

Director's Report – 8.27.24

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 Funding Application review process has begun with over 101 applications submitted including some duplicates also under Opioid Funding review, (but not including 2 in "draft" requesting board approval for submission this month – see new business agenda items). Out of the 101 applications, we have 22 new programs being requested for funding and 7 of these programs are from 5 new organizations. Approximately \$10,830,000 is budgeted for Client Services MHB funding and \$650,000 is budgeted for Opioid Settlement \$ available for FY25. This will be another difficult decision-making year for our Board as we continue to see a demand much greater than what we can fund, as noted by the \$5.3M requests above our FY25 Client Services Budget. We had projected this trajectory to reach crisis states due to the years of flat/level funding and our inability to keep up with costs and overall capacity needs. Staff extremely busy with completing reviews and input in the Foundant system this month for Board review/input to follow. Contract Management Specialist will be sending out the tutorial again for the Board. (1)(2)(3)(4)
- ED has been corresponding with our Sherrif, Robb Tadelman, to understand the current jail process due to a couple of recent calls from residents re: their mentally ill family member incarcerated in our McHenry County Jails who have been evaluated and found to be "unfit to stand trial" and concerned about the "lack of sufficient care" while jailed. These conversations have been eye-opening, and ED has recently enlisted support from our Association to assist in addressing the issues with DHS and also to assess any innovative solutions across the state since our jails are being placed in a difficult situation as our jailed severely mentally ill population is suffering. Summary in appendix. (1)(4)
- ED meeting weekly with the Grant Writer and assisting with grant deliverables when needed. 5 grants in progress. See the grants calendar in the appendix for submitted grants awaiting official notifications. Crystal Lake Teen Center has been the first on our list to receive notification of \$60K award for their BASE program! (1)(2)(3)(4)
- MHB office space update: Economic Development Corporation (EDC), current tenants occupying 3 rooms on the 2nd floor, notified ED of a potential partnership with MCC which may lead to a move to another location by the end of the year. More information should be solidified by next month. Since the lease for the larger corner space on that same side fell through, we are holding off promoting this last available room until EDC's decision since that would offer a larger occupancy space on that side of the 2nd floor which may be attractive to promote together. (4)
- IT Projects update: Door project completed, and new badges have been issued to a majority of the tenants along with agreements for badge and key replacements. The Board Room live-streaming camera project is planned for go-live at this month's board meeting since the set-up for the connections to the e-scribe system is occurring on August 26th. The live-streaming MHB meetings will be accessible to those who specifically go to that meeting site on the County portal and click on the link. (4)

MHB County/State/Federal Interface

- The regular commitments we set with County Administration to increase awareness of MHB operations are in play. MHB Q2 reports were part of the County Board meeting packets this month. Carolyn Schofield, County Board liaison, will continue her reports to the County Board. ED will also be attending PHCS quarterly (vs once per year) and presenting annually to the COW in May. Thank you all! (4)
- See Workforce Housing report in appendix on initiatives McHenry County will be pursuing. (4)
- The Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery's (SUPR) Contract Policy Manual (CPM) for FY 25 has been posted on the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) website with increased rates effective July 1, 2024. NIRC and Rosecrance FFS SUD program will be impacted causing increased utilization of MHB funds.

- Centerstone, the new statewide 988 Call Center replacing Path, is up and running with a full staff for 24/7 care. There is a new voicemail system, and calls are being answered quicker. The call volume has been higher than expected and is almost double from 2022. Text and chat are not being answered locally due to a national issue. This problem should be fixed by October. They seem to have a better handle on dispatching Mobile Crisis Response teams (MCR), but the new school year will test this feature further.
- DMH is working with HFS on the implementation of [CCBHCs](#). The Illinois Demonstration start date is October 1, 2024. Thresholds is part of the State's demonstration project as one of CCBHC's selected.
- CDC report: OUD treatment rates climbed, yet major shortfalls remain. [A new Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) report reveals that](#) in 2022, 25% of adults who needed treatment for opioid use disorder (OUD) received medications for OUD, while 30% received treatment excluding these medications. Despite potential progress in expanding access to medication, 3 out of 4 individuals with OUD still do not receive medication. Through our grants, we are ensuring access the OUD mediations for McHenry Co residents.
- SAMHSA has released the 2023 National Survey on Drug Use & Health results, accompanied by two infographics. NSDUH results, as well as the companion briefs, can be found in full at [Results from the 2023 National Survey on Drug Use and Health \(NSDUH\)](#).
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services [approved](#) the Illinois 1115 waiver plan. The approval is effective through June 2029. The initiative-specific goals of the demonstration are to provide: 1) medical assistance to individuals with SUD; 2) SUD case management; 3) supported employment services; 4) targeted pre-release services to eligible individuals and improve the health of communities and populations in Illinois; 5) Health-related social needs (HRSN) services; 6) violence prevention and intervention services; and 7) non-medical transportation.
- HFS also began the Medicaid Provider revalidation process this week, which was halted during COVID, but typically requires a revalidation every five years. 90-days will be given for completion.

Association of Community Mental Health Authorities (ACMHAI) - see <https://acmhai.org/> (4)

- August Membership Meetings went well. Next member Association meeting is December 5 (noon-4pm) & 6 (9am-noon) in Schaumburg. Board members are encouraged to attend. Details to follow.
- The Association selected a new vendor for Government Relations, Liz Brown-Reeves, to start October 1, 2024.

Community Behavioral Healthcare Association of IL (CBHA) – see <https://cbha.net/> (4)

- Very active with initiatives with HFS and DMH as well as supporting Providers directly with changes from State Agencies and continued advocacy.

Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (IARF) – see <https://www.iarf.org/> (4)

- Busy with their 2024 IARF Educational Conference & Expo: The Value of You – Inspire, Ignite, Connect, which is August 28th – 30th at the Bloomington – Normal Marriott Hotel & Conference Center.

MHB Network Training Events (2)

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

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

- The Compliance team has suspended audits for August due to FY25 application reviews.

Important Dates

- September 13, 2024 | Community Connection Summit (formerly Suicide Prevention and Recovery Conference) | 9am-3pm | MCC [REGISTER HERE](#)
- **MHB Board Meeting** | September 24, 2024 | 6pm | MHB Conference Rooms
- September 28, 2024 | Never Walk Alone – Suicide Prevention Walk. Join MHB Team. If interested, just click on Join a Team on link below and enter your information and select our MHB team: <https://givebutter.com/neverwalkalone24/>
- October 5, 2024 | NAMI Walk & Resource Table opportunity – let ED know interest | Veterans Acres – CL
- MHB Special Meetings | October 9 & 16, 2024 | 5pm | MHB Conference Rooms

Respectfully Submitted,
Leonetta Rizzi, Executive Director

- Attachments in Appendix: Unfit to Stand Trail transfer issues; MCMHB Grants Calendar; and McHenry Co Workforce housing report.