

Hennepin County Children's Mental Health Collaborative (CMHC)

Governance Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 15, 2020, 3:00 – 4:30 pm

St. Louis Park Byerlys Community Room (3777 Park Center Blvd, St. Louis Park MN 55416)

Etonde Awaah & Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn, Coordinators

etonde@lacroixdalluhnconsulting.com & laura@lacroixdalluhnconsulting.com

Mission Statement

Improve access to and resources for high-quality, trauma-informed mental health services for children, youth and families within Hennepin County

Voting Governance Committee Members (Quorum 12): Liz Gronert, Pat Dale, Jenna Mitchler, Krista Phillips, Cindy Slowiak, Karen Malka, Maureen Seiwert, Nita Kumar, Jody Nelson, Liz Franklin, Aric Jensen and Adesola Jaiyesimi
CMHC Coordination Team: Etonde Awaah, Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn, Cheryl Holm-Hanson, Margaret Sullivan

1. 3:00 **Approval of Meeting Minutes & Agenda** 05

Liz G & Liz F stated that it would be good to differentiate using their initials in future meeting notes. Meeting Minutes: Jody motioned for approval, Cindy seconded. Approved by Committee.

2. 3:05 **Welcome/Opening Circle** 15

Everyone present answered the introductory question, "If you had to describe the CMHC in one word, what would it be?" Words/phrases used to describe the CMHC included the following: dimensional, connected, evolving, catalyst, well-intentioned, ideas, new, opportunities, passion, commitment, caring for kids, money, potentially impactful, integrated, and complex.

3. 3:20 **Introduction of new CMHC Coordinators** 10

Pat introduced Etonde & Laura as the new coordinators of the CMHC. Laura shared the history & focus of LaCroix-Dalluhn Consulting. Etonde shared that she and Laura are working as co-coordinators with her being the direct contact. The new coordinating team also expressed their excitement about working with the CMHC.

4. 3:30 **System of Care Training Event** 15

Cindy shared about the upcoming system of care training event organized by Hennepin County. Liz Manley (Clinical Instructor for Health and Behavioral Health Policy at the university of Maryland's School of Social Work) has been invited to come to Hennepin County to work with our community and help us understand a system of care is. It is a two-day event occurring February 24-25th with events both open the public and for specific affinity groups. So far Cindy has shared with Liz that people are having a hard time wrapping their heads around what a system of care is and how it applies/what to expect at a system, program and provider level. The hope is that this event will level the conversation and create a shared understanding for moving forward.

On Day 2 of the event, Liz Manley will have some time to meet with the CMHC Governance Committee. The Governance Committee had a discussion about what they were looking to learn/hear about from Liz during her time with them:

- *Practical application – examples from communities implementing a system of care well [Jody]*
 - *How to transition from values to demonstration/integration (beyond being well-meaning & getting out of merely the philosophy of it)*
 - *How to implement in an inclusive and equitable way (culturally inclusive vs. clinically specific) [Liz F]*

- *From the parent perspective: how do we provide care in a timely manner to our children/youth?* [Karen]
 - *It's about **care**. Kids aren't able to access care in a timely manner.*
- *Guideposts/checks along the way to ensure things are changing* [Margaret]
- *How does/should a system of care deconstruct what currently goes on in systems* [Adesola]
 - *How do we measure this and show the impact?*
- *Explore different entry points of services* [Karen]
- *How to support the sustainability of good services/a good system* [Liz G]
- *How to not make the system more "crazy making" during this transition* [Liz F]
 - *Especially for transient families that move between counties*
 - *Develop a unified system approach* [Maureen]
- *Help the CMHC prioritize our time together as a group to mobilize action* [Aric]

5. 3:45 **Coordinators' Summary of Orientation Interviews**

30

Etonde shared that part of their team's work of onboarding was to interview members of the Executive Committee to gain a better understanding of the history of the CMHC and what the vision is for the Collaborative moving forward. Thus far, she and Laura have met with all Executive Committee members except Krista. Meetings with Krista, Mark Sander re: School-based Mental Health and Adesola Jaiyesimi re: Corrections and Evaluation have been scheduled.

Etonde went over the summary document, which outlined themes answering the following key questions:

- *What of the CMHC's current structure and operations should be maintained?*
- *What are the CMHC's opportunities for growth through the adoption and implementation of the system of care framework?*

Governance Committee attendees then had an opportunity to converse with one another and answer the following reflection questions:

- *What reactions do you have to this summary?*
 - *Struggled to get the conversation, maybe due to the time of day. Is it possible to start meetings earlier moving forward?* [Liz F]
 - *Moving the meetings earlier could be inhibitive for parent attendance* [Liz G]
 - *What are our shared ideas/definitions related to mental health? If the idea is to service someone in a way that enhances their wholeness, how do we think about that? We have difference people to speak to this, but we need to hold a space to learn from it. It is hard to plan for things when the fluidity does not exist.* [Adesola]
 - *Questions about some of the emergent themes – what is wrong with the budget? What is the issue with the representative model?* [Jody]
 - *Who is filing the voice left by Jamie in terms of his presence (psychological, advocacy, voice, etc. at the county at state)? His work helped the group immensely. Need support from County leadership in order to move this initiative forward. Who is our champion that will get us money, respect, approval, etc.?* [Maureen]
- *What would you add to this summary?*
 - *Opportunity for integration between children's hospitals and children's mental health care (because hospitals do not provide this.) Access to child life specialists needed in hospitals.* [Karen/Margaret]
 - *Hold onto to the history. What is great about the CMHC is that it is a coordination model – Laura and Etonde are here to support. Having an evaluator on the team is a huge asset as well.* [Jody]
 - *The CMHC has managed to stay systemic in its thinking, and is so much more effective and has a much bigger impact because it has stayed at a system level and not gotten into the direct service weeds. Should maintain this approach.* [Liz F]

- What seems like a good place to start (in terms of adopting the system of care framework)?
 - Need more voices at the table, e.g. health plan representative, hospital representative, etc. Need to figure out how to bring these voices into the discussion. [**Cindy**]
 - We need to know what the barriers are for these entities, and we can only know this if we hear from them. [**Liz G**]
 - Gather data to determine the issues we are trying to solve. [**Karen**]
 - Determine a baseline understanding of what the system is now so we can see what we are moving towards. Perceptions of what is happening within county may be different based on individual, organization, or group. [**Krista**]

Laura said the coordinators were available to meet with the rest of the Governance Committee. She stated they could be flexible in terms of how that meeting occurs (in person, online, etc.) and encouraged members not to be shy in reaching out to the coordinators.

6. 4:15 **Committee reports/updates** 10

None reported.

7. 4:25 **Approval for travel to CMHN Conference** 05

Cindy shared that \$6000 was set aside in the 2020 Budget to send three people to the [Children's Mental Health Network's Tampa Conference](#), but that Laura, Etonde, and Cheryl Holm-Hanson need authorization to go from the Governance Committee. Jody motioned to approve the trip, Krista seconded, and the Committee passed it. Laura, Etonde and Cheryl are expected to bring applicable learning from the Tampa Conference back to the CMHC.

Pat stated that March meeting is currently set for when the coordinators will be out of town for the conference, so they will work on rescheduling with the Governance Committee.

Jody shared that DHS is also hosting a [System of Care Conference](#) from March 9-10 in Bloomington, MN. Registration is open for this event.

8. 4:30 **Adjourn**

Pat adjourned the meeting.

2020 Governance Meeting Schedule: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Wednesday, February 19

Wednesday, March 18 - to reschedule