

**Polk County Mental Health and Disability Services Regional Governing Board**  
**Minutes**  
**August 31, 2022 9:30 a.m.**

**Members Present:**

Robert Brownell, Tom Hockensmith, Steve Van Oort, Matt McCoy, Angela Connolly,  
Lorna Garcia, Nikki Syverson, Mardi Deluhery, Jadie Boens, Steve Johnson, Christina Smith

Also present: Annie Uetz, CEO, Behavioral Health and Disability Services (BHDS)

**LET THE RECORD SHOW** minutes of the Previous Meeting(s) will be approved at the next meeting.

**RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution approving Integrated Services Agencies (ISA), Knowledge Empowers Youth (KEY) and Forensic Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) Outcome Value-Based payments.

Resolution approving FY23 Service Contract Amendments.

Resolution approving evaluation services with University of Iowa and Sigma Associates.

Resolution approving Decisions for Life – Guardianship Services.

Resolution approving Mindspring – Education and Prevention Services.

**LET THE RECORD SHOW** all resolutions, including Public Hearings, were approved unanimously, unless otherwise noted.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Crisis Advocacy Response Effort (CARE) Team Presentation**

Annie introduced Kari Osborn, a nurse on the CARE Team, and gave background information on the program. Kari spoke of examples of the different types of calls they get and how they help or refer people to resources/organizations. When people call dispatch (911), calls are referred to the CARE Team to assist when it's not a police matter. They also do follow up calls after police have been to see someone, to check on the person and offer more help/resources. They reach out to different community resources/services to see what is available for the people they are helping. Safety protocols are in place for the team if there is an emergency in the field (they carry police radios with a button to activate police ASAP, GPS tracking). It was also mentioned that mobile crisis calls are up. Mobile Crisis and CARE Team are cross-trained. Most of these calls are within Des Moines, but they do take calls and go outside of Des Moines if needed. The suburbs have lower utilization of mobile crisis. This may be due to the West Des Moines Police Department having a mental health officer and Ankeny Police Department has a three-person community engagement team. All of these law enforcement officers have been trained in Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training. The west suburbs that are also in Dallas County are being trained in CIT which is being paid for the Heart of Iowa Region. Waukee Police Department has started a co-responder mobile crisis response model and that will be expanded into the western suburbs. The co-responder model paid for by Heart of Iowa is not 24 hours per day so the Broadlawns Mobile Crisis Response Team will still be utilized by the western suburbs. Annie explained that the Mobile Crisis Response Team is funded through the region. The CARE Team is funded thru DMPD, Broadlawns and Polk County for last fiscal year. For this fiscal year, Broadlawns will work with the suburbs for funding the Polk County portion. Medicaid does fund for the assessment but the majority of cost of Mobile Crisis Response is not covered by Medicaid.

The Federal 988 number is in the news now. This number has taken over the national suicide hotline number. If you call 988 in Polk County and need Mobile Crisis, they will tell you to hang up and call 911. Over the next six months, the State of Iowa is going to be meeting with the mobile crisis units and the regions to discuss how warm hand offs will take place. There is talk about having 988 dispatch all Mobile Crisis Response Teams but more discussions will be taking place over the next few months.

**LET THE RECORD SHOW** Chairperson Connolly left the meeting early.

#### **Resolution Process**

A committee is being formed to come up with a streamlined process for the Governing Board to approve resolutions/contracts/agreements and try to eliminate confusion with the Governing Board approving items and also the Polk County Board of Supervisors approving same items. Supervisor Brownell, Steve Johnson, Lorna Garcia, Andrea Petrovich, Becky Dewey and staff volunteered to be on the committee and bring a recommendation to the November meeting.

#### **FY2022/2023 Meeting Calendar**

A handout of future meeting dates for Advisory Committees and Regional Governing Board was distributed.

Next meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup> is a Zoom meeting only to vote on one item.  
The next full meeting will be in November.

#### **Updates**

##### ***Staff changes –***

Shivani Sehgal joined BHDS from I.T. and is working on the CSN application and with staff on different projects. Rachel Adams joined BHDS from Medical Examiner's Office and will be a Program Planner for Crisis Services. Adrienne Bergman has left BHDS for another job outside Polk County.

**CSN** – this is the platform that was transitioned to recently. Work is on-going. Looking at processes and rewriting operations manual. An example is the Service Appeal process, which looks at individuals in our County going outside Polk County to receive services. Since the Service Appeal Board was implemented, the rules for residency changed, the funding has moved from the County to the State and the volume has greatly decreased. Staff will be reviewing this process with the County Attorney's Office. The CSN conversion is almost complete and bills are being paid through this system.

Annie made the board aware that Director Garcia stated, at the ISAC Fall School, that we have too many regions and for administrative purposes, they want to reduce the regions to six. Annie doesn't feel Polk County will be affected.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting will be September 13, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Audio on file.

Minutes submitted by B. Dewey, Auditor's Office.