

Kansas Mental Health Coalition

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

Minutes

January 24, 2018 Monthly Meeting Valeo Behavioral Health Center, basement conference room, 330 SW Oakley, Topeka, KS

Introductions and sign-in sheet Eric Harkness, Vice President

Minutes of the previous meeting adopted. Motion by Cagan.

9:15 a.m. Reports

KanCare 2.0 – Sean Gatewood, KanCare Advocates Network – Public comment period still open. Hoping for broad participation in public hearing for SB 38 – Bridge to a Healthy Kansas. This is the same expansion bill that passed in 2017 and was vetoed by Governor Brownback. Asked that KMHC and other interested organizations write to Senate Chair Vicki Schmidt and request a public hearing.

Board of Directors – Board met in December. The Board adopted the 2018 annual budget and the 2018 meeting schedule. Andy Brown's resignation was accepted and Meghan Cizek was appointed as Treasurer. Brown is now working for KDADS.

Advocacy Committee –Grassroots Advocacy Network - Heather Elliott – Stephanie West-Potter

Governor's Behavioral Health Services Planning Council – Wes Cole

Mental Health Medication Advisory Committee – February 13, 2018

Link: http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/pharmacy/mhmac_meeting_materials.htm

Big Tent Coalition - Jane Rhys and Mike Burgess

Financial Report adopted – Burgess motion, Cole seconded. Meghan Cizek has been appointed the new Treasurer.

10:00 a.m. KDADS Report–Andy Brown, Director of Prevention–Prevention programs/tobacco cessation

10:30 a.m. Sedgwick County Proposal for integrated crisis services for primary care, mental health and addictions – Robyn Chadwick, LSCSW, VP Operations Via Christi Hospitals Wichita, Inc. (by phone)

Tisha Darland – ComCare – spoke. Chadwick was unable to stay on the line since we were off schedule.

Sheriff Easter of Sedgwick County has organized meetings with community partners to look at the impact of reduced behavioral health services in their community, and the impact of the moratorium on state hospital admissions at Osawatomie State Hospital.

Made presentations to the Legislature in three committees regarding the Texas Bexar County model. Hosted a dinner Monday night with approximately 50 legislators there. More than 100 people in attendance.

Asking for sustained funding through KDADS rather than requesting funds every six months. Need to add medical detox services (additional \$500,000).

Via Christi grant will allow policymakers to tour Bexar County facility. Have a 93% successful diversion rate from state hospital and/or jail.

Wichita crisis services serve thousands of people, and also benefit the State fiscally: history \$16 m costs at state hospital. In 2016, reduced to \$9 million

Saved the State \$11.5 million since opening the crisis center.

Violence against ED staff, transportation, suspension vs. termination of benefits.

Everyone is in agreement regarding what we need to move forward. End the circular blame game of passing blame to the hospital, and provide necessary services to end the cycle of repeated admissions and discharges and encounters with law enforcement and the courts.

Tisha – peer support – have positions in our CMHC, in our observation and stabilization and sobering unit. Not sure if Via Christi has peer support workers in place, but think it is a great suggestion. NAMI is also at the crisis center two evenings a month and have been fortunate to make connections to the wonderful services they have in place here in Wichita. Would like to expand that to more hours if possible.

Rick – there are no regulations in place to create a Crisis Intervention Facility as described under the CIA. The agency has a process in place, but it will take some time. Want to urge the agency and policymakers

Tisha – have been an employee of crisis center at ComCare since 1999 – things are really gelling right now. Proposals to expand services there and incorporate detox beds will make a big difference.

12,563 people used services at the center in the past year – (not necessarily unique individuals)

10:50 a.m. Lobbyist Report - Kansas Legislature

It appears that Governor Brownback might be confirmed today to the presidential appointment as Ambassador of Religious Freedom. The appointment has been waiting for Senate confirmation for about six months. If this confirmation occurs, Lt. Governor Jeff Colyer will become Governor – which is likely to change the mood in the Statehouse considerably. Brownback and his policies (and proposed budget) have been roundly criticized by an ever expanding number of legislators. His recent declaration that K-12 education funding should be increased \$600 million over 5 years to meet the Supreme Court's order has been unpopular, primarily because he predicted there would be no need to increase taxes to meet the costs. On another note, he recommended increasing the number of school counselors and school psychologists in Kansas schools by 150 positions each year.

Note that all committee meetings are now available for online streaming at <http://kslegislature.org>

- Representative Elizabeth Bishop has proposed new legislation for Suspension of Medicaid Benefits vs. Revocation
- SB 195 will be amended to mirror the House legislation - Suspension of Medicaid Benefits for Incarcerated Individuals [Link to testimony](#)
- Secretary's Report on Osawatomie State Hospital and Larned State Hospital [Read Here](#) Reviewed the contents of the KDADS updates to legislative committees regarding the state hospitals and the provisos from the 2017 budget legislation requiring cost estimates for razing buildings at OSH and building a 100 bed hospital or 200 bed hospital.
- KanCare 2.0 – Legislation / Delay options – SB 300 – Broad legislative support is emerging to delay KanCare 2.0 altogether. This is primarily due to concerns about increased costs potentially associated with providing targeted case management to long term services and supports. The cost predictions are disputed.
- Step Therapy Parameters for Private Insurance- SB 304 – Kansas Coalition for Treatment Access. Statement on Step Therapy rules for private insurance [Read Here](#)
- CHIP Renewal – The State of Kansas was completing steps to insure the children covered by CHIP, the federal Children's Health Insurance Program, would be transferred to the general Medicaid population if Congress did not reauthorize the program. Fortunately, the recent federal budget agreement (although temporary) does include renewal for the program. The federal/state cost share for CHIP health care reimbursement is 91%/9%, while the current federal/state cost share for Medicaid is 60%/40%.
- Special Committee on Health - Telemedicine - Interim Report linked on the KLRD website:
<http://www.kslegresearch.org/KLRD-web/Committees/Committees-Spc-Health.html>

Mental Health Task Force Report [Link to Report](#) and [Read Overview](#)

11:00 a.m. Consensus Recommendations Review and Discussion

Housing Issue Paper – Christy McMurphy (There was a presentation from Wyandot / Johnson County / Douglas County representatives at the Statehouse last week) Updated Housing Issue Paper [Read Here](#) Reviewed the paper / add the

recommendation to maximize federal funding / expand Medicaid options. KDADS Housing and Homelessness Pilot Project – handout – Agency is planning to implement the recommendation of the Housing and Homelessness Subcommittee to create a pilot project RFP. KMHC is supportive.

Tobacco Cessation – Proposal to increase the scope of services reimbursed under KanCare supported. Tobacco Cessation Services [Read Letter to Medicaid Director](#) Tobacco Guideline for Behavioral Health Care [Document](#)

IMD Exclusion Rule – Recommended by the 2018 Mental Health Task Force and the 2017 Report of the Adult Continuum of Care Committee. State waiver request is currently tied to KanCare 2.0, advocate for a separate waiver request if needed to move Kansas forward to allow hospitals, crisis facilities and others to bill Medicaid.

11:25 a.m. Announcements

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 TBA, Dec. TBA

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

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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