

MINUTES
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HHSAC)
Thursday, March 12, 2020
Itasca Resource Center / Room 122

Members Present:

Renee Bymark	Dorothy Abrahamson
Crystal Terveer	Cheryl Lemler
Craig Menozzi	Daniel Miesle
Ben Denucci	Lloyd Adams
Dan Seward	Connie Cook
Sarah Duell	

Members Absent:

Anne Kruger	Melissa Weidendorf
Brandi Worrath	Angela Baratto
Dave Holmbeck – E	Chris Jenkins
Lester Kachinske	

Others Present:

Eric Villeneuve	Kelly Chandler
Brenda Oberg	Anna Anttila
Colleen Mackay- Northland Recovery	

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Lloyd Adams at 12:15 pm.

Election of Officers:

Co-Chair Lloyd Adams called for nominations for Chair of the Advisory Committee for the year 2020. Cheryl Lemler nominated Lloyd Adams for Chair. There being no other nominations, the group cast a unanimous ballot for Lloyd Adams. Motion carried. Lester Kachinske was nominated for Co-Chair; a unanimous ballot was casted. Motion carried.

Approval of November 14, 2019 Minutes:

A motion was made by Connie Cook and seconded by Crystal Terveer to approve the November 14, 2019 minutes. Motion carried.

Additions/Corrections to Agenda:

There were no additions or corrections to the Agenda. A motion was made by Dan Seward and seconded by Dorothy Abrahamson to accept the agenda. Motion carried.

Eric Villeneuve, Director:

Presenters for the County Board Meetings for 2020:

Committee members signed up for presenting at County Board Meetings for 2020. As Commissioners do get the minutes as part of their Board packet, a recap only needs to

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be done at County board Meetings. If committee members are not available, we will put the minutes on consent agenda for the board meetings.

Listing of Current ICHHS Advisory Committee Members:

The current list of ICHHS Advisory members was reviewed, please let Brenda know of any changes. We have recruitment out on the Itasca County website and may advertise in the newspaper. Connie Cook has taken a different job, so she may be resigning from this committee and we also had a recent resignation.

Reappointment of Renee Bymark:

Renee Bymark's appointment expired at the end of January 2020; Eric asked if she was interested in continuing the committee and she responded "yes". A motion was made by Ben Denucci and seconded by Dan Miesle to approve the re-appointment of Renee Bymark. Motion passed.

Resignation of Jennifer Frimanslund:

Jennifer Frimanslund is unable to attend meetings due to her increased workload obligations and has submitted her resignation. A motion was made by Cheryl Lemler and seconded by Craig Menozzi to accept the resignation of Jennifer Frimanslund from the HHS Advisory Committee. Motion carried.

Public Health Update: Kelly Chandler, Public Health Division Manager, introduced Anna Anttila, she is a public health nurse and the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator and also does the coordination for disease prevention and control for Itasca County Public Health and she will be talking today regarding the Coronavirus/COVID-19, but first Kelly updated that Public Health is working with American Red Cross to hold a blood drive at the Itasca County Courthouse on Thursday, April 9th from 11am-5pm. This blood drive is open to the community and there is a code to register online. Here is the link – <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=55744>

Kelly updated the committee that the tobacco ordinance in Itasca County passed in December, updating the licensing fees and increasing the fines for selling to minors. Kelly passed around a couple of the new vaping devices, such as a watch, hoodie strings, and a pen. On December 20th, President Trump passed into law Tobacco 21, making it illegal to sell to persons under the age of 21. The FDA had it updated on their website the next day, but the pieces that are still in question are the enforcement as the Minnesota Statute defines how we do enforcement as a licensor and their age criteria is still 18. A legislative bill has been introduced to align our language with the federal government so there is no confusion.

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Anna gave an overview of Coronavirus, also known as COVID-19. COVID-19 is referring to the disease that it causes, Coronavirus is a very large group of viruses that affect both humans and animals, some only infect animals. The common cold belongs to the family of coronaviruses. Coronavirus in and of itself is not a new thing, however this particular virus that we are concerned about, the virus is called SARS-CoV. This COVID-19 originated in China, in January the World Health Organization issued a declaration that it was a global problem. There are cases worldwide now and in the United States, as of to date there have been 1215 confirmed lab positive cases, and 36 deaths and almost every state has reported a positive case. In Minnesota, last reported as 5 positive cases, but none in Itasca County and in the Northern part of the state. All the cases so far have been travel related, and there has not been any evidence of community spread in Minnesota, as this time. We get our guidance from the Minnesota Department of Health, MDH does the investigation, they guide the person to stay home and quarantine. The symptoms of this illness are fever, cough, shortness of breath. It is a respiratory illness that spreads through droplets. So, the person coughs, they are coughing out little droplets that contain the virus. It does not stay suspended in the air for very long, it spreads very much like the flu. Healthy people do not need to be wearing a mask. If you suspect you may be infected, you are instructed to call the clinic or emergency department before you show up, so they can mask you, and escort you to a private room, to prevent the spread to others. The local clinics are screening patients and if you are answering yes to any of those screening questions, you may be masked and escorted to a private room. If the physician or health care provider thinks you may be infected, they call the Minnesota Department of Health and arrange for testing at the public health lab in St. Paul, which entails a nasopharyngeal swab or an oral pharyngeal swab. These are sent to St. Paul, once the sample is received, if received by noon that day, the test is same day, or otherwise results in 24 hours. President Trump issued an order for tightening travel to the United States, due to this virus. It is recommended to refer to the Minnesota Department of Health website, Center for Disease Control (CDC) website, and also the World Health Organization (WHO) website for the most up to date and factual information.

Most cases have been mild, around 80%, and resembles having a cold for a few days. It is more serious in the elderly and people with chronic health conditions. This is a virus so is not treatable with antibiotics. For the most part, it is supportive care. If it would develop into pneumonia, then the course of treatment can change.

It is recommended to watch current recommendation on the Minnesota Department of Health's website as far as guidance for community events, travel, etc. Public Health receives health advisory notices and will be passing information along as needed, and there are also weekly calls with Minnesota Department of Health for various organizations.

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Anna also discussed the Toward Zero Death Coordination and gave a presentation on the Intoxiclock. Toward Zero Death is a program done locally, and the overall goal is to decrease traffic related deaths on our roadways. One thing they do on this program is education around intoxicated or driving under the influence. Intoxiclock is a system that counts down in real sense of how long it takes a body to eliminate alcohol. This system is used in trainings and community events targeted for people who are of legal age and older.

IMCare Update:

IMCare is starting to see some effects relating to Coronavirus as well, the Senior Care Coordinators have been asked to stay out of the nursing homes to help prevent the spread of the virus. Care Coordination is being done via phone calls. IMCare has also had a couple audits cancelled as well, with auditors that would have needed to travel here.

Sarah was unable to make our last meeting in November as she was down at the state meeting with Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) to discuss issues last summer due to DHS procurement. IMCare continues to work with Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), Minnesota Association of Community Health Plans (MACHP), and have started some discussions with Department of Human Services (DHS) and legislators to come to a solution so we are not in the same problem in the future. The AMC Director and DHS commissioner met last week, and IMCare is hopeful to see some new workgroups formed. These workgroups will meet fast and furious and the goal is to have a foundation built up by July 1st of this year, as the state would like to issue a procurement again this fall.

Legislative Update:

Eric passed out a handout on 2020 Minnesota Association of County Social Services Administration (MACSSA) and Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Legislative Priorities/Updates.

Minnesota Association of County Social Services Administration (MACSSA) highlighting a couple bills discussed, the house voted to create 12 weeks of paid family leave for a birth or an adoption and to be funded by a .6% payroll tax split between employees and employers. The bill passed the House on a partisan vote but is not likely to move in the Senate. Secondly, Substance Use Disorder reform and the DHS financial errors are two bills being watched as this could impact us with regard to issues of reimbursement to tribes and counties for DHS financial errors.

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Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) overview highlights from the 2020 Legislative Session, the Coronavirus will be a hot topic for some time, working to pass \$20.9 million in funding for the Public Health Response Contingency account. The Legislative Audit Commission met with a potential list of reviews being MNCHOICES assessments, a comparison of county-based purchasing to HMO's, and AMC idea to study the cost of health and human services mandates and the impact on county taxpayers. Lastly, a bill was introduced last week was on the Department of Human Services restructure. This will have a lot of traction based on their billing errors and the issues that have come under DHS. This bill would break the Direct Care and Treatment away from the Department of Human Services in order to create a separate department.

HHSAC Subcommittee Reports:

AMHAC: Dan Seward is a board member of the Mental Health Advisory Counsel of Itasca County, which is a voice for people with mental health illness. John Pederson, from Grand Itasca, was a recent guest speaker discussing a new assessment process, that will be done via telemedicine, thus allowing for immediate mental health care within the emergency departments. The telemedicine providers are from out of the area but do have knowledge of local services. Dan will check at their next meeting, to see if they are also able to connect with Veteran's services as well.

Lorna Mix and Carolyn Peters updated the group with the case management reforms that will be up for discussion at the state level. Lorna reminded of the NAMI calendar events, one event is the NAMI Meeting on March 17th and they are inviting law enforcement representative to discuss the new jail. The counsel wants to express their opinions of the importance of having a detox setup at the new jail.

Dan discussed speed resourcing, which is where you watch a short video explaining information on a service or product and decide if you want the service. First Call for Help received grant money to create these speed resourcing infomercials and reached out to the Mental Health Advisory Counsel to help produce one. They agreed and are working with Cre Larsen with First Call for Help to get this video made.

ICCOA:

Lloyd Adams stated the Committee on Aging is made up of 13 clubs throughout the county and meet January through November. Naesa Myers gave a program today on vaping for the club.

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The AARP tax aid program has been very busy. There are 10 tax preparers, and 8 greeters working over at the airport on Monday's and Wednesday's through April 15th, but there is discussion this deadline may be extended due to coronavirus. In 2019, they served approximately 1200 people and brought \$1.2 million dollars back into the community. Lloyd wanted to thank the county commissioners for letting them use the airport space and this is a great location, handicap accessible and works good for our seniors.

Provider Updates:

Northland Counseling – Colleen Mackay, representing from Northland Counseling on Chris Jenkin's behalf, stated programs are all very busy detox, treatment, with the exception of the children's therapeutic farm.

First Call for Help – Crystal stated the Veterans Crisis Response Team, which consists of retired veterans, currently have 2 on staff and one coming onboard, and looking to fill one more position. They do a lot of resourcing and help them navigate veteran services, as it can be difficult system to navigate.

We added another transportation car, that will be used for child protection transfers. This car has no cage, it's just a regular type transportation car.

Crystal is now the coordinator of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline for 13 counties in Minnesota. The state decided to divide it into 3 call centers instead of 2. Crystal is working on kickstarting this and they will start taking the calls for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline in June.

Grand Itasca has started utilizing Behavioral Healthcare Providers (BHP) to care for their mental health patients in their emergency department via telemedicine. With the addition of these providers, CRT's (Crisis Response Team) are now very community based and can respond more quickly to schools and homes due to availability of the team. Grand Itasca DECC assessors will call CRT if they need history on a client, or if the person is in the hospital, or when they are being discharged, so CRT can do community follow-up with them.

Speed Resourcing is a new program that Cre and Pauline are working on.

Crisis lines are going well, and we have added Coronavirus questions onto our dispatching. Southern MN is no longer responding to the home if they say yes to any of those questions, it will be over the phone with them.

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First Call for Help currently has 12 staff members and may be hiring one more.

Elder Circle – Renee stated the Social Moveability was presented in the Senate and hoping it will go into committee in the next couple of weeks. If it passes, this would be funding for 2021.

ElderCircle has been working with the Northland Foundation in Duluth, as they were awarded a 3-year grant to work on a Community Planning Coalition. This coalition will focus on bringing people together who focus on aging services. They are looking to build a coalition, map existing services, identify gaps in services, and develop strategic plans on how they can better use those resources and refer people. This is a 5-month planning process and about a 2 ½ year implementation process.

Since the addition of Kasey McCarroll, the home visitor program has shown an increase of calls. There also has been a large increase of non-emergency transportation rides, averaging about 9 rides per day.

Other:

The next meeting is May 14, 2020.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Advisory Committee, a motion was made by Dan Seward seconded by Craig Menozzi to adjourn the meeting at 1:40 pm. Motion passed.