

# 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.*

**August 25, 2021**

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

Amy Campbell

Chad Childs

Rick Cagan

Angela Chapes

Shereen Ellis, Aetna

Mike Burgess, DRC

Nick Reinecker

Rennie McKinney, Advent Health Shawnee

Mission

R.A. McMillan-Beckman

Juliana Sellers, P3

Matt Rose, TPD

Usha Reddi, Manhattan City Council

Joan Tammany, ComCare

Monica Kurz, KSPHQ

Bill Persinger, Valeo

Josh Lyman, Reclamation Clubhouse

Sue Lewis, MHAH

Kurt Haberkorn

Eric Van Allen, Caresource

**Minutes of the previous meeting approved.** Motion by Shereen, second Matt. [Read minutes draft](#)

**9:45 a.m. Reports**

**Board of Directors** – Board will meet in September.

**Financial Report approved.** Motion by Sue, second by Matt.– Amy Campbell

**Advocacy Committee –Grassroots Advocacy Network -**

**Governor’s Behavioral Health Services Planning Council** – Wes Cole, Chair

**Big Tent Coalition** - Mike Burgess – Following KDADS work for the ARPA HCBS funds process. Also developing recommendations for the new MCO contracting for KanCare.

**KanCare Advocates Network** – Network involved in the planning for the Policy Retreat in the fall that includes Big Tent Coalition, KMHC, Disability Rights Center, and KAN. Communicating with KDADS regarding the distribution of the ARPA stimulus funds for HCBS waivers. Subcommittee working on recommendations for KDHE procurement process for KanCare MCOs.

**988 Advisory Council** – The Council is meeting regularly and focusing now on how to make the pieces fit together. There will be a 7-9 month process for onboarding for the response network. Johnson County Mental Health, ComCare, and Kansas Suicide Prevention HQ will form the initial network to

answer calls to 988. The deadline to submit a draft plan to Vibrant for the system is the end of September.

Question of funding remains. Kansas – and many other states – are getting hung up on the idea of taxing phone lines. It isn't popular. The federal law doesn't include any funding for the states implementation and operation. This is going to be a continuing problem as we work to advocate for support for a specialized behavioral health response.

**Consumer Programs** - Matt Spezia, P3 – Report include multiple programs, story circles, and training events. Submissions for Rite of Joy Mental Wellness can be submitted at [www.riteofjoy.com](http://www.riteofjoy.com). Story Circles are on 3rd Wednesdays at 6:30 pm and last Saturday at 2 pm. More can be found at our website at [www.poetryforpersonalpower.org](http://www.poetryforpersonalpower.org).

Poetry slam on Thursday 8/26, Aysn Spit Fire Slam on Tuesdays

**Parity Committee** - Amy Campbell – Committee met with Insurance Commissioner and is in process of working on public information videos and hosting informational forums in the fall.

**10:00 a.m. Agency Update: Andy Brown, Behavioral Health Commissioner**

**10:30 a.m.** Kansas Trainings Teach Emotional Coping Strategies Following Disasters - Mary Jones, Mental Health America of South Central Kansas [document](#) - [Kansas Disaster Relief Grant Overview](#) [October event flyer](#)

Two Kansas mental health advocacy, education, and support organizations are offering 15 virtual or in-person training programs to parents, caregivers, school staff, K-12 students, and community organizations in 70 counties to help them cope with the mental impact of experiencing and surviving a natural disaster. Outreach and service provision for the program, known as “Strong Communities for Trying Times,” is shared by the Mental Health Association of South Central Kansas (MHASCK) and Mental Health America of the Heartland (MHAH).

1. Implement an evidence-based school mental health plan 2. Implement a behavioral health professional training plan 3. Provide assessment and direct treatment services in schools 4. Improve referral systems to community-based providers 5. Build stronger community partnerships

**10:45 a.m. Lobbyist Report** Amy Campbell

- Legislative Coordinating Council establishes 2021 interim committees: Kancare Oversight, Legislative Budget Committee, Child Welfare System Oversight, Special Committee on Home and Community Based Services Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Waiver, Special Committee on Child Support Enforcement and Collection, Special Committee on Federal 340B Drug Program - among others. [See list.](#)
- Robert G. (Bob) Bethell Joint Committee on Home & Community Based Services/KanCare Oversight - rescheduled to September 22-23
- Mental Health Medication Advisory Committee - KDHE - August 10, 2021 [See KMHC Comments](#) Proposal in discussion: • CAPLYTA®, FANAPT®, REXULTI®, VRAYLAR®, LATUDA® (MUST MEET ALL OF THE FOLLOWING) ▪ *Must have had an adequate trial (at least 2 weeks for each agent at maximum tolerated doses) of at least 3 chemically unique antipsychotics (not including different salt formulations) listed in Table 1 below (Abilify, Risperdal, Seroquel, Zyprexa, Geodon, Fazaclo, Clozaril, Saphris, and Invega) before trying the newer agents in the*

*same atypical antipsychotic class.* (NOTE: the language was pulled from an email, not a published agenda.)

- KDADS Budget Stakeholder Input - [KMHC Letter](#)
- ARPA Funds - KDADS Plan for FMAP Enhancement Funds - [Kansas ARPA Executive Summary.pdf](#) [Kansas ARPA Section 9817 Initial Spending Plan Cover Letter \(1\).pdf](#) [Project Spending Plan](#)
- Governor's Recovery Office and SPARK process will operate under legislative oversight for ARPA Funds distribution.

**11:00 a.m. Guest Topic: Agreement to address Olmstead concerns for residents of nursing facilities for mental health - TILRC and Disability Rights Center** [See press release](#) [See agreement](#)

Topeka Independent Living Resource Center (TILRC) and Disability Rights Center of Kansas (DRC), acting on behalf of their constituents with mental illness, have reached an agreement with the State of Kansas to expand services and provide more community residential options for individuals living in, or at risk of being admitted to, Nursing Facilities for Mental Health (NFMH). Under the agreement, the Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) will provide supports and services to allow people with mental health disabilities to avoid institutionalization and live in community-based, integrated settings. TILRC was represented in negotiations by attorneys from AARP Foundation, DRC, the Center for Public Representation, and Shook, Hardy & Bacon.

Under the agreement, over the next eight years the State will develop and expand a wide range of mental health services for NFMH residents, as well as integrated community services throughout Kansas. The reforms will include the creation of several hundred supported housing units; mobile crisis and assertive community treatment teams; supported employment programs; and peer support services.

**11:25 a.m. Announcements**

The Kansas Suicide Prevention Coalition is launching on Sept 21 at 3PM. The meeting will be held virtually. Please email, [Coalition@KSPHQ.ORG](mailto:Coalition@KSPHQ.ORG) for details to attend!

Bike for the Brain [www.bikeforthebrain.org](http://www.bikeforthebrain.org) MHAH is now managing and will be beneficiary of Bike 4 the Brain-- a Labor Day urban bike ride-- we'd love to have you participate

Chalk for Mental Health Event – KSPHQ is inviting our partners and suicide prevention advocates to participate in our Let's Chalk about Suicide Prevention social media campaign for National Suicide Prevention Month in September. Visit <https://www.ksphq.org/chalk> for details. Or check out the Facebook event <https://www.facebook.com/events/290635946199475/>

The CareSource Foundation is offering a Challenge Award in Kansas between now and Sept 27th. Please check it out:<https://www.caresource.com/about-us/caresource-foundation/grant-challenge/>

Kansas Consumer Advisory Council has three at large positions open –

Registration for the 42nd annual Conference on Behavioral Health is now open. The conference offers both in person and virtual attendance options. It will be held September 15-17 in Manhattan (with two preconference workshops on Sept 14 focusing on early childhood mental health and peer support

services). More information and registration link are located at  
<https://www.acmhck.org/annualconference/2021-annual-conference/>

**11:30 a.m. Adjourn**

**2021 Schedule:** Jan 27, Feb 24, Mar 24, Apr 28, May 26, June 23, July 28, August 25, Sept 22, Oct 27, Nov 17, Dec 15

**Mental Health Advocacy Day - Virtual Event:** February 17 - 24, 2021

**Board Meetings:** 12 noon quarterly the 4th Wednesdays (March 24, June 23, Sept. 22, Dec. 15)

For more information, contact: Kansas Mental Health Coalition

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