

Director's Report – 5.28.24

To: Board of Directors
From: Leonetta Rizzi, Executive Director

The MCMHB's 2024-2026 Strategic Initiatives are accompanied by goals and objectives based on existing needs, emerging trends, opportunities, and challenges identified as critical to maintaining and enhancing the local network of services to meet our mission of leading and contracting for quality services for all people of McHenry County. These Strategic Initiatives include:

- Strategic Initiative #1: Enhance Access to Quality Care for BH & IDD Services
- Strategic Initiative #2: Enhance Continuum of Quality Care for BH & IDD Services
- Strategic Initiative #3: Increase Awareness & Visibility of Community Resources
- Strategic Initiative #4: Provide Visionary Leadership, Empowerment, & Advocacy to BH & IDD Stakeholders

MHB General Updates/Notable ED Activities

- FY25 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) and Application opened on May 31, 2024. The application(s) will be due on July 31, 2024. Although we posted having approximately \$10,830,000 for Client Services MHB funding and \$250,000 budgeted for Opioid Settlement \$ available for FY25, we have received updated information on Opioid settlement funds from the pharmacies and it's over \$800K in total that the county has received. We will be reposting the Opioid NOFA with this updated information. Staff reviews and input will be completed in the Foundant system in June for Board review/input to follow. Vickie will be sending out the tutorial again for the Board. (1)(2)(3)(4)
 - ED has met with PSW Program, NIRC and NDARS per their request to discuss FY25 funding application questions and has set up meetings with 5 potential new applicants along with MHB managers.
- ED facilitated the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Management Team kick-off meeting to discuss the deliverables of the SAMHSA grant regardless of grant obtainment since we should be hearing within the next month. Much of the work is setting up the collaborative process since it was a planning grant with a 6-month implementation window. All stakeholders including the SAO are very committed. (1)(3)(4)
- ED meeting weekly with the Grant Writer and assisting with grant deliverables when needed. (1)(2)(3)(4)
 - Currently working on the following private grants:
 - A \$100,000 Children's Mental Health grant from Morgan Stanley - Alliance for Mental Health for Child Advocacy Center. We are still in need of identifying a Morgan Stanley employee for this grant sponsorship. Please let ED know if you have a contact at Morgan Stanley.
 - 2 smaller grants of approximately \$5,000-\$35,000 each (More Equity & JM Lewis) for Youth & Family Center.
 - 2 smaller private grants are being worked on for Warp Corps: Haley and John Marshall Family Foundations.
 - Grants submitted in the past & are awaiting notice:
 - Bersted Foundation grant submitted for YFC for \$10-\$25,000.
 - SAMHSA Treatment Drug Courts program grant was submitted on April 1, 2024, for the 22nd Judicial Drug Courts.
 - Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery (SUPR) BASE grant (Build, Amplify, Support, Empower) was submitted on April 24, 2024, for CL Teen Center.
 - SAMHSA Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Program for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness was submitted April 26, 2024 under the 22ⁿ Judicial Circuit (JC – Specialty Courts).
- ED has been troubleshooting issues with the McHelp App. They had to create a new Android app due to problems with the old one. Google Support has not yet provided a solution for notifying old users about the new app. An early upgrade for iPhone users (iOS app v.1.2) went live on the 13th to fix bugs in the 1.1 version. They are still working on further corrections for the app update. Google will notify existing users of the update and automatically update shortly thereafter. We are considering adding information about these issues to our website. (4)
- MHB office space update: Due to an interested party, the last office space has not been placed with a realtor until we assess the potential interested candidate. (4)
- IT Projects update: Door project is anticipated to be completed by mid-July now due to elevator project delay. IT will send a notification for the reissuing of badges in this next month. The Board Room live-streaming camera project

should be ready for July board meeting. These meetings will be posted on the website and only accessible to those who click specifically on the link. (4)

MHB County/State/Federal Interface

- FY25 State Budget and legislative session wrap-up was summarized nicely by our Association - [click here](#).
- Both chambers have released their Veto Session Calendar. The first week of Veto Session is November 12, 13 & 14. The second week is November 19, 20 & 21. House Veto Session Calendar: https://ilga.gov/house/schedules/2024_House_Veto_Session.pdf . The Senate Veto Session Calendar: https://ilga.gov/senate/schedules/2024_Senate_Veto_Session.pdf . Updated list of bills we're monitoring into the Veto session is attached in addendum along with those bills that we were monitoring that passed recently.
- June 22nd, the United States celebrates the 25th anniversary of the landmark Olmstead decision. On June 22, 1999, the United States Supreme Court held in Olmstead v. L.C. that unjustified segregation of persons with disabilities constitutes discrimination in violation of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Court held that public entities must provide community-based services to persons with disabilities when (1) such services are appropriate; (2) the affected persons do not oppose community-based treatment; and (3) community-based services can be reasonably accommodated, taking into account the resources available to the public entity and the needs of others who are receiving disability services from the entity. The White House hosted a celebration on the 18th in which many of our IDD Association leaders were in attendance. (4)
- The Center for Workforce Solutions, a partnership between the National Council, Health Management Associates, and The College for Behavioral Health Leadership, compiled more than 400 recommendations from published reports. Explore the crosswalk summary in the addendum.
- An updated report with a comprehensive look at America's mental health crisis system and the strength of the crisis response system by state. Our State Snapshots show the work that is needed. Click here for the [report](#).

Association of Community Mental Health Authorities (ACMHAI) Update (4)

- August Membership Meetings - Mark Your Calendars for August 1 and 2, 2024. Dr. Eric Ward, CEO of Family Counseling Service, will be one of the speakers. He will present on the timely topic of "Mitigating a Community Mental Health Crisis: When Partnership Works," highlighting innovative solutions to the workforce shortage. More details and registration information will be available shortly.
- On June 7th, the Governor signed HB 4951, the revenue omnibus bill, which includes significant changes to the Community Mental Health Act (CMHA) which MHBs were involved in drafting feedback. These changes are effective immediately. Access the ACMHAI fact sheet detailing these changes, [here](#).

Community Behavioral Healthcare Association of IL (CBHA) (4)

- Besides strong advocacy efforts this session, they continue to work with providers on technical issues. They've also been tracking Medicaid #'s since the redetermination process started last summer. Roughly 648,000 Illinoisans have been disenrolled from the Medicaid rolls since the start of the redetermination process, according to data from KFF. About 2.3 million individuals have had their coverage renewed.

Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (IARF) (4)

- Had been very involved in advocacy of both IDD and BH bills this past session and is now involved with reporting the results. Also, in response to a joint memo from IARF and CBHA addressing concerns over the upcoming changes to the prior authorization process for Comprehensive Community Support Services with Meridian. They are also starting to promote the 2024 IARF Educational Conference & Expo on August 28th – 30th in Bloomington – Normal.

MHB Network Training Events (2)

- [CLICK HERE](#) for the latest Hot Sheets which is more than all the education items in addendum.

MHB & Network Monthly Highlights (1)(2)(4)

- Veterans Path to Hope received a major Suicide Prevention grant from U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and they are very excited to start October 1, 2024. \$634,022 was granted in year 2 of the 2-year grant cycle and they are hoping the VA will offer another round next year.
- NW CASA is excited about the advocacy this past year, resulting in a \$20M budget for ICASA, which will trickle down to agencies. As you recall, they were hit last year, with a significant decrease in budget. Press release in addendum.
- Save the date! NAMI McHenry County will host its first walk in over 10 years on **October 5, 2024** at Veteran Acres in Crystal Lake. A large event component will be a Mental Health Resource Fair, which we have already registered to

attend. Please let ED know if you're interested in participating in the noncompetitive walk or table. They expect 500+ attendees. Will distribute the flyer once received.

- There are still two Providers not set up with Electronic Payments which is in the FY24 contracts. They are working on it, but payments have ceased for the past 2 months until this is resolved.
- The Compliance team has performed the following audits since our last Board meeting with no major findings: YFC, Police Social Work Program, and Consumer Credit Counseling Services.

Important Dates

- MHB Finance & Audit Committee | July 18, 2024 | 5pm | MHB Conference Rooms
- MHB Ethics & Compliance Committee | July 30, 2024 | 5pm | MHB Conference Rooms
- Save the Date: September 13, 2024 | Community Connection Summit (formerly Suicide Prevention and Recovery Conference) | 9am-3pm | MCC

Respectfully Submitted,

Leonetta Rizzi, Executive Director

- Attachments in Appendix: Network Council Minutes; CWS-Recommendation-Crosswalk – Brief; ICASA Budget Press Release; ACMHAI Bill monitoring.