

Bay Human Services Collaborative Council

HSCC Steering Committee

December 14, 2022

Present:

Laura Love, *Chairperson*, McLaren Bay Region
Diane (Fong) Mahoney, Bay Area Community Foundation
Beth Eurich, Bay County Department on Aging
Nicole Luczak, United Way
Jill Sutton, Mid-Michigan Community Action
Emily Yeager, CAN Council of Great Lakes Bay Region
Joel Strasz, Bay County Health Department

Coordinator & Recorder: David Wesoloski, Bay County Health Department

- I. **Call to Order – Laura Love, Chairperson:** The meeting was called to order at 8:36 AM by Laura Love.
Review of/and Additions to the Agenda: The agenda was reviewed. Beth Eurich made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Diane Mahoney seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- II. **Approval of the October Minutes (attached):** Minutes were reviewed. Beth Eurich made a motion to approve the October 26 meeting notes with no changes. Diane Mahoney seconded the motion. All were in favor.
November HSCC General Member Meeting Minutes: For review (see attached).
- III. **Bay County Health Department**
 - a. **COVID-19 Update:** It is flu and cold season. COVID-19, influenza, RSV, and other respiratory illnesses are circulating in Bay County, Michigan, and throughout the country. While RSV is typically common among infants and very young children, we are seeing a lot of seniors with RSV cases as well. We are stressing prevention as much as possible. As of right now, BCHD will not be doing a mask mandate in schools, but continues to recommend improving ventilation, encourage mask wearing, and hand washing. If you have not had a booster in a year, it is recommended to get the newest bivalent booster shot. The health department has supply of the Pfizer bivalent booster available. If you are recovering from COVID, test yourself on day 6 and if you see a red line, it is recommended to stay home and test again the next day.
 - b. **New Complex:** The health department received a 9-million-dollar allocation from the board of commissioners to purchase the former Younkers building. We will be negotiating with the property managers on the space soon. The space is 70,000 square feet with 50,000 sqft. already accounted for, so there is additional space available for community partners and service providers. We are also open to names for the new building. Please reach out to Joel if you are interested in a space in the new building.
- IV. **Approval of 2023 Meeting Schedule:** The schedule was reviewed. Beth Eurich made a motion to approve the 2023 HSCC meeting schedule. Nicole Luczak seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- V. **New Membership Request – Foster Families Navigation & Resource Center:** There was brief discussion on whether this organization came from the recently dissolved Bay County Community Service Partners or if it was a new organization. David mentioned it was likely a new organization and that they had provided a presentation to the general membership in September. Beth Eurich made a motion to approve the membership request from Foster Families Navigation & Resource Center. Nicole Luczak seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- VI. **Dues Waiver Request for 2023 – Disability Services Resource Center:** Some discussion followed regarding this request, but there was consensus to review the language in the by-laws of the HSCC at a future meeting to provide clearer guidelines on dues waiver requests brought to the group. Diane Mahoney made the motion to approve the dues waiver request by Disability Services Resource Center for 2023 with no anticipation of approving a waiver request for 2024. Nicole Luczak seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- VII. 2023 Dues Letters:** David mentioned he will be sending out all of the dues letters for 2023 before the holidays.
- VIII. Presentation Planning for 2023:** The group was interested in continuing to have a presenter at its general membership meetings for 2023. Laura Love gave a list of ideas: adult protective services; state of early child care; diversity, equity & inclusion; substance abuse; my community dental; provision of care; mental health (top 3 issues: gap, continuum, health landscape); discharge planning; substance use stigma; kinship program; the early childhood capacity study; legislative lunch and learns; and the Dream Center. There was a hearty discussion regarding child protective services, early childhood education, and food insecurity topics. CAN Council notes that there is a dynamic relationship between having kids in the home too long versus having them in foster services. Multiple organizations noted that residents are struggling to afford food, utilities, and rent costs. There was an initiative several years ago that sought to bring all the food pantries and related agencies together to figure out an agreeable solution. A facilitator was brought in by United Way, but the group struggled to come to a consensus. It was noted that there were complex geographic boundaries regarding the food pantries. Grant funds can be limited to more rural areas; however, there are grants available through ACL. Utility and rent costs are very prominent in the community right now with both United Way and Department on Aging receiving calls from the media. ARPA funding has all been pretty much spent. It was agreed upon to have the January meeting be from the CAN Council, and the March meeting be focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI).
- IX. Roundtable Updates – Please keep updates to programs/services/community events**
- a. **Bay Area Community Foundation:** No updates.
 - b. **Department on Aging:** We are seeing decreased participation in the senior meal program. Since the caregiver education program has not been updated since 1965, we are working with Congressman Kildee on an amendment. It is a federal law, so it must be changed through our state representatives. Beth has support from Jim Barcia, but we are also looking for letters of support. ACLS guidelines can be restrictive in doing online petitions, so we are trying to gather public input through our program coordinators by visiting seniors in person to receive feedback and comments.
 - c. **Mid-Michigan Community Action:** There is a very large weatherization program this year with quite a bit of funds available for the 10 counties we serve. All of our services are open and things are going well.
 - d. **CAN Council of Great Lakes Bay Region:** Our educator is in the schools every day doing presentations (i.e., child safety matters, youth risk curriculum, etc.). Our K-12 curriculum offers flexibility and see our work as preventative. We offer our safe baby program too. You can book programs and presentations through cancouncil.org. We are working with Judge Minor with our court-appointed advocates on delinquent and abuse and neglect cases. We hope to bring this to Saginaw and Huron counties too.
 - e. **United Way:** We had our Sparkle Holiday Celebration, where we gave out 150 holiday boxes that contained personal care items and a turkey. Santa was there for kids. We are applying for a grant to provide to and from transportation for county residents. The Community Information Exchange (CIE) project is scheduled to present on February 9 and is open to the public. The regional perinatal project is tied to the CIE project. There have been other CIE projects popping up across the area, so we are hoping to alleviate the misinformation.
 - f. **Bay County Health Department:** We are focused on our home visiting and maternal infant health programs. We are seeing a lot of success in telehealth services (70% participation, compared to 30% in-person). The health department is applying for a marijuana education grant through LARA.
 - g. **McLaren Bay Region:** Laura has moved to a new office space near the pediatric office to better serve patients with education. We are also working closer with the Helen M. Nickless patient population.

With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:05 AM.

The next General Membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 25, 2023 via Microsoft Teams.
The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 22, 2023 via Microsoft Teams.

Respectfully submitted, David Wesoloski, Coordinator, Bay County Health Department