

Kansas Mental Health Coalition

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

Minutes

July 25, 2018 Monthly Meeting

Valeo Behavioral Health Center, basement conference room, 330 SW Oakley, Topeka, KS

Introductions and sign-in sheet Eric Harkness, President

Minutes of the previous meeting adopted. [Read Draft](#). Schoffelman motion, Dierksen second.

9:15 a.m. Reports

Board of Directors – The Board may need to meet in August to approve sustainability plans for the Grassroots Advocacy Network and the HEPI grant. Coalition is seeking a volunteer to serve as the Treasurer for the Coalition.

Advocacy Committee –Grassroots Advocacy Network - Heather Elliott - Next committee meeting is August 22 after the regular KMHC meeting.

Andy Martin reported there is a small group working to develop a sustainability proposal for the Board of Directors regarding growing the Grassroots Advocacy Network and have ongoing funding for the network and its coordination.

Governor’s Behavioral Health Services Planning Council – The Council is in the process of receiving subcommittee reports.

Big Tent Coalition - Jane Rhys and Mike Burgess – BTC had a long discussion about policy at the last meeting – talking about how to effectively influence policy at the State and Federal level. There is a national Rev Up project for voter registration being headed up by several members. BTC is planning to sponsor another policy retreat event – one with an advocacy speaker and another that is policy oriented.

TILRC hosting an ADA Birthday celebration this Friday in Topeka. Everyone is welcome. (Topeka Independent Living Re Center)

KanCare Advocates Network - Sean Gatewood - Rally and community meetings.

August 21st – KanCare Rally – working to bring in different speakers to testify to the KanCare Oversight Committee. Want to have a good size crowd, will talk about network capacity issues and expansion issues. KanCare Advocates Network and Alliance for a Healthy Kansas will provide support to people who volunteer to provide testimony – can make copies of testimony for the speakers and be sure it is turned in. Those who will testify must sign up by August 13 and turn in testimony by August 16. Speakers at the Rally will talk about workforce issues, expansion and network capacity.

Financial Report and 2018 Budget - Amy Campbell - KMHC is seeking a volunteer to serve as Treasurer. We thank Meghan Cizek for her excellent service as our Treasurer. Carolyn Irvin expressed interest in getting the information for serving in the position.

10:00 a.m. Lobbyist Report - Kansas Legislature, Elections, KanCare, Step Therapy Coalition activities

KanCare Oversight Committee – August 20-21- The first day is supposed to be a report from the Kansas Health Institute about meaningful data.

Jim Porter, Chair Board of Education – convening a Task Force for Transition Age Youth. Kids with an IEP transition to community services from age 14 to 22. Mike Burgess will share information with the Coalition.

Legislature – Barbara Bollier – removed as Vice Chair of the Senate Public Health for endorsing a Democrat in the elections. This is significant since the Chair, Senator Vicki Schmidt, is running for Insurance Commissioner. If she is elected,

Elections – Reviewed a number of races that are being targeted as opportunities to unseat the incumbents. Some of the targeted legislators have been active supporters of behavioral health issues and programs. Also reviewed the races that will be over at the primary election – no general election candidate.

Talked about statewide races and frontrunners.

Discussed how to be involved in local races – show your support and get your name on the candidates' mailing lists.

2017 Crisis Intervention Act – distributed a summary of the Act. This is viewed as a key part of a truly regionalized system in the future by the Mental Health Task Force. Because the Coalition was neutral on the Act, we may need to discuss Task Force recommendations relating to the Act in order to vet for our policy agenda.

RFP – KDADS has provided a rough draft of an RFP to develop regionally based hospital beds. Would ask for private management of the beds. Requesting Task Force feedback to amend the RFP.

Bed Study – KDADS has asked KHI to conduct an actual bed study (as referenced in the 2018 Mental Health Task Force Report) to determine how many beds are needed for Kansas. The Report had estimated that Kansas needs approximately 300 additional beds to meet the need for voluntary and involuntary hospitalization.

11:00 a.m. Mental Health Task Force - Kari Bruffett, Kansas Health Institute

Reviewed the Legislative budget proviso directing the current work of the Mental Health Task Force. Reviewed the Task Force recommendations from the January 2018 Report. The Legislature did take action on a number of the recommendations this year, and asked the Task Force to provide more detailed implementation plans for the recommendations, particularly relating to regionalizing hospital beds.

Task Force is meeting every other Thursday at KHI. Meets tomorrow July 26.

State Hospital Regionalization/Privatization, Hospital Bed Capacity Study

KHI is working to collect data to establish the number of beds that Kansas should add to meet the needs of Kansans in need of voluntary and involuntary hospitalization. Hoping to accumulate data relating to the wait times for admission, but this is not going to be sufficient since the wait times have been substantially changed during the moratorium at Osawatomie State Hospital. Don't think there is any way to establish perfect data to document all of the impacts of insufficient hospital capacity, but plan to include examples. Probably won't include a definitive number, but perhaps a range based on whether or not crisis services are expanded.

The Task Force is also working to provide suggestions for the agency's draft Request for Proposals to provide regional hospital beds. [See rough draft of regionalization RFP](#) (This is only a draft - agency is seeking input and recommendations from the Task Force.)

Stuart Little – there is existing capacity around the State. Is the discussion about all new beds or to what extent does existing services become a part of the proposal?

KHI is not involved at all with the RFP. My impression of the RFP is that they are not specifically prescribing one or another. My impression is that they would be operated as state hospital beds, essentially no eject no reject. Their goal is to have at least one new provider. Would provide capacity and manage it as a state hospital.

Little - SUD Task Force – related to the IMD exclusion – has a lot to do with this and the opportunity for diversion from hospitalization.

What does this do to the catchment areas?

The State is interested in more flexibility in the catchment areas, but RFP isn't specific to that.

The KanCare Renewal 1115 Demonstration waiver requested an IMD exclusion, allowing Medicaid beneficiaries to maintain their Medicaid eligibility while admitted to an IMD. Kansas is not the only state to propose it, but CMS seems willing to discuss only for SUD treatment – particularly opioid addictions. State is discussing with CMS and working to see if this would pertain only to SUD treatment facilities or to individuals with SUD diagnosis who are admitted to an IMD.

Stamm – health care is moving to an integrated model of care. Medicare Advantage insurers are being told they can look at health care determinants – food, housing. Is the Task Force looking beyond the silo of how mental health can be integrated with physical health.

Some of the integration is built into the recommendations from last time. Having Denise Cyzman on the Task Force will bring more of that discussion. The members certainly have talked about that issue and you can see it in some of the recommendations. We still have to work to try to get mental health services integrated with SUD services. There has certainly been discussion about making sure that recommendations are not restrictive.

11:25 a.m. Announcements

Opioid Addiction - Friday – 2:00 p.m. – Cottonwood Springs Hospital hosting a seminar with Dr. Willey on the topic of opioid addiction.

KMHC August Guests - Be sure to put the August meeting on your calendars. That meeting will feature Secretary Gina Meier-Hummel of the Department for Children and Families. We will also have a report from the Disability Crime Victims Unit.

11:30 a.m. Adjourn

2018 Schedule:

Mental Health Advocacy Day: March 13, 2018

2018 KMHC Meetings: 9 a.m.–11:30 a.m. Jan 24, Feb. 28, Mar. 28, April 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, Aug 22, Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Nov 28, Dec. 12

Board Meetings: 12 noon quarterly the 4th Wednesdays (March 28, June 27, Sept. 26, Dec. 12)

Advocacy Committee Meetings: January - March: Friday teleconferences, Meet after Coalition meetings: January 24, February 28, April 25, May 23, August 22, October 24

For more information, contact: Kansas Mental Health Coalition

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