom chat about [vaccines for individuals who are 65 and older](#). The Council also discussed the budget as a future agenda item.

6. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:30PM.

Prepared by: Maddie Johnson on 7/12/2021.