

KMHC Annual Business Meeting

When: May 27, 2020 9:30 AM, CDT

Where: Teleconference - 1-515-606-5183; participant code 567518

EVENT DETAILS:

Kansas Mental Health Coalition

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

Agenda

Click on underlined items for web links.

May 27, 2020 Monthly Meeting

Due to public restrictions relating to COVID-19, KMHC will meet by teleconference.

Teleconference access 1-515-606-5183, enter 567518

Introductions and sign-in sheet Mary Jones, President

Minutes of the previous meeting. [Read minutes](#) Motion by Jane Rhys, second Matt Spezia

9:30 a.m. Annual Elections

Annual Elections -Nominations are welcome from the floor in addition to those from the nominations committee. There were no additional nominations.

Board Nominations for 2020-2023: The committee nominates the following directors to renew their positions: Stephanie West-Potter, Kyle Kessler, Dana Schoffelman

Motion by Matt Spezia, second by Jessie Kaye. Motion passed.

Officer Nominations for 2020-2021: The committee nominates for President - Mary Jones to serve her first full term ; Secretary - Stephanie West-Potter for first term.

Motion by Steve Solomon, second Matt Spezia. Motion passed.

9:45 a.m. Reports

Board of Directors – Next meeting is in June.

Financial Report - Amy Campbell – Balance \$3158.66 as of May 1 plus additional three deposits this month. Amy will be compiling a current member list to share so that we know where we stand with dues collections.

Advocacy Committee –Grassroots Advocacy Network – Space is reserved in the Capitol on February 17 (or 18). There may or may not be large gatherings allowed at that time, but we do have the space reserved.

Governor’s Behavioral Health Services Planning Council – Wes is not available today.

Big Tent Coalition - Jane Rhys – the Big Tent is not meeting in person either right now. The group meets on Thursday morning. Sheri Hall interested in participating.

KanCare Advocates Network – has been meeting by teleconference and providing input to agency leaders. Adam Proffit has been joining the meeting once a month or so, and Janis DeBoer, KDADS Deputy Secretary

Alliance for a Healthy Kansas - Sean Gatewood

Consumer Programs – Matt Spezia – P3 has online peer support services available. Regular events have been more limited, we can add diversity to your online events so please reach out. Artists and Advocates portal is operational at the website and we are eager to utilize the improved online functions.

Juliana Sellers – The next Story Circle (Colorado) is now online and the next meeting is tomorrow morning at 11:00 a.m. See poetryforpersonalpower.org for more information. We welcome additional participants.

Parity Committee – Rick Cagan – Committee will meet in June and July and is planning to meet with the Insurance Commissioner August 18. The agency had pursued an increase in the spending limit for market investigations but do not believe the Legislature approved that. We have new information about strategies to pursue better parity investigations and plan to spend some time educating the Commissioner about those policies. It really depends on the degree of interest the agency has in pursuing any changes or possible legislation. We have been reaching out to other organizations to encourage their participation. Steve Solomon said he will participate on behalf of the Children’s Alliance.

Peer Certification Committee - Mary Jones – the Committee is looking at how to broaden the role of peers in Kansas and the proposal from Mental Health America. Hope to have a better idea of what we will be supporting by the next Coalition meeting. We are working some assignments and want to think large about how we might want to pursue policy in order to facilitate expansion of access to peer support.

10:30 a.m. KDADS Report - Andy Brown, Behavioral Health Commissioner –

A lot of what we have been doing is applying for federal funding and completing grant applications – emergency services for health care workers, emergency suicide prevention and domestic violence services. The funds pop up with about a week to ten days to submit the applications, but they are full fledged grants with outcomes compliance requirements, so it is a large part of our work right now.

Using Beacon to support our emergency response Opioid Response Grant – can use these funds now to support methamphetamine and other stimulants treatment for uninsured folks. This is a bit of a change in the administration of our SOR grants – moving away from a very specific set of providers to a more statewide response.

Working on state institute alternative policies – KanCare – working to move through the KDHE system to allow hospitalizations to occur at the private hospitals in a more regional bed model. Expands our current diversion/overflow programs. Would allow hospitals to bill Medicaid for those services at the same rate that the state hospitals bill. Also looking at our current situation with COVID-19 at the hospitals. Two weeks ago we announced a new census level to allow us to quarantine incoming patients in single rooms. This allows us to keep the patients more insulated. This reduced census increases the needs for

Amending contracts with HIS to identify additional hospitals to recruit into our options for overflow/census management diversions.

May be able to add some additional PRTF beds starting this summer – maybe up to 100 more to be available by the end of the year. There is a new facility coming on in the KC area with about 50 beds. The Legislature approved a pilot project at Emberhope in Newton, and if that stays in the budget would be 10-12 beds in that area. KVC may also apply for a license to change some of their hospital beds to PRTF beds.

Osawatomie State Hospital project is moving ahead – most of the moratorium priorities were in the Governor’s Budget and we anticipate they would stay in the budget. May be a little change in the pacing if funds are cut, but we are working to get the policies in place now for infrastructure such as the electronic health records. We are still hopeful to be able to lift the moratorium based on the time structure shared with the Legislature.

Becky Fast – I am hearing different things about the rate of reimbursement for telephonic services vs. in person.

Under the block grant and Medicaid, the telehealth visits should be billed at the same rate as the in person rate.

Becky – can they do a full hour with a telephonic session?

That depends on the patient and the provider. If the patient hangs up after 15 minutes, can only bill 15 minutes. But if eligible for an hour and the patient engages for an hour, can bill for the hour.

I am hearing that some providers are changing the frequency because it is harder to engage for the longer time periods. We did try to provide for as much flexibility as possible within the system.

Mary Jones – do you anticipate an extension beyond June 30 for the codes?

We are working with the KDHE agency - their policies are supposed to sunset June 30 but can be extended if the State of Emergency is extended. Have been encouraged by the level of attention we are seeing from our federal partners for the telehealth initiatives and it gives me some hope that we will continue to see some flexibility for those policies as we move out of the emergency situation.

Shereen commended the agency and the Governor's office for their quick response when the veteran's committee notified them that VFWs would be closed on Memorial Day due to their designation as bars.

A lot of what happened with COVID-19 has caused delays with the D of A for procurement. We are working to be sure our paperwork is ready as soon as D of A opens up to receive that paperwork. We are in a holding pattern for knowing what dollar amounts will be available to us next year. We appreciate the patience of our contractors as we wait to see what we are going to be able to do – we are filing a number of extensions right now.

11:00 a.m. Lobbyist Update - Amy Campbell

11:25 a.m. Announcements –

Steve Solomon – The Children's Alliance is looking for a new executive director. Have a goal to fill the position by August 1. Christie Appelhanz is leaving to become the federal children and families regional director.

Adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Schedule:

Mental Health Advocacy Day: February 17 or 18, 2021

KMHC Meetings: 9:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m. Jan 22, Feb 26, Mar 25, Apr 22, May 27, June 24, July 22, August 26, Sept 23, Oct 28, Nov 18, Dec 16

Board Meetings: 12 noon quarterly the 4th Wednesdays (March 25, June 24, Sept. 23, Dec. 16)

Advocacy Committee Meetings: January - March: Friday teleconferences from December through Adv. Day, Meet after Coalition meetings: January 22, ~~February 26~~, April 22, May 27, August 26, October 28

For more information, contact: Kansas Mental Health Coalition

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