

Chisago County LAC Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2025
1-2 pm
Main Street Church, North Branch

Attendance:

- ❖ Welcome/ Agenda Addition
 - Kate Thron – Chisago County AMH/ CSP,
 - Michelle Thompson – Rise Employment Consultant, Amanda Stevenson – Region 7E Planner
 - JS, MD, AS, JP, GS, KT
- ❖ Guest speaker
 - Impact and personal experience working with Rise Inc for employment services
- ❖ LAC business
 - (Ongoing) Formal proposal for gas card or gift certificates- Persons receiving services, and not attending in a professional capacity, will receive \$20 per meeting. Currently this will be in the form of a check. This could change to a gas card in the future.
 - LAC Townhall (State Advisory Council workgroup) updates – will be focusing on updating the LAC Guidebook. While under review we will continue to utilize the current guidebook found on the DHS website.
 - Draft of LAC guidebook was shared, not yet completed
 - There is still a push for persons with lived experiences to attend LACs
 - Consideration to increase, receive a \$50 stipend
 - Planning for 2026
 - Time, location, frequency, venue
 - Discussion of keeping date, time, location and frequency the same as current
 - Odd months, second Wednesday of the month, North Branch Drop-in Center from 1-2 pm
 - Open to offering hybrid meeting opportunity to increase attendance
 - Chairperson and/or volunteer to attend Regional LAC and bring back information
 - Growing our LAC and recruitment
 - Volunteers to share LAC information in the community, post on bulletin boards
 - Ice cream social or open house?
 - Paid advertisement
- ❖ Regional Adult Mental Health Initiative (AMHI) updates
 - New pocket resource guides are printed!
 - 2026 funding proposals are due this Friday
 - Budget meetings to discuss proposals will be on 9/26 and 10/3
 - Still have some extra funds
- ❖ Resources
- ❖ Events/Training:
 - Drop-in center calendar can be found on adultmentalhealth.org
 - Wednesdays; Hours 10-2, Main Street Church in North Branch
 - Operation Community Connect (OCC)

- Thursday, October 16th from 10:30-1pm @ North Branch Area High School
 - Chisago Age Well Expo
 - Friday, October 17th from 9 am – 1 pm @ Chisago Lakes High School
 - Pick Em Up Suicide Coalition Walk & Run is this Saturday
 - Meet at Robinson Park in Pine City
 - Lake and Pines is hosting Annual Community Picnic from 11-2 in Mora on Saturday
- ❖ Ongoing recommendations/needs: *Permanent affordable housing, improved access to ARMHS and CTSS, Transportation, Peer Support Specialist jobs/volunteer opportunities
- Are there any other unmet mental health needs specific to our County?
 - How can these needs be met?
 - Crisis Services - Lack of ability to connect with someone through the warm line, 988, suicide prevention crisis services; when someone does answer individuals have had a bad experience and feel unsupported.
 - Support Groups
 - LE response to mental health crisis – possibility of embedded worker? Trained response of LE can feel very demeaning that impacts a person's mental health, creates trauma surrounding experience
 - Professional mental health providers and police departments get together for conversation surrounding proper responses *precinct representative for hands on approach to attend mental health events, volunteer or engage
 - AMHI to officer CIT training again? Previously funded in 2024
- ❖ **LAC Schedule 2025**
November 12, 2025
- ❖ Adjourn