

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Instructions: [F-01922A](#)

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| Name of Governmental Body: Wisconsin Council on Mental Health | | Attending: Members of the WCMH Nominating Committee in Attendance: Karen Odegaard (DHS), Kimberlee Coronado (Interim WCMH Chair/Vice Chair), Ana Winton (Second Vice Chair), Nic Dibble, Svea Erlandson, Sheryl Smith, Mary Madden, Mark Eisner, Richard Ferrari-Traner, Phung Nguyen, Tim Peerenboom, Jessica Boling, Brian Michel, Kemba Banyard DHS Staff: Hannah Foley, Teresa Steinmetz, HJ Waukau, Holly Audley, Pam Lano, Kimberly Dawson, Ryan Stachoviak, Langeston Hughes, Jamie McCarville Guests: Sarah Salisott, Kali Daughtery |
| Date: 1/17/2024 | Time Started: 10:00 AM | Time Ended: 2:31 PM |
| Location: Zoom | | Presiding Officer: Kimberlee Coronado |

Minutes

Meeting of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH)
January 17th, 2024
10:00 AM-3:30 PM
Meeting held via Zoom

Call to Order

K. Coronado called meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Read WCMH guidelines for conduct of meeting

S. Smith read the WCMH guidelines.

Review and approval of the minutes from November 15th, 2023.

M. Madden moved to approve.

S. Erlandson seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously and minutes were approved.

Announcements: Opportunity for Council members to make general announcement

B. Michel shared that the Mental Health of America Suicide Prevention Conference will be occurring on May 1-2, 2024, with a preconference on April 30th. Michel also shared that Mental Health America, and the University of Wisconsin will be putting on a Warrior Summit at UW Green Bay on Monday, May 13th. The summit will address veteran suicide prevention, safe storage programs, and other topics related to mental health.

K. Coronado shared that a Childrens Mental Health Meeting is occurring on February 2nd from 10-2 PM regarding Infant Mental Health.

S. Smith shared that the Mental Health Partnership is meeting on January 31st and actively welcomes new partners.

State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (SCAODA) Updates

C. Barnard, who attended the December 1st SCAODA Meeting, was unable to attend the WCMH meeting but shared her notes with H. Foley. Barnard shared that during the Public Comment, a member of the public talked about the proposed

Adolescent Recovery & Wellness Center within the Town of Cassian, which is objecting to the project that will not only have native youth but also those who are not. Information can be found on the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council website (<https://www.glitc.org/>). The second member of the public wanted to inform the group that Arbor Place is adding a new facility for women who are pregnant with substance use disorder (SUD) challenges.

Barnard's notes stated: "A presentation was shared on the Vital Strategies, which is: Bloomberg Philanthropies Overdose Prevention Initiative for Wisconsin and Regional Sovereign Nations. The program includes:

(1) Increase community mobilization to help reduce overdose deaths

- The Initiative contracted with Legal Action of Wisconsin (LAW) to assist people who use drugs to address disability-based discrimination and other civil legal barriers in achieving wellness goals and reducing overdose risks.
- Vital Strategies is honored to support PULSE, a group of people who use drugs who will use their voices to mobilize and build their community in Wisconsin. PULSE will be a voice to advise government and organizations on effective strategies to reduce overdose deaths.
- Vital Strategies is organizing a series of trainings for defense attorneys to improve support for people charged with drug induced homicide and probation violations that result in increased punishment.

(2) Increase harm reduction services/awareness in and informed by Black neighborhoods in Milwaukee

- The Northside Harm Reduction Coalition developed a document outlining the initial harm reduction and treatment needs for the Black community.
- The VOICES Survey, a survey among people who use drugs in Milwaukee County, completed data collection in April. Results and recommendations for action are currently being disseminated.
- Samad's House, who specializes in supporting women in their recovery in Milwaukee's north side, continues its Harm Reduction Ambassadors Program, which empowers women with lived experience to disseminate naloxone, fentanyl test strips, and information and referrals for treatment within the 53206 zip code in Milwaukee, which is experiencing high rates of overdose with few harm reduction services.
- In partnership with local radio stations, Vital supported harm reduction messages for Black communities on the use of naloxone and fentanyl test strips between August and October 2023.

(3) Increase access to harm reduction in rural and hard- hit communities, including sovereign nations

- Solutions Recovery in Winnebago County, a recovery organization that uses a mutual aid/peer support approach, is strengthening its support to people leaving jail/prison who are not ready for abstinence or treatment. Via an app, people can receive 24/7 peer support and referral information for harm reduction services.
- Sixteenth Street Community Health Center in Milwaukee is preparing to expand its existing syringe services program to operate 5 days/week and incorporate community-based activities that center the perspectives of people who use drugs.
- In addition to their peer-facilitated harm reduction supply delivery program in 4 northern counties, Bad River Tribe Harm Reduction Program is working with NEXT Distro to promote and provide free harm reduction supplies to individuals via mail.
- Rebalanced-Life Wellness Association integrated naloxone and fentanyl test strip distribution, harm reduction education, and treatment referrals into its existing primary health care services embedded in Black barbershops in Dane County (a county where Black people are dying from drug overdoses at three times the rate of the general population).
- Vital Strategies is in the exploratory phase of developing a guaranteed income (GI) pilot for pregnant and parenting people who use drugs.

(4) Partner with DHS to optimize funding/programming to reduce overdose deaths

- Vital Strategies supports a monthly Community of Practice for any public health vending machine implementer (DHS and any county-funded partner) in WI and the regional sovereign nations. The virtual meetings allow implementers to learn from each other as well as receive implementation guidance from an expert facilitator. In addition, Vital established a list serv allowing implementers and the expert facilitator to post resources, questions, and answers between meetings.
- Vital Strategies hired two staff embedded within DHS. The first position is a Funding Technical Advisor who helps ensure that harm reduction principles and data-informed decisions are integrated into DHS' approach to community awareness, anti-stigma efforts, overdose prevention strategies, and approaches to low-threshold treatment and recovery efforts.
- Upon Vital Strategies' request and in partnership with the University of Wisconsin and DHS, Johns Hopkins analyzed Medicaid data to understand medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) uptake and retention to identify trends by race, age, gender, and location to help focus efforts to scale MOUD for those who want it. The results will be presented to DHS by 2024.

They also shared statistics including Milwaukee County being the 8th highest country in fatal overdose deaths with blacks dying at a rate three times faster than whites.

The second presentation was on Psychedelics for Substance Use Disorders & the research being done at UW-Madison. They provided a detailed overview on LSD (psilocybin), Ecstasy (MDMA), & Ketamine & how they worked in the brain. Their philosophy was psychedelics in recovery = neuroplasticity & can be the gateway to psychotherapy for some individuals" (Barnard, 2024).

Public Comment: The Council will accept comments from the public relating to any WCMH business

None.

Guest Speaker: Leilani Nino, Criminal Justice Coordinator with the Department of Health Services

Leilani Nino is a Licensed Clinical Substance Abuse Counselor and independent clinical supervisor and intoxicated driver program approved assessor. Nino oversees grants that are processed with the Department of Corrections (DOC) and works directly with numerous counties across the state to provide education and training. During Nino's presentation, she shared that rehabilitation and reentry efforts need to/should start from the moment an individual enters the criminal justice system to help prevent recidivism.

P. Nguyen asked a question regarding best practices wondering if the best practices were required within the criminal justice system.

L. Nino replied that best practices are requested and while they are unable to require them, training is always provided and there is an interest from mental health professionals to receive training.

K. Coronado asked a clarifying question regarding death/overdoses from individuals exiting jail.

L. Nino stated that she can find data to share with the Council.

K. Coronado also asked if Nino could share what, in her opinion, the biggest challenges the criminal justice system faces and if the WCMH could assist with any of these challenges.

Nino replied that staffing shortages are the most difficult to navigate around. Nino stated that she enjoys developing relationships with counties, sheriffs, and jails but this requires time that many professionals do not have with

overburdened workloads. Nino shared that she would love to be able to increase mental health services within jails, including an increase in mental health staff within jails/prisons.

K. Coronado shared a video link with the Council entitled: *End The Lockdowns and Justice Reinvestment Community Forum - with Milwaukee Turners, WISDOM, MICAH*. For those interested, you can watch the replay here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0vCluwRmE-w>

The video presentation, hosted by the Milwaukee Turners, WISDOM, and Milwaukee Inner City Congregations Allied for Hope (MICAH), showcases Milwaukee elected officials and shares knowledge learned about WISDOM's End The Lockdowns Campaign while providing input on transformational justice priorities in Wisconsin. "WISDOM's *End The Lockdowns Campaign* seeks to raise awareness on the detrimental effects of lockdowns to people who are incarcerated in Wisconsin's prisons and their loved ones, urging Governor Tony Evers to use his authority to take action. It aims to close prisons, reduce the prison population, and reinvest spending into community resources that decrease crime and strengthen communities" (WISDOM, 2024).

Five-minute break until 11:35.

WCMH Committee and Workgroup Reports, Discussion, and Consideration of Motions

Executive Committee

The January Executive Committee meeting was not able to be held due to a lack of quorum. K. Coronado shared that quorum is of utter importance so that meetings can occur, and discussions can be had. Coronado asked Council members to consider trying new Committees in 2024 to become more involved and find a fit that works best for them and their interests.

M. Madden reminded Council members that committee membership is a requirement for Council membership.

N. Dibble suggested that by the March WCMH meeting, Council members who are not part of a committee try one out by the March meeting.

J. Boling shared that there was a lack of onboarding education and that she was unaware when she first joined the Council that joining a committee was a requirement. Boling shared a suggestion that this requirement be a reminder.

A. Winton asked a question regarding K. Coronado's quorum requirements as she is the chair for three committees.

R. Stachowiak shared that he can look at Roberts Rules to figure out the nuances of Kimberlee's involvement. Suggested that we make a change to the bylaws and Hannah will suggest to the EC that we can bring back to the Council in March.

K. Coronado asked a question regarding hosting a "table" at conferences to advertise the WCMH. T. Steinmetz (BPTR) shared that she will talk to the DHS to gain clarification.

Nominating Committee

S. Salisott will be joining the Council and will fill a Provider vacancy. Salisott introduced herself and shared that she is incredibly interested in the Council. Salisott shared that her desire to join the Council is to support the parents of children with SMI/SED and encourage the education of parenting strategies and is interested in joining either the Legislative & Policy Committee and/or the Children, Youth, and Family committee.

K. Coronado made a motion to recommend Sarah Salisott for a nomination to the WCMH. The WCMH approved S. Salisott's recommendation for appointment unanimously.

The nomination will be shared with DHS and the Governor's Office.

A Winton asked if someone would be interested in the Governor's Council on People with Disabilities to assist K. Coronado in her responsibilities. If interested, please reach out to Coronado.

Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC)

LPC started looking intentionally at the SP and identified the items specific to the LPC and break into subcommittees. Looked at moving forward housing recommendations in relation to supportive housing. Looking at additional legislators, Sen. Jesse James spoke with the committee in the fall, the psychiatric residential treatment facility to fill a gap of treatment services that causes many youths to be placed out of state and will continue to educate throughout the year. L&P is looking to revamp their application process and shared that there is an influx of interested members.

K. Coronado asked a clarifying question regarding the Housing motion and if that will be brought to the full council?

B. Michel shared that this can be brought to the March full council meeting for members to review the motion for recommendations and move forward with a vote to pass to legislators. The LPC meetings are held the second Thursday of every month starting at 12:30 with the next meeting being held on March 14th.

Criminal Justice Committee

Rebecca Wigg-Ninham was voted in as new co-chair in December 2023. The next committee meeting will meet on February 15th from 10-12 and voted to change their meeting dates from Wednesdays to Thursdays. We are very interested in the National Center for State Courts Guide to Mental Health and the Courts. K. Coronado approved this change in co-chair.

Children and Youth Committee (CYC)

K. Coronado shared the committee is looking at their strategic plan to see where alignment is with Governors Playbook. Coronado also shared that the Office of Children's MH had their annual report that was featured on Good Morning America on 1/17/24. More information can be found at:
<https://children.wi.gov/Documents/ResearchData/OCMH%202023%20Annual%20Report.pdf>

The CYC meets every second Thursday from 12-2:30 every other month but are actively looking at their 2024 schedule.

Adult Quality Committee (AQC)

S. Smith shared that the committee met on January 8th and had a presentation from Alison Weber from DHS on CLAS. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released the Enhanced National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) in Health and Health Care along with a downloadable blueprint to offer guidance and implementation strategies, *A Blueprint for Advancing and Sustaining CLAS Policy and Practice* (The Blueprint). Visit the *Minority Health Program's CLAS* page for resources and more (<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/minority-health/resources/cultural-language.htm>).

DCTS is requiring CLAS standards for all individuals who have a contract with DCTS. Lastly, the committee voted to change their name to Access and Quality Committee. This change was approved. The committee meets every second with their next meeting on Monday, February 19th from 10-11:30.

Lunch Break

The Council broke for lunch until 1.

Updates from the Department of Health Services

Updates from the Secretary's Office

HJ Waukau joined the group to share updates regarding the Crisis Now legislation. Waukau shared that the Senate has voted and moved the bill along. Crisis Now info (ADD HERE, HAN). Meetings with Speakers Office are occurring to determine how the bill would impact crisis hostels in the state, but the process is moving forward in a positive and productive manner.

K. Odegaard shared that DHS, in collaboration with a few other state agencies, applied to participate in the State Policy Lab. Wisconsin was chosen as one of eight states to co-create an actionable road map regarding children's mental health and to create a plan to expand services for children's behavioral health. The policy lab is being put on Health Management Associates (HMA) in partnership with Annie E. Casey Foundation, Casey Family Programs, National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD), the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA), National Association of State Medicaid Directors and the American Public Human Services Association (APHSA) and Centene Foundation.

The Policy Lab will support participating state teams to co-create an actionable roadmap related to:

- Cross sectoral governance around children's behavioral health
- Identify multi-sectoral financing strategies
- A plan to expand service array for children's behavioral health in their state in partnership with participating agencies

To learn more about the Children's Behavioral State Policy Lab, please visit:

<https://www.healthmanagement.com/blog/collaborating-to-improve-childrens-behavioral-health/>

Odegaard also shared that DHS is starting to look ahead to the 2025-27 biannual budget and encouraged the Council to consider their recommendations for the budget. Odegaard shared that these Council recommendations would be helpful to have by May 2024. The Governors' State of the State is planned for 01/23 to hear from Governor Evers and his plans for the year. The Governor's Office is currently working on an appointment for the Council from the Department of Justice. More updates to come.

Updates from the Division of Care and Treatment Services (DCTS)

H. Audley shared updates on personnel changes within the department. Audley shared that the department converted four of the six sections to have unit supervisors and shared that Amber Colby joined the department as the new Opioid Response Unit Supervisor, Heather Carlson is the new Mental Health Section Supervisor (overseeing Community based adult programs), Karen Bitner is the new Wrap-Around Coordinator, and second interviews for Harm Reduction Unit Supervisor will be occurring on 1/18/24.

H. Audley shared that they are still awaiting on a Director for Sand Ridge Secure Treatment Center in Mauston.

Updates from the Division of Medicaid Services (DMS)

P. Lano shared personnel updates including the appointments of Bill Hannah as the new Medicaid Director role and Amanda Dryer as the new Deputy.

Lano shared that DMS is launching intensive outpatient care with the original intention to be within the substance use space but is being retooled as an integrative level of care. Lano shared that her team is looking ahead to what Medicaid coverage will look like as soon as changes launch. In June 2022, Collaborative Care Model billing codes were launched. Feedback was received that the codes were helpful but there were not enough psychiatrists to cover the need. However, the billing codes are being altered to become more inclusive and incorporate more mental health support in medical care.

CMS pushed out a new place of service code, Place of Service 27, that includes an outreach site or on the street. This allows services to be rendered for individuals that were not previously covered. This includes childbirth, behavioral

health outreach, and crisis services. This code was added into the system in October 2023 and the team is actively working to assess this option.

Discussion on Restructuring the WCMH Chair System & Plans for WCMH in 2024

A hybrid option for WCMH meetings will be available for all interested members at Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA) in Madison, WI for March, May, and July meeting. The Council is open to discussion for meetings to be held elsewhere in the state.

Call for future WCMH agenda items

K. Odegaard shared that the Nominating Committee plans to have a spring orientation and suggested that at the March meeting, the council could have a Council-wide orientation regarding the role of the Council and the Mental Health Block Grant.

Adjourn

A. Winton motioned to adjourn the meeting.

S. Smith seconded the motion.

Members vote to adjourn, the meeting adjourned at 2:31 PM.

Prepared by: Hannah Foley on 3/12/2024.

These minutes are in draft form. They will be presented for approval by the governmental body on: September 18, 2023