



State of Wisconsin

**Wisconsin Council on Mental Health**  
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**Meeting of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH)**

**May 20, 2020**

**10:00 am to 3:30 pm**

**Meeting held via Zoom and Conference Call**

**MINUTES**

**WCMH Members in Attendance:** Kimberlee Coronado, Rick Immler, Sheryl Smith, May Yer Thao, Carol Keen, Kristin Welch, Lynn Harrigan, Ana Winton, Dennis Hanson, Crystal Hester, Dawn Shelton-Williams, Lea Collins-Worachek, Inshirah Farhoud

**Department of Health Services Staff in Attendance:** Cory Flynn, Cindy Matz, Ryan Stachoviak, Joyce Allen, Teresa Steinmetz, Joannette Robertson, Chris Keenan, Mike Christopherson, Hayley Young, Sarah Coyle

**Guests in Attendance:** Mary Kay Battaglia, Tim Peerenboom

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

R. Immler called the meeting to order. Attendees held introductions. Members of the WCMH reviewed the draft minutes from January 15, 2020.

**C. Hester moved to approve the minutes of January 15, 2020.**

**K. Coronado seconded the motion**

**Motion carried, D. Hanson abstained.**

*Announcements*

L. Collins-Worachek discussed the impact COVID-19 has had on employment across the state, and discussed efforts at job centers to help people in need. If members of the Council are hearing concerns from people regarding employment they can reach out for more information. K. Welch briefed the group on an upcoming webinar that is focused on missing and endangered indigenous women. This effort is being done by the MMIW Task Force Strategic Plan for Wisconsin, in collaboration with the Department of Justice

*Public Comment*

K. Coronado, as a member of the public, discussed the high level of Children's Long Term Support needs that have arisen because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## 2. Crisis System Survey Presentation

C. Keenan provided the WCMH a presentation on Crisis System Survey that was conducted and analyzed in 2019-2020.

## 3. WCMH Committee Reports, Discussion, and Consideration of Motions

### *Executive Committee*

R. Immler provided a briefing on the Committee meeting. The group determined it was a good plan to discuss crisis in-depth at this meeting. The Committee is also working on coordinating an opportunity for a presentation on the Behavioral Health Gaps Analysis soon. The Committee has also been discussing the opportunity for having informational meetings in between the normal WCMH meetings as a way to share more information and have learning opportunities for members of the WCMH. This could be orientation opportunities or lunch and learn discussions on things such as budgets and legislation.

### *Adult Quality Committee (AQC)*

L. Harrigan provided a briefing on the work being done by the AQC. The Committee wanted to look at balance amongst its work and take a comprehensive approach to planning. The group discussed the scope of the AQC and looking at supporting a continuum of care K. Welch discussed an evidence based framework that could be used by the AQC to guide their work, in particular around evidence based practices. The group also has had discussions on how to support CLAS standards.

### *Nominating Committee*

K. Coronado asked the WCMH if there were members who would be interested in volunteering for the committee. Ana Winton volunteered to help on the committee.

### *Children and Youth Committee (CYC)*

R. Immler noted that the group had met with the Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC) meeting at the May meeting to discuss budget priorities. The CYC continues to work on a workforce development paper.

### *Criminal Justice Committee (CJC)*

L. Collins-Worachek provided an update on the CJC. The committee is interested learning more about budget process. The CJC has discussed how the committee can collaborate on other services, and plans to review and promote peer services. The CJC has also had discussions regarding human trafficking and the CJC plans to continue addressing this topic in the future.

### *Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC)*

C. Hester provided a briefing on the LPC. The committee had discussed the state budget priorities at the most recent meetings. Given the pandemic, it is expected that many things will likely not be funded, but DHS has still

encouraged advocates to bring items forward for consideration. C. Hester briefed the group on budget priorities that are begin considered for inclusion into the priority document.

C. Hester is planning on presenting information on the budget priority process to the CJC to better inform their work.

C. Hester introduced a motion from the LPC. The motion from the LPC is a request for the WCMH to send a letter to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules, asking that the members of that committee support Clearinghouse Rule 19-166, the revised Conduct Code for social workers, marriage and family therapist and professional counselors, with its provision to designate as unprofessional conduct the practice of Conversion Therapy with LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) children and adults in Wisconsin.

Members of the WCMH discussed the motion.

**Motion for the WCMH to send a letter to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules, asking that the members of that committee support Clearinghouse Rule 19-166 carried, K. Coronado abstained.**

#### **4. Discussion on the “Improving Wisconsin’s Crisis System” Paper**

J. Allen provided the group with a briefing and summary of the paper. K. Coronado discussed that what resonates is that people with developmental disabilities touch the system more often. Often people are denied entry into day treatment and access to services. In many cases hospitalization can be prevented with having a mentor, or a relationship with someone outside the home, whether that be crisis services, or supports. Hospitalizations is expensive and traumatic. Proactive supports for youth and the family could prevent the crisis situation. It is important for the systems to work together, for example systems that provide supports for youth with autism.

Members of the WCMH suggested the paper take into account tribal nations and tribal services. Historical trauma should also be considered. R. Immler noted the importance of looking at reimbursement rates. Given the diversity of the counties, some counties do seem to be doing fairly well, what can be learned from those counties? Poverty, access to care are all important components. Waitlists for ADA services can also be a barrier. J. Allen discussed updates and efforts that are being made right now to address crisis services.

#### **5. Division of Care and Treatment Services (DCTS) Briefing and Updates**

C. Keenan provided the WCMH with a briefing on proposed changes on the BPTR satisfaction survey, moving the survey from the ROSI to the MHISIP. Members of the Council expressed that they did not have concerns in this change. T. Steinmetz provided a briefing on what the BPTR has been doing in response to COVID. The Bureau has been having weekly and biweekly calls with providers. Many questions that have come up have been related to telehealth. The BPTR has used calls to partner with DMS and DQA to help providers navigate the current environment and answer questions. These calls continue in most cases. The BPTR is now starting to have discussions on reconstituting. T. Steinmetz discussed the Emergency COVID 19 grant and Crisis Counseling Program grant. State staff have been hearing a need for increased call capacity, so the Bureau has provided funding to 211 for expanded call capacity.

H. Audley provided an update on the DCTS facilities. All have implemented pandemic plans. The facilities are developing quarantine and isolation units, have provided PPE for all staff, and are encouraging use of protective elements for clients. This past week a collaboration with the WI National Guard has allowed a testing of all patients clients and staff in all facilities.

**6. Call for future WCMH agenda items**

R. Immler suggested that WCMH send future agenda items to Ryan via email.

**7. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 3:33 pm.