

Clay County Local Advisory Council for Children 's Mental Health
Thursday January 4th, 2024 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; Laurie Boeshans, Hawley schools; Terri Busch, Public Health; Paul Krabbenhoft, Clay County Commissioner; Lindsey Ternes, Clay County Probation; Lacey Hubert, Clay County Social Services, Nicole England, Solutions; Brea Krause, Solutions; Megan Hoyer, Barnesville school counselor; Michelle Mullikin, LMHC case management.

Agenda:

- **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**
- Introductions and One Good Thing!
- Approval of December meeting minutes.
 - Motion: Joni
 - Second: Lindsey
 - i. Motion passed.
- Treasurer’s Report:
 - Fund balance: \$4,227.42
 - i. Clay County 2023 annual stipend of \$1500 was deposited.
 - ii. Check was wrote for the YLC’s request made in December.
 - iii. Looking ahead at May being Childrens MH month & doing a billboard, looking for approval with an estimate of about \$500.
 - 1. Motion: Paul
 - 2. Second: Laurie
 - a. Motion Passed
- Old Business:
 - Michelle worked with IT to upload 2023 Meeting Minutes to LAC website – minutes will be uploaded to the website going forward.
- New Business:
 - Children’s MH is a high priority for the State and County. Want to keep momentum going. Commissioner Krabbenhoft & Representative Keeler have met a few times along with County representatives and community members.
 - i. What information do legislatures and representatives need?
 - 1. Data?
 - 2. Impact stories?
 - With the upcoming legislative session, what can we be advocating for in Clay County?
 - i. Develop our talking points and give them to Angie/Rep Keeler
 - 1. Reimbursement rates
 - DHS is putting out an RFP for a PRTF; haven’t seen the RFP yet.

- 2 new PRTF's in MN – 1 in New Hope (Nexus) and North Homes will be opening one in Grand Rapids hopefully soon.
- Staffing continues to be a struggle to hire and train employees.
 - i. Reimbursement rates continue to be a contributor to staffing challenges.
 1. Not able to pay staff what they are asking for.
 2. ND state insurances reimburse better than MN so we are losing staff to ND jobs, but consumers are coming to MN because there are stronger and more services in MN for children with mh needs.
- ND & MN have very different regulations and rules regarding qualifications for staff to work with children; ND is much more lax than MN and pays better. MN has more services and higher quality services but reimburses less which leads river city potential employees to want to work in ND and families with children with mental health needs want to move to MN due to the higher quality services.
- Seeing a struggle for having CADI homes available after residential treatment
- CADI waiver homes are a struggle because of 245D standards.
 - i. Nobody is aware of any advocacy for change to 245D standards.
- The State continues to swing a pendulum back and forth between putting dollars in out of home placement options vs home based services.

Agency Reports/Consumer reports

Clay County: Offering Safe Talk training at the end of January; Suicide Alertness for Everyone – a 4-hour training about how to ask people about suicide and how to connect them with services. Doing 2 sections. The training is for everyone- professionals, community members, probation, school staff, youth can also attend (14 years and up), etc. Each session can hold 25 people. This is a free training. Thursday January 25th 1-4:30pm &- January 26th from 9am – 12:30; RSVP to Michelle Thordal

The Village – Running a Girls 360 group for ages 12-14, starting a new adolescent DBT group in late January, starting a Love & Logic parenting group in early February.

YLC: Foster Child Youth Rights Day on the Hill on March 4th. Foster Child Youth Ombudsman board is having their first meeting in St. Paul on March 5th. Clay County will bring their YLC members to both and any other youth that would like to be involved.

Commissioner Krabbenhoft – AMC Day at the Capitol is at the end of the month.

LMHC – Phase 1 of their remodeling is done and some are moving into their new spaces.

Juvenile Probation: still looking for outpatient CD services in the community for adolescents. Received donations from the Lt. Adam Gustafson Memorial Foundation to provide holiday gifts for all the kids at West Central Juvenile Detention Center.

Solutions: CM waitlists are long (22), working to hire more staff, seeing more referrals for young children (ages 4-5) and children with Autism – likely using CM services to bridge the gap until they can access other services. Looking to add another fully licensed outpatient therapist. Have a psychiatrist, in SD doing telehealth and that has openings, Dr. Meek. A onsite nurse practitioner will be starting in Moorhead seeing kids & adults. Also starting a part-time Child Psychiatrist who is telehealth out of Oregon.

Barnesville Schools: January professional development is QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) - suicide prevention training.

Hawley Schools: building project for middle school is moving along. Counselors will move to their new offices this summer. Will shift to have 1 counselor at each building (elementary, middle, and high school) whereas now there is 1 at the elementary and 2 at the high school. Having some challenges in schools for kids that are waiting to get into services. Seeing a high mental health need of kids in the school. Higher truancy with less truancy support.

Meeting called to order: 8:32am

Meeting adjourned at: 9:53am

Minutes submitted by: Joni Medenwald

Next meeting: **February 1, 2024, 8:30am Clay County Family Service Center**

Agenda items:

Link to MN LAC Guidebook:

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