

R10 Director's Meeting – 11/8/2024

Introductions –

John D., Tara, Wanda, John P. Amy B., Amy T., Amy R. in person and Karen, Eric, Nina, Maggie, Candace virtually.

Round Table –

Nina asked about expanding MN Care for undocumented individuals? – It is on the radar but nothing to add at this point. When does this go into effect? – starts 1/1/2025 but applications can be submitted now and will be considered when filed on or after 11/12/2024. Bulletin # 24-21-10. Goodhue has been thinking about easy access/removal of barriers to mitigate fears around undocumented individuals coming into county/government agencies and have been working with culturally specific outreach agencies in Goodhue County. Has Goodhue seen results in working with these outreach agencies? Nina acknowledges that she needs to do some more research on the language used within the change – definition of undocumented vs other terms.

Karen brought up some questions regarding AMHI/CSP, specifically funds not being able to carry over starting in 2025. Karen heard that the grant contract is 2 year calendar cycle but the funds align with the state fiscal year? – Is this correct? Karen emailed DHS for clarity. Karen is specifically asking for clarity around Winona CSP and budget revisions for 2023-2024. AMHI 2025-2026 has been clear that the 2025 funds must be used in 2025 and 2026 funds in 2026 with no carryover. Karen will keep us updated. There are some changes to what brass codes (491) can be used for uncompensated and Karen has provided feedback and sought clarity around those changes and suggested a workgroup.

John P. asked if anyone had been approached by a temp/travel social worker agency. Interested in more detail to fill open positions in Houston. Amy B. remembers something similar coming to Olmsted and forwarded but both Amy R. and Amy T. declined. There are struggles hiring in other counties also. Amy T. also mentioned turnover/retirement/leaves being articulated to leadership/board to shift the staffing pattern. Tara mentioned that she is piloting a float social worker who doesn't have a caseload but floats where needed and working to start up new cases when there are no vacant float spots – currently a program manager is supervising the float social worker but looking at a supervisor that covers all of MNPrairie not just one location. Amy R. has a float social worker in ongoing child protection – is working in this area to cover cases, vacation, etc. Amy T. is looking at float social workers in each area such as MH, waiver, etc. instead of one floating across all of AFS. Amy R. is also using a float on the front end of child protection, 3 months getting no new assessments so can wrap up and then assist others. Will we all see more vacant hours with paid family medical leave coming on board in 2025? Nina commented about asking for salary expectations instead of asking what a candidate had previously made salary wise. Olmsted AFS does preliminary phone screens including asking salary expectation, job expectations, interest, etc. – must ask same questions and do not offer interviews at this point but it is working well in AFS.

SERCC Spreadsheet Review –

The first spreadsheet arrived and there were some questions such as this is not all but only was those uninsured and will be including those that are self-pay going forward. No street address will indicate those experiencing homelessness – most will show Rochester, MN but other counties might see a few. Maggie reviewed the data that will be submitted by Nexus on the spreadsheet to help clarify some questions there were out there. Will add columns around MA applications and hardship waiver. Will add underinsured so that co-pays, deductibles, etc. can be tracked. Maggie talking through how we are using the spreadsheet

- Does not include everyone served right now, but continuing to work with SERCC to further refine
- If no street address includes this is to indicate that they are unhoused
- Use as a tool to track progress
- List will be fresh and new each month (as snapshot in time)
- We are still making some changes; add a column for what day they were given an “ma application” or “hardship waiver”
- We believe this will help us better understand the AR balance

SERCC POS – will move to commercial rates and the Child Residential rate will increase. These will begin September 1, 2024 if the POS signature process can meet the 11/15/2024 deadline. Reiterated with Nexus staff that there will be no lump sum/true-up payments from the counties. Tara asked a question about participant portions and the workflow that Nexus created will be shared with the group. Who determines hardship waiver? Is there a standard for hardship waiver and if so we can share that with Nexus. Maggie added that SPMI designations will be marked on the invoice somehow, the SERCC finance staff is connecting with their clinical staff to move this SPMI designation forward.

Mobile Crisis Underspend –

Candace emailed all with these numbers this morning but if there are changes then another invoice will be sent. Clarity questions around the underspend being the county contributions and not actual DHS grant funds – Candace will send an email to the counties articulating this. If there were AMHI funds in the county contributions and you chose to remove those for flexibility then that will change you AMHI amounts for the remainder of the year. Maggie has already sent the AMHI update emails. If there are questions connect with Maggie or Candace.

MHIS/AMHI Grant Updates –

John emailed regarding this and inadvertently included SERCC staff in the email. Yes, SERCC, Hiawatha, Zumbro, HRC, Mayowood are submitting MHIS data. If counties are using SSIS then the data is already being entered – mark special studies. Need to be aware of county contracts that have AMHI or CSP – any contract questions can go to Amy B. Think strategic about how funds are paid to providers – services are tied to clients but we need to be more clear on the tie in how our payments are written. Grant funding process – will wait for Laura to update based on what she heard back from DHS.

Commitment Updates –

Olmsted will look to replicate the process Mower and Mayo have in place. Could there be a miss regarding communication – Olmsted will move forward with conversations that focus on the individual clients to hopefully find some middle ground.

Prairie Island Update –

Nina updated that there was a meeting in October that wasn’t well attended. Currently on pause with the next meeting scheduled in April so allow for transition in leadership going on within Prairie Island.

Website Update –

Any information to be included should be submitted to Laura by 11/15/24. Ongoing updates will move through each mobile crisis hubs point person. Maggie will email regarding underspend contributions to help pay for the website.

Executive Committee Changes –

John P. will move off starting in January. Tara will become Chair and Crystal will become Vice-Chair. Someone from Olmsted will begin taking notes in 2025. Wanda has said she will still serve in the at large position.

Team Building –

Will move the discussion to focus on what we want to get out of this meeting. Rebuilding for next year to hopefully move on from some of the very tough topics we addressed this past year. What is working or not working with regards to these meetings?

Working:

Vote – not expecting consensus

There are times consensus works

Time frame agenda

Seeking agenda items prior to Ex meeting

Safe space/grace for new members/new ideas

Lunch

Not Working:

Dragging out decision making

No onboarding available for new directors/members

Lack of clear separation between SE AMHI and Region 10 topics – move inclusive of Freeborn and Rice.

Suggestions:

Review prior minutes – assess progress

Committee updates as standing agenda item – MACSSA, County/State workgroups, local workgroups, etc.

Create a parking lot – for example LAC updates

Joint RMT and Directors meeting annually

Establish rounds table guidelines

Assign smaller groups to deep dive an issue/questions

Standing list for annual items noted quarterly – budgets, RCM MOU, etc.