

Logan County Mental Health Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: February 9, 2023

Meeting Location: Logan County Department of Public Health, 109 Third St.,

Present	Absent	Excused
Keenan Leesman	Rod Boyd	Alison Rumler-Gomez
Don Cavi		Jeanette Davis
Dan Benedict		Olivia Messina
Gary Davis (phone)		
Cassie Delaney		
Beth Nestler		

The meeting convened at around 11:52am. Roll call was taken by Secretary, Don Cavi and he welcomed Cassie Delaney and Keenan Leesman to their first meeting as new members. Six (6) members were present. Four (4) members were absent.

Action Item #1: Meeting Minutes from November 17, 2022, were shared. No changes to the meeting minutes were made, and the minutes were approved. **The motion to approve was made by Dan Benedict and seconded by Beth Nestler. The Council approved the motion.**

Action Item #2: Members gave their Subject Matter Expert (SME) reports. Reports are as follows:

Dan Benedict (Mental Health Outreach)

Dan reported there were no new events. Nationally the number of suicide numbers with veterans dropped from 22 to 17 since the last report. The next report is due out in March. Unfortunately, Dan recently worked with a local veteran who was suicidal, so the issue is very real in our community. They are now steering veterans to the 9-8-8 hotline number rather than using their 800# hotline. Also, veterans are now allowed to use any emergency room for crisis services if they have no insurance. The hospital will then reach out to the VA system, a social worker will get involved, and it's hoped that Dan would be notified of any local veterans who are in crisis.

Gary Davis and Don Cavi (Mental Health Promotion)

Gary shared that he saw in a bookstore that there was a sign in the men's restroom that states, "Are you or someone you love a victim of domestic abuse?" This serves as a strong reminder that domestic violence victims are not only women or children. Men are just as vulnerable. Gary would also like to see the 2-1-1 number (in addition to the 9-8-8 number) advertised more as this is a great way to connect people to resources and things they cannot afford. Gary also wants to get the word out about mental health resources to the church community. Don has a list of contacts he received from Angie Stoltzenburg and will forward.

Don reported that the health department, with assistance from Memorial Behavioral Health, forwarded a press release to the media in December to inform the public of the prevalence of mental health issues, causes, symptoms, and what resources are available. The resources included the 9-8-8 number and the local assistance numbers for Memorial Behavioral Health.

Don updated the Council on the progress of the health department's staff trauma-informed training. He also shared that his staff, mostly who provide direct services, will participate tomorrow in a Child Sexual Abuse Awareness training provided by Prevent Child Abuse Illinois. This training relates well with becoming a trauma-informed agency.

Beth Nestler (Law Enforcement)

Beth shared that they are hiring more officers. She also shared that out of the five counties she serves, Logan County ranks number one with regard to order of protection rates which is very concerning. Beth also stressed the need to have a data collection system to understand patterns, problems, and root causes of behavioral health issues. She supports this and will participate in upcoming meetings to discuss the development of a system.

*New member, Cassie Delany introduced herself and gave a brief overview of what she does for crisis outreach at Memorial Behavioral Health. Don asked Cassie to serve with Olivia Messina as a SME for the "Mental Health Treatment and Maintenance" group at our meetings. Cassie agreed to do this and was asked if she could give another overview of her role at our next meeting as we hope to have more members in attendance.

A motion was made to approve the SME reports. Keenan Leesman made the motion to approve which was seconded by Dan Benedict. The Council approved the motion.

Action Item #3: Open Meeting Act Training

This is an old business item and Don reminded that he is still waiting on certificates from members but was also informed that the attorney general website is down. There is no rush but, once the site is back up, he asks that the members complete the training and submit to him their certificates.

Action Item #4: Data Sharing Meeting

Don shared information regarding the National Association of Counties (NACo) initiative called "Familiar Faces" which is a local partnership data driven justice program. The program focus is for partners to work together to collect and share data which would help identify individuals who make up the frequent utilizer population for the detention system, emergency health, crisis centers, etc. Once frequent utilizers can be identified, focus can be placed on helping them. In addition, the data collected would help partners better understand the problems so they can be addressed at the root cause. This can hopefully improve outcomes and provide fiscal advantages for the county. Don has passed along a playbook for the program he received from Angie Stoltzenburg and is encouraging those interested in this opportunity to give it a review. March 2nd seems to be the best day to meet so Don is scheduling a 2pm meeting at the health department for that day. Some members of the Council have already stated they will attend. An Outlook invite will be forwarded to the Council. Don will also post the meeting publicly since a majority of a MHAC quorum may be in attendance.

Action Item #5: MHAC Strategic Plan/Priorities

Don reminded the Council of the "Needs Assessment/Planning Summary" that was created by the Council under the guidance of Alison Rumler-Gomez. He provided copies for any members who did not have it. The top 3 priorities addressed were data sharing, need for more providers, and a safe space/crisis center. We will be addressing data at our upcoming meeting. The County was awarded a collaborative grant from SAMHSA which will help make it possible to offer permanent and temporary housing for veterans and the homeless. Also, the

Tri-County Special Education Association is applying for a grant to get telehealth devices in our schools to help improve behavioral health (and all health) accessibility. These activities coincide to help fulfill some of the needs determined in the Council's assessment.

Action Item #6: County Update/Council Recommendations

Don updated the Council on some of the recent accomplishments and requests brought to the County Board as a result of the meetings. The Sojourn upgrades and \$10,000 in funds for FY23 to support the MHAC were mentioned. The Council discussed the next request to the County Board which is to get their approval for the Council to approach the Logan County Assessor's Office about the feasibility of including a brochure or flyer with this year's reassessment letters. Dan Benedict has been in contact with the Assessor's office, and they have quoted a ballpark cost and are open minded regarding this intention. Keenan Leesman informed that he will make that recommendation to the County Board for permission of the Council to approach the Assessor's office.

A motion was made for the Council to approach the County Board to request permission for the Council to approach the Assessor Office regarding the inclusion of a mental health resource flyer to be included with the annual reassessment letter to Logan County property owners. The motion was made by Dan Benedict to approve the recommendation and was seconded by Cassie Delaney. The Council approved the motion.

Action Item #5: Public Comments/Adjournment

Gary Davis asked about the jail and their intentions as it was not brought up in the prior meeting. Since Rod Boyd was not present, the topic did not come up for discussion. It was discussed at the last meeting that Memorial Behavioral Health and Chestnut Health Systems can discuss how to work together. Cassie Delaney mentioned some of the barriers that have hindered the ability to counsel prisoners while being detained. Mobile crisis can meet with detainees after they are discharged. It becomes a billing issue since billing cannot apply to prisoners while overseen by the jail system. We agreed that this item needs to be put on our agenda for our next meeting. Memorial Behavioral Health is hoping to find a solution. Cassie Delaney also elaborated on the 2-1-1 resource line and website and encourage people to share as a resource for many services. She also shared that Andrew Huberman is a great resource for trauma-informed care. Gary Davis included that he will be back in town and should be at our upcoming meetings in person.

A motion was made to adjourn by Keenan Leesman which was seconded by Don Cavi. The meeting adjourned at 12:48pm.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, May 11, 2023, 11:30am at Logan County Department of Public Health.

Respectfully Submitted,

Don Cavi
Secretary