

Southeast AMHI/Region 10 Agenda

Date: December 13, 2024; 9:00-12:00

Present: Crystal Peterson, Lori Wills, Amy Becker, Laura Sutherland, James Johnson, John Dahlstrom, Kris Johnson, Kayla Matter, Bethany Moen, Patty Harrelson, John Pugleasa, Wang Berg, Chris Sammon(R10 only), Candace Dammen, Tara Reich, Maggie Fort

Welcome and Introductions/County Roundtable: John Pugleasa, Chair 9:00-9:20

Andrew Pietsch, Human Services Supervisor, Blue Earth County: Blue Earth County is the Fiscal Host for the 20 County Long Term Supportive Services Fund 9:20-9:40

- Andrew has been trying to connect with Region 10 and hasn't had a very good response so here to familiarize the group with this work.
- Each county has a unique role within housing and homelessness
- Andrew has sent out a meeting poll, please respond to the poll so he can get an initial meeting scheduled to discuss Hearth Connection, if you are not the right contact, let him know who is.
- Andrew is open to sitting down with counties to discuss the topic of housing in general
- Blue Earth acts as the grantee for Long Term Homeless Supportive Service Fund (LTHSSF) contracts with Hearth Connection as the regional Administrative agency for 20 counties
- South Central Human Relations and Zumbro Valley are also administrative agencies
- Not currently connected to other housing funds such as LHPA but Andrew would be open to having the conversation in the future.

SERCC POS: Amy Becker 9:40-10:00

- Almost complete, waiting on insurance coverage proof

Not yet fully executed; will be backdated

Children's Rate is \$645-back dated to 9/1/24

Adult Rate is \$ 973.70-will change on 1/1

No County Lump Sum "True Up" as in 2023

- However, counties may see a higher quarterly invoice with individuals listed that had no insurance to cover services. Can't use AMHI \$ for MA eligible client without a MA denial, other funds must be used such as levy \$. If an individual has private insurance, that is considered a complete payment and AMHI \$ cannot be used.
- Since \$645 is retroactive to 9/1, be prepared to receive another bill to pay for the additional portion of already billed services.

Regional Contracts: Eastern Hub; Winona; MN Prairie: Amy Becker 10:00-10:15

- Asking for clarification on the 3 contracts-will follow up counties directly on details and ensure we are aligning with the AMHI guidelines so we are not paying for something we shouldn't be paying for with those funds with the new guidance.
- Clarified that a lump sum is acceptable when paying for salary and benefits of a position. Do need to only be pay for the portion of the position that specifically serves the targeted population, other portions of FTE can be paid for out of other funds.

Debrief DHS Statewide AMHI Guidance on Funding Restrictions 10:15-11:30

- 1) **SERCC: Initial allocation of \$500,000 for 2025/26. In light of DHS guidance, Executive Committee has recommended \$120,000 to SERCC for 2025/26 – 40,000 for outreach (brochures); 40,000 to cover services when there is documented MA denial and 40,000 for transportation when someone in the region is staying at SERCC and needs a ride back to their county of residence and MA cannot provide transportation.**
 - Transportation-would be an MA covered service, could be paid for if MA denial for whatever reason
 - Concerns voiced around supporting SERCC and not other agencies
 - Concerns around not fulfilling commitment to SERCC after pulling out of the governance agreement
 - Idea posed around going to the table with SERCC to discuss where they would like to see the funding go vs. us coming up with the proposal
 - Need to have a decision about funds by mid February at the latest
 - Motion to accept Executive Committee's recommendation for funding to SERCC for 2025/2026 Motion by James Johnson seconded by Kris Johnson. POS will be written around those amounts with current AMHI guidance. Roll call John-**yes**, Kris-**yes**, Tara-no, Maureen-no, James-**yes**, Crystal-**yes**, John P.,-**yes** Wanda-abstain. Motion carried.
- 2) **Discuss how to reallocate remaining dollars to the SE AMHI; must amend budget in the first quarter of 2025; see Maggie's spreadsheet for a preliminary estimate of additional dollars available to counties**
 - Maggie went through the county allocations for 2025 and percent of increase based on needing to re-allocate 190,000 per year. No money will carry over to year 2, high likelihood of underspending
 - One was to allocate funds across the board, another idea is to pool it together to make a larger impact in a county that could spend it. (Mower was brought up as an example).

- All of us are required to have our LAC's due an unmet MH needs survey that is reported on an annual basis to the county board. To Laura's knowledge this has never been done.
 - Conversations around funding a facilitation of commitment reimagined, NAMI, Wellness in the woods.
 - Decisions need to be made by mid-February at the latest. Went around to counties to discuss if they would want the money or not, mixed feelings, some thought they could spend it, others didn't feel like they could given the short time frame. Come back to table in January with more solid ideas.
- 3) Discuss feedback from Regional Management Team related to reallocation; in particular, from NAMI and Wellness in the Woods**
 - 4) AMHI grant funding process: in January will bring to the Directors the application, score card and a sample media release; will look for counties to push out grant opportunity in January.**
 - We have 200,000 set aside for grants
 - Formed a small committee to start conversations, Laura was able to get a copy of another AMHI's grant process as a template
 - Laura will bring documents to Director's meeting in January
 - Each county will need to share the application with their own providers in their county
 - Laura is proposing that application is final and given out in January to counties, applications need to be submitted by February, RMT will take the first pass at the application in March and then Directors will make a final decision at March meeting.
 - 5) Per DHS, please copy Laura Sutherland on all correspondence to DHS related to AMHI spending to promote consistency throughout region. Thank you.**