

Kansas Mental Health Coalition

Speaking with one voice to meet critical needs of people with mental illness.

Minutes

Click on underlined items for web links.

March 29, 2023

9:30 a.m. Welcome and Introductions Mary Jones, President

Minutes of the previous meeting. Next meeting.

9:35 a.m. Reports

Board of Directors - next meeting is March 29 - note this will be the fifth Wednesday of the month.

Financial Report approved– Amy Campbell – Joan Tammany, Monica Kurz

Advocacy Committee – Colin Thomasset / Monica Kurz - Thank you to the hundreds of Kansas advocates who showed up to the Capitol on March 7 and our impressive lineup of sponsors and exhibitors! Monica thanked the committee for all of their work to make the day run very smoothly. Wonderful interaction with legislators, youth organizations and participants.

Governor’s Behavioral Health Services Planning Council – Wes Cole, Chair – Amy asked if there were any subcommittee recommendations that were getting action. Council hosted an all committee meeting in March. Commissioner Brown shared his ten point priority objectives and asked committees to work with those objective and strategize how they can align their work with that.

Big Tent Coalition - Mike Burgess – disability access legislation regarding lawsuits that target small business websites for financial settlements – the legislation is designed to make it harder for law firms to target businesses for accessibility issues.

KanCare Advocates Network – Updating last summer’s recommendations to KDHE related to the 2023 MCO procurement.

Consumer Programs - Nancy Jensen – Recovery Conference June 6-7 Wichita

Parity Committee - Amy Campbell / Rick Cagan - Providers are encouraged to participate in the 2023 Provider Parity Survey - [Letter](#) [Survey Link](#) [Examples](#)

Suicide Prevention Coalition / 988 Crisis Line - Monica Kurz

You can get your ticket for the KSPC Annual Meeting here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/kansas-suicide-prevention-coalition-1st-annual-in-person-meeting-tickets-528641851007>

10:00 a.m. Lobbyist Report Amy Campbell (abbreviated list)

- KS Insurance Department – comment period on Essential Health Benefits expansion

- KDADS Budget - House Appropriations delayed many recommendations from the KDADS Budget and Senate postponed mental health items until omnibus. Items in play include - \$5 m added funds for Substance Use Disorder Treatment, expedited certification for CCBHCs, \$22 m state funds for expansion of Ascension Via Christi emergency room for psychiatric evaluations and emergencies, crisis funding for I/DD, Reimburse up to \$5.0 million in costs of healthcare providers, law enforcement agencies, and counties on an hourly basis for patient observation and transportation following an evaluation and approval for stay at a state mental health hospital and admission to the state hospital (from existing funds), more
- State MH Hospitals - extreme issue for contract staffing - perhaps a GBA
- KDHE Budget - Medicaid Expansion was removed. Multiple reimbursements increased including EMS and physicians.
- DCF Budget - \$6 m for foster care therapeutic training program, \$350,000 SGF for Safe Families for Kansas, more
- HB 2259 - Medicaid Mental Health Medications Prior Authorizations and MH Medications Advisory Committee changes
- HB 2260 - Increasing the number of medical student loan agreements that may be provided by the university of Kansas school of medicine and prohibiting impediments to switching between residency programs. [Summary Document](#)
- HB 2340 - Requiring the behavioral sciences regulatory board to process applications within a certain time, decreasing the years of practice required for reciprocity licensure of certain behavioral sciences professions, extending the license period for temporary licenses, establishing new license categories and decreasing continuing education requirements related to diagnosis and treatment. House passed 118-3 Feb 23. Senate passed March 28 [Summary Document](#)
- HB 2375 - Behavioral sciences; relating to social work; powers, duties and functions of the behavioral sciences regulatory board; establishing the temporary candidacy baccalaureate and master social work licenses; providing requirements and fees therefor; amending K.S.A. 65-6314 and K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 65-6306 and repealing the existing sections. House passed 119-2 Feb 23. Senate passed 39-1 March 28. [Summary Document](#)
- HB 2430 - Providing for requirements for use of funds allocated to agencies for the purpose of supporting unhoused individuals and creating penalties for unauthorized camping on government-owned land. Hearing March 2 had overwhelming opposition. No action this session. Chair subsequently held an informational roundtable on homelessness March 23 in House Welfare Reform Committee. <http://sg001-harmony.sliq.net/00287/Harmony/en/View/Calendar/20230323/-1>
- Medicaid Expansion debate - March 28 - ruled non-germaine and set aside.
- Lottery Vending Machine funds - FY 23 adjustment to reflect increased income to be used for Crisis Programs and Clubhouse Programs. Legislation expected next session.

10:30 a.m. Update from Andy Brown, KDADS Behavioral Health (tentative)

KDADS Behavioral Health Objectives –

1. Increase access to services across the state, especially in rural and frontier counties.
2. Expand the provision of Medicine Assisted Treatment, Harm Reduction, and Contingency Management among SUD treatment programs.

3. Invest further in Social Determinants of Health, especially housing and employment programs.
4. Improve integration of behavioral health services with other forms of health care.
5. Work on addressing frontline workforce shortages to increase capacity within the provider network.
6. Invest in ways to create additional specialty court programs across the state.
7. Expand Problem Gambling Prevention and Treatment programs across the state.
8. Continue to build out mobile crisis and crisis stabilization services for statewide coverage 24/7.
9. Continue to build Suicide Prevention infrastructure to reduce suicide death rates.
10. Continue to expand OUD treatment and prevention to reduce overdose death rates.

11:25 a.m. Announcements

11:30 a.m. Adjourn

2023 Schedule - Jan 25, Feb 22, Mar 29, April 26, May 24, June 28, July 26, August 23, September 27, October 25, Nov 15, Dec 13

Board Meetings: 11:45 a.m. quarterly the 4th Wednesdays (March 29, July 26, Sept. 27, Dec. 13)

For more information, contact: Kansas Mental Health Coalition

c/o Amy A. Campbell, Lobbyist, P.O. Box 4103, Topeka, KS 66604

785-969-1617 campbell525@sbcglobal.net

2023 Schedule - Jan 25, Feb 22, Mar 29, April 26, May 24, June 28, July 26, August 23, September 27, October 25, Nov 15, Dec 13

Board Meetings: 11:45 a.m. quarterly the 4th Wednesdays (March 29, July 26, Sept. 27, Dec. 13)

For more information, contact: Kansas Mental Health Coalition

c/o Amy A. Campbell, Lobbyist, P.O. Box 4103, Topeka, KS 66604

785-969-1617 campbell525@sbcglobal.net