

Clay County Local Advisory Council for Children's Mental Health

Thursday October 5, 8:30 am – 10:00 am

Family Service Center 1st floor Room 4

"To promote an accessible, comprehensive and a unified children's mental health system within Clay County."

Members Present: Joni Medenwald, The Village; Michelle Thordal, Clay County Social Services; Lindsey Ternes, Clay County Probation; Lacey Hubert, Clay County Social Services; Megan Hoyer, Barnesville school counselor; Paul Krabbenhoft, Clay County Commissioner; Josh Swanson, Juvenile Center; Haley Heinen, Friends of the Children; Angie MSUM Graduate Student working with Representative Keeler; Michelle Mullikin, LMHC case management; Kara Baeth Dukart, PSJ Community Liaison; Aaron LMHC Suicide Prevention Educator and Coordinator, LMHC; Melony Johnson, LMHC Mobile Mental Health; Terri Busch, Public Health; Hope Schatzke, Access

Guest Speaker: Dallas Tufty, FirstLink

Minutes submitted by: Joni Medenwald

Introductions and One Good Thing!

Approval of September meeting minutes.

- Motion: Paul
- Second: Josh
 - i. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Fund balance: \$3,285.35

Old Business:

Approval of the LAC workplan for 2023/2024

- Motion: Terri
- Second: Josh
 - i. Motion passed.

New Business:

2. Presentation: Dallas Tufty from FirstLink

- FirstLink answers calls from 211 and 988; have 24/7 phone/text support; confidential.
 - i. 211 Helpline: will give local resources and if you call in our area you will be routed directly to FirstLink, so there could be a potential hold time of a couple minutes, average hold time is 20 seconds.
 - 1. Can also text your *zip code* to 898-211 to get 211.
 - ii. 988 Crisis and Suicide Lifeline – answer for 17 counties in MN Red River Valley and all of ND; no holds on this line, calls will be answered within a minute or so. 988 is routed off your area code.
 - 1. Can also text your *need* to 988 to get 988 supports.
 - a. If you text them, they will text you back.
- FirstLink provides resources for community needs (food banks, medical, mental health, housing, etc.).
 - i. Resources are updated on a yearly basis by their team; their resource database is also available on their website.
- FirstLink provides:
 - i. Community trainings: Mental Health First Aid & ASIST as well as others (see website).
 - ii. Community resources
 - iii. Helps determine eligibility prior to giving referrals.
 - iv. Supportive listening
 - v. In some cases, intake for valuable services (ex: CARES Homeless Prevention Project pre-application for housing assistance then will send the application out to all housing agencies for the caller).

- When using the website search function for resources, always put in the city and wait for it to auto-populate to select the correct city then pick the category of your need and go from there.
 - Have over 5,500 resources in the database and have a team who work to keep it updated.
 - Can do 3rd party calls – if someone calls concerned about someone FirstLink will reach out to the person 2x and if no answer, will circle back with the caller and let them know they were unable to reach them. If they do reach the person, they don't circle back to the original caller.
 - Care & Support Program:
 - i. If under 13, need parental consent otherwise not needed if 14 and older.
 - ii. Provide ongoing phone support for individuals struggling with mental health or substance abuse concerns. Can be referred from a 211/988 call, inpatient and outpatient treatment facilities, self-referred. Always free and always voluntary. Provide listening and support to the individual and crisis support if/when needed.
 1. Send handwritten messages out to individuals if they agree to receive messages of support on their recovery journey.
 - Anyone can sign up for FirstLink newsletter to stay up to date on happenings.
 - If the LAC wants to link FirstLink to the LAC website, reach out to their data people.
 - i. Michelle will reach out to Dallas to get the connection.
3. Community need meeting:
- Community members & Rep. Keeler and Rep. Liebling met to discuss the needs of the community – lots of discussion about children's mh services and the need for long-term children's psychiatric facility. More time is needed for further discussion.
 - i. Angie will connect with Rep Keeler to see next steps.
4. Youth Leadership Council (YLC) –
- Former and current foster care youth ages 14-21 years.
 - MN YLC fought for the passing of the Foster Sibling Bill of Rights
 - Requesting \$500 of funding to help offset the cost to pay the stipend for 2 youth that want to be involved in the YLC but aren't eligible for the state stipend funding because they were adopted or had transfer of permanent custody before age 16, making them ineligible for the state stipend.
 - i. Motion: Hope
 - ii. Second: Megan
 1. Approved by all.

Agency Reports/Consumer reports

Clay County Social Services: Clay County and LMHC have partnered for a pilot program where practitioners accompany Sanford paramedics on calls that are mental health focused. LMHC has hired 2 practitioners to be liaisons for this program; 1 will be based at the police department and 1 is based at the ambulance center. Project is funded through DHS through March 2024.

Clay County Public Health: flu shots available, call to schedule an appointment. Have free Covid screening kits, just stop by, and grab one if needed.

Barnesville Schools – are implementing Sources of Strength with funding received from a grant.

Prairie St. Johns – Child and Adolescent PHP & Inpatient have partnered with Learn Well through Fargo Public Schools so all youth at PSJ will receive education while on-site.

Access – Changes in leadership with Bill Smith, the current Service Director leaving. Hope will assume the mental health duties of the job and they are hiring for the other parts of his job - Corporate Foster care (CFC) & in-home services (IHS). Access is building a new building and hope it will be ready in the Spring.

LMHC Crisis Mobile - Del left the end of August, Tim is the new supervisor. Calls have been high, thinking it's because more are becoming aware of the service and utilizing it.

Next Meeting:

- *Thursday November 2nd 8:30-10:00am Clay County Family Service Center*
- Agenda items:
 - o LAC website & if we need to add resources for professional's use.

Link to MN LAC Guidebook:

https://mn.gov/dhs/assets/lac-guidebook_tcm1053-386047.pdf