

# Hennepin County Children's Mental Health Collaborative (CMHC)

## Governance Committee Meeting Notes

Wednesday, July 15, 2020, 2:30 – 4:00 pm

### Mission Statement

*The CMHC provides a forum for a diverse and representative group of system stakeholders to influence the development and ongoing operation of an accessible and effective children's mental health service system within Hennepin County. The CMHC promotes innovative service development and continuous quality improvement in the children's mental health system by embracing the system of care principles and available research on children's mental health services.*

**Voting Governance Committee Members** (Quorum 12): Pat Dale, Liz Gronert, Jenna Mitchler, Krista Phillips, Cindy Slowiak, Rochelle Cox, Adesola Jaiyesimi, Aric Jensen, Nita Kumar, Stacy McClendon, Mark Sander, Debbie Wells, Amie Wold

**CMHC Coordination Team:** Etonde Awaah, Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn, Cheryl Holm-Hanson, Margaret Sullivan

**Guests:** Julie Atella, Raven Baker, Peggy Larkin, Anna VonReuden

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes & Agenda** (Pat)

Pat took group through approving meeting minutes and agenda once quorum (50%) was reached.

- *Laura: Asked to add on a report & approval of a scholarship request during Committee Updates. Stacy motioned to approve agenda as amended, Jenna seconded. All approved.*
- *Aric motioned to approve minutes, Stacy seconded. All approved.*

### **Committee Updates**

- *Margaret shared update from PCLG:*
  - *PCLG continues to do support groups; diverse group of new and returning members. Parents are still facing a lot of challenges – closed services, finding care for child, housing/jobs for older children, telehealth, taking care of their own mental wellness, etc.*
  - *A lot of their Catalysts were working with neighborhood groups ahead of the release of the Family Fund. They've been helping families know learn about it and apply – it's been inspiring to watch. Margaret is working with Co-Coordinator to make sure responses from PCLG are fair & consistent.*
  - *Met with members of Crisis Team at Hennepin County. Crisis Team started by sharing update on usage. They're looking at restarting their stabilization COPE program that they had to put on hold due to staffing. PCLG stressed the importance of that program for families, concern about staffing issues, etc. to the Crisis Team during the meeting.*
- *Mark shared update from SBMH:*
  - *Have a 2 hour meeting scheduled on July 28<sup>th</sup> – the day after the Governor/MDE is supposed to announce the plan for the fall. Many people think we'll be coming back in hybrid model; providers are wanting to think creatively about how to do that. This summer is a little better than previous summers due to telehealth, but agencies are still open to referrals.*
- *Laura shared recent Scholarship Request:*
  - *Scholarship Committee reviewed request from Watercourse Counseling. They are sponsoring a training (happening this week) and requested \$1000 in support. This is CMHC's first request for a training grant in 2020. Cost to organization to offer this training is \$12,500; it'll help cover some of their costs. It's on Synergetic Play Therapy. Scholarship Committee recommends we approve the request.*
  - *Peggy moves to approve the scholarship grant; Pat seconds. No questions. All in favor, no nays. Request approved.*

### **Update from District 287** (Etonde/Julie/Amie)

*Etonde: Last month, Governance Committee approved District 287's budget request & proposal for their Diploma On! Project. Pat suggested that they share more about this month so the Governance Committee could have a better sense of the work District 287 does related to this project. Unfortunately, the project lead, Tina Houck, could not attend, but she submitted a statement for the Governance Committee in her absence.*

Etonde read the statement.

Julie: 2019 report will be ready in the next week or so and will be up on their website. Here are some highlights:

- In the past, there wasn't a way of tracking who had go through their program & go on to get their GED or diploma. Diploma On! Is now using a more sophisticated data collecting system to they can track that. 55 students that had been referred in years past had gone on to receive GED or diploma. Not to say only 55 students have received it. Exciting to see this new information captured.
- Students that come into the program are referred in various ways. Can look at of those referred how many are enrolled/attending. Over 40% are currently enrolled.
- Diploma On! asks students what the barriers are to attending school: mental health & unstable housing were the most reported barriers.
- Referrals have largely been social workers, but there are others as well. Most students come from Osseo, ISD 287 & Robbinsdale school districts.

Amie: When kids drop out, it's very hard to re-engage them in the school community. Often going to ALC or another district is the way to get them graduate. Program creates that small, close knit community that helps them reengage in that school setting.

### **DOCCR Additional Budget Request and Approval**

Adesola: A couple of years ago, DOCCR created a trauma program for black male youth living in North Minneapolis and surround areas. It's been successful in juvenile probation in referrals and generally a successful program. There's been some conversation about creating a similar group in South Minneapolis. Urban Ventures already has a group for adult men and wanted to expand to male youth. They're moving forward with it – Project Nehemiah: consists of two 90-minute classes a week, for young males age 15-19 for 12 weeks. One of the things they found really helpful in Nia was working with Wilder to establish evaluation models and help determine well-being indicators. Wilder has done a great job with pre/post testing, interviews with parents, program staff and probation stuff, etc. – basically everything related to evaluation. Request is to do something similar with Project Nehemiah. A total of \$7000 added to the request that's already been approved. Historically, the CMHC has funded evaluation before.

Julie: Shared previous year (2019) report. Evaluation has tried to learn how program has helped participants with identifying & coping with trauma/stress in their lives, connecting with culture, etc. In Y2, they've gotten great feedback from participants & those referring. Plan to continue to do data collection, being mindful of COVID-19.

Laura: Shared the budget. There are plenty of resources available to cover this cost (about \$524K left in budget).

Etonde: Do you expect the request for evaluation funding to come every year for this duration of the project?

- Adesola: Hadn't thought about it. Since they have to submit a new request every year, they'd probably would assess at that point and include it if needed.

Pat led group through process to approve additional funding request. Krista motioned, Aric seconded. No more questions. All in favor, none opposed. Motion/request approved.

### **Update from Co-Coordinator on Collaborative Activities & Request for Participation on Ad Hoc Committees**

The Collaborative has a lot going on right now! Etonde walks group through various items for update/discussion. We are proposing the establishment of ad hoc committees for the next several weeks to help carry this work forward. All Governance Committee members are asked to join at least one. **(Use the chat box to sign-up.)**

Cheryl and Laura briefly went over their ad hoc committees

- Children's Mental Health Dashboard
  - Cheryl has been working on pulling together information we have on children in Hennepin County on their mental health + well-being. This is a core component of the work we're doing for CMH Dashboard. Want to make data driven decisions; information on children's mental health in the county is rather fragmented.

- *They've been working on an initial data dashboard. Going to be fairly flaws to start, but intent is to grow and make it a dynamic, living resource that's used to share program/policy work.*
- *Ask is to have a group to come together a few times that can come together, offer feedback, provide ways to strengthen it. Plan on having a couple Zoom meetings. For those who are data inclined, it'll be interesting. For those who aren't, she really needs them as well. Would like a good cross section of folks (parents, program staff, etc.)*
- *Governance Committee members that signed up: **Cindy, Liz G., Mark, & Jenna***
- **CMHC Statement on Minneapolis Uprising and Beyond**
  - Last month we talked some about what has happened over the last several weeks. Made a decision to put forward making a statement. Had some discussion about making a statement about equity AND action.
  - Anticipate trying to get this done within the next couple months. BIPOC provider group also discussed at their last gathered and offered a lot of amazing thoughts. Laura is looking for
  - Cindy: Asked what specifically the group would be working on.
    - Laura: To create a statement, and put forward in our statement the ways in which we think the Collaborative & CMH providers can actively address concerns in our community where police brutality is disproportionately common.
  - Adesola: Who is the audience?
    - Laura: We have to figure that out. Anna VonRueden talked last meeting about some of the work they've been doing already. Laura wants to bring provider group together to talk about actual action.
  - Cindy: Hearing her framing this as a response to policy brutality. She recalls the frame we want to use is on structural racism + impact of people of color. Didn't know we landed on something.
    - Laura: Went back to the minutes to inform her broad framing. She understand the sensitivity around this.
  - Governance Committee members that signed up: **Amie, Stacy, Pat**

#### *Etonde shares updates on COVID-19 Relief Funds*

- **SIGNIFICANT interest in Family Relief Fund. Currently the requests surpass the \$50,000 allocated to this fund. Only a few provider applications have come in thus far. Contract Manager has stated we can combine the funds into one large pot in order to have more flexibility with distribution.**
  - *Desola: When do we anticipate provider fund being closed?*
    - *Etonde: it will be open until all money has been allocated.*
  - **Does Governance Committee want to combine the funding pools and reallocate funds? [VOTE]**
    - Desola: Seems to be a lot of support from private organizations & government agencies going towards providers. Doesn't know there is a lot of support for families that isn't overwhelming and rigorous in nature. Her recommendation would be to reallocate some more funding to Family Fund.
    - Mark: Max award for provider fun is \$5000 per organization. What he's heard from school-based mental health agencies: a number of them have either laid staff off, are doing a number of rolling furloughs, or laying staff off over the summer. Not that he's disagreeing with need to support families; agrees that a lot of the support available for families has strings, so our fund is important.
    - Laura: We received a call from DHS from this proposal. It is an allowable use of LCTS dollars. There may be some questions from neighboring counties. Going to work with FSCs to make sure we're not duplicating resources.
    - *Desola motioned to combine & reallocate, Aric seconds. 13 votes to approve.*
  - **If so, how much more money should be allocated to Relief Fund? [VOTE]**
    - *Pat asked for motion to approve a dollar amount to move.*
    - *Krista made recommendation to move \$50,000 from provider fund into the family fund. (Family: 100K (could fully fund 200 families); Provider: 150K (could fully fun 30 providers)). Raven seconds.*
      - *Peggy: Asked how many providers had applied? Etonde said about seven.*

- *Pat: There will be more applications coming from the providers; his preference would be that we don't do all the of the adjustment at this point. Thinks families are more capable of responding more quickly; organizations have had to respond to RFPs from other entities very quickly & recently, so their capacity is a little tapped.*
- *Vote: 12 votes in favor of reallocation proposed by Krista.*
- *Laura: Wants to know about how specific we should be to LouAnn?*
  - *Etonde: Thinks we should keep it as broad as possible.*
  - *Amie: Likes the idea of reassessing at a later date.*
  - *Cindy: LouAnn's advice was more like what Etonde was saying. "250K to support providers and families."*
  - *Adesola: Does what we decided today have to be reflected in the contract exactly?*
    - *Laura: We'll put some definition without defining it explicitly in the contract. We'll use the new allocations as targets in practice.*
- *Rochelle: Asked about making an amendment to what we voted on to enable us to continue shifting funds around without having to go through approval process again.*
  - *Laura: Wants to come back the group because it's the first time we've done this. She'd be hesitant to go beyond these dollar amounts without coming back to the Committee.*
  - *Rochelle: The money is specific and we want to use it for that. As time goes on, it becomes less aligned with the vision. That was her point – to make sure it's used for its specific purpose rather than using it for something else.*
- *Due to the volume of applications that have come in, proposed plan is to close submission period early next week. (Will announce to listserv & on website a few days prior.)*
  - *Etonde: Wants vote on closing it early next week (suggested end of day Monday).*
  - *Pat: Fine with closing, but give more time. Like a week.*
  - *Pat: Motions to close Family Fund on Wednesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm. All in favor, none opposed.*
  - *Etonde: Asked those present to not share this until we share it broadly. Will announce tomorrow and reach out to review committee members tomorrow as well.*
- *Etonde: need several people to volunteer to be on review committee. First task is to develop review criteria, second to review application submissions. There's pressure to turn around decisions pretty quickly because families are waiting on the other end.*
  - *Governance Committee members that signed up: **Krista, Peggy, Aric, & Margaret***
  - *Additional volunteers include: **Melodie Hansen***

*Etonde stated she would contact the Governance Committee members who had not signed up yet to have them sign up.*

## **Adjourn**

### **2020 Governance Meeting Schedule: 2:30 – 4:00 pm**

Wednesday, August 19  
 Wednesday, September 16  
 Wednesday, October 21  
 Monday, November 16  
 Wednesday, December 16