

Regional LAC Meeting Minutes

March 27, 2023; 1:00pm – 2:00pm; In Person at Isanti County Family Services and via Zoom

Present:

Escola, John	TSA	Kohlgraf, Char	Mille Lacs County
Filmore, Elizabeth	RSI	Lind, Nicole	RSI
Flack, Leon	UCare	Mikrot, Lisa	Safe Transitions
Harper, Mike	Rise	Wright, Ashley	R7E Consumer Rep & WITW
Heacock, Katie	Kanabec County	Lussier Erickson Katrina	Empower
Ihrke, Kelly	Chisago County	Jiang, Jennifer,	BCBS
K., Joel	Pine County LAC	Selander, Arlene	Nystrom
Kemen, Angie	Chisago County		

Joel K. opened with introductions and attendees shared their garden plans.

Governing Board Report

- Counties are working on a proposal for a Homeless Prevention Aid Grant.
- The Region is working on an RFP to hire a housing navigator.

Consumer Rep Report, Ashley Wright

- Brought a peer to the Governing Board Meeting to share her story.
- Ashley will meet with peers to learn their stories and share the information.

Wellness in the Woods (WITW), Ashley Wright

- WITW is hosting cultural bingo tonight. This Native American-featured bingo is the first of five events they will offer through the end of 2023.
- Calendar of events on www.mnwwitw.org
- Upcoming events include: skating event, a recovery walk in Cambridge, and three Virtual Peer Support Plus events – all are on website. The Five Stages Events and World of Reentry are for substance use recovery and justice involved individuals.

Chisago LAC, Kelly Ihrke

The meeting on May 17 will feature a speaker from NAMI. The meeting will be from 1-2:30pm.

Pine County LAC, Joel

- Meeting on the second Tuesday each month at the Pine City Senior Center and Drop in Center
- Alexa Roberts spoke on dental information.
- Lisa Stoffel is the new coordinator for the Drop in Center. She and Joel attended Mental Health Day on the Hill. He encourages everyone to attend in the future. Lots of walking throughout the day, lots of stairs. No local news coverage.

BCBS, Jennifer Jiang

- Starting May 12, 2023, counties and providers will need to have completed an Assurance Statement with DHS ([DHS-6806-ENG Telehealth Provider Assurance Statement](#)) to continue to provide services via telehealth but you no longer will be able to do it via **only** audio (phone). Blue Cross would not support telephone **only** contacts after 5/11/2023 to be consistent with DHS. They will continue to support ITV if an assurance statement is completed. This change is only outlined for TCM at this point, please note it includes BOTH children and adults.
 - Child Welfare Targeted Case Management (CW-TCM)
 - Children's Mental Health Targeted Case Management (CMH-TCM)
 - Adult Mental Health Targeted Case Management (AMH-TCM)
 - Vulnerable Adult/Developmental Disability Targeted Case Management (VA/DD-TCM)
- Danielle Jeffrey will be the Blue Cross representative for Region 7E moving forward. Feel free to contact her with questions or concerns at 651-662-0625, and/or danielle.jeffrey@bluecrossmn.com.

Lighthouse, Amy Boldt, reported they have an opening in adult DBT group – please send referrals to Rachel.

Nystrom, Arlene Selander, reported openings in their intensive substance use group

RSI employment services, Elizabeth Filmore

Will have an employment specialist in the next week or two, just starting waiver billable employment services.

Empower, Katrina Lussier Erickson,

Wait list for mental health services is 2-3 weeks and outpatient co-occurring treatment is a 2 week wait.

TSA, John Escola,

Working with Rise to become a housing stabilization provider on the Housing Stabilization and Support Grant (HSS).

Outpatient services 2 week wait list

UCare, Leon Flack, reported UCare is supporting regional food distribution sites, they are anticipating increased need from Medicaid users.

Safe Transitions, Lisa Mikrot, reported they are hiring for the Cambridge office.

Rise, Mike Harper

- IPS review due was scheduled prior to Covid and then postponed. Rescheduled for June 12-15.
- HSS Grant: Housing Stabilization and Support Plan Writer with TCM through TSA
 - Part of the plan is to train other agencies in becoming a Plan Writer to help expand the Region's network.
- Hiring in Mora for an ARMHS practitioner.

RSI, Nicole Lind

They have a new contract with DHS for Residential stabilization. RSI meeting internally and will be meeting with GB.

Mille Lacs County, Char Kohlgraf, the county is busy and hiring for a children's MH worker.

Chisago County, Angie Kemen

- New worker started in January
- Drop in Center open on Wednesdays
- Referral form for CSP on county website

Kanabec County, Katie Heacock, reported they are restructuring and will be hiring three staff.

Open Discussion

- Linda Hurtley recommended two video recordings are available from the Video tab on the www.adultmentalhealth.org website. The purpose of the videos is to educate people.
- Linda is managing the upcoming NAMI National Conference. May 24-27, 2023; at the Minneapolis Convention Center. <https://convention.nami.org/>

Region 7E AMHI 2023 Regional LAC Meeting Dates:

May 22
July 24
September 25
November 27