

Bay Human Services Collaborative Council  
HSCC General Committee  
May 24, 2023

**Present:**

Beth Eurich, Department on Aging (HSCC Chair)  
Joel Strasz, Bay County Health Department  
Gail Frahm, Disability Services Resource Center  
Shannon Hernandez, Bay City Housing Commission  
Terri Robbins, Disability Network of Mid-Michigan  
Emily Yeager, CAN Council Great Lakes Bay Region – Bay County  
Ryan Thick, Legal Services of Mid-Michigan  
Elan Nichols, Staff Attorney Legal Services of Mid-Michigan  
Pastor Marcelle Smith, Historic Second Baptist Church  
Marni Westphal, Recovery Pathways  
Kathy DePrekel, Helen M Nickless Volunteer Clinic  
Carrie Prosowski, MI Rehabilitation Services  
Debbie Kiesel, City of Bay City  
Joelin Hahn, Bay-Arenac Behavioral Health (BABH)  
Sarah Mulvaney, Bay-Arenac Behavioral Health, Intern  
Kathleen Sperling, MDHHS  
Jill Sutton, Mid-Michigan Community Action  
Lindsay Richardson, Bay Area Women’s Center  
Sarah Humerickhouse, Foster Families Navigation & Resource Center  
Amanda Johnson, BABH, Bay County Youth and Family Connect  
Sarah Bannerman, Disability Network of Mid-Michigan

**Guests:**

None

**Recorder & Coordinator:** David Wesoloski, Bay County Health Department

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 8:35 AM by Beth Eurich, HSCC Chairperson. Introductions were made.
- II. **Review of/and Additions to the Agenda:** Joelin Hahn made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Kathy DePrekel seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- III. **Approval of March meeting Minutes (attached):** Elan Nichols made a motion to approve the March 22 meeting notes. Katie Sperling seconded the motion. All were in favor.
  - April Steering committee minutes attached for review
- IV. **Guest Speaker: Joel Strasz – Regional Perinatal Quality Collaborative,** Bay County Health Department: Joel presented on the Region 5 Perinatal Quality Collaborative (PQC) and the purpose of the coalition. Region 5 is made up of the following counties: Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Midland, Gratiot, and Saginaw. The goals are to convene regional stakeholders to improve birth outcomes while reducing infant and fetal mortality through data-driven quality improvement efforts and engagement of families/communities. There is also a focus on advancing health equity and expanding care for families affected by substance use and making sure that all mothers, families, caregivers are getting the right care at the right time. While the county has fallen backwards over

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the past three years, Joel stressed the need to get back to basics and to improve maternal, infant, and early-childhood health outcomes. The Region 5 QPC was previously coordinated by Thrive and MI Health Improvement Alliance, but was restructured to focus on local public health serving as the anchor organization (with Bay and Saginaw as co-leads) within each county to leverage work at the local level across the region for greater collective impact. Local public health will serve as a convener of stakeholders to leverage work across the region. The workplan consists of quarterly meetings; infusing state maternal child health plan into our efforts; discussing implementation of CIE efforts and SDOH intake forms; and offering trainings. Joel shared infant data and how live births and those receiving adequate prenatal care have decreased in the county over the past 30 years, which is starting to reflect on the infant mortality rates. One third of mothers are not receiving adequate prenatal care over the past five years. The demand for live births affects how the local hospitals appropriates resources and the decline of births affects potential growth in that area. There is a Maternal Infant Health Summit June 21-22 and there are some funds available to send folks to it. If you are interested, please contact Joel. There is additional money from the state for hospital staff to attend the conference as well. There will be additional funding for health equity and implicit bias trainings too. The health department will encourage agencies and providers to join into the community information exchange, which will be a key method in getting resources out to people in a timely and effective manner.

- V. **MI Department of Health and Human Services Update:** The state is seeing more babies being born positive for substances coming through. When it comes to babies being born positive for substances, it is difficult for the state to substantiate the claim of child abuse and neglect if it is not impacting the infant's health significantly. In 2020, the state saw a huge increase in the number of youth coming in for care for opiate use and a significant number were infants (this was prior to the state's policies shifting). All of this may be impacting the prenatal care data that Joel presented on earlier. The medical redeterminations are going to start June 1 and the paperwork has already started going out. The State is observing what the impacts will be on staying on top of the processes for medical coverage, but also continue to process the work they already have. The heaviest months will be October, November, and December. Katie commented that she should have more of an update to share at the next meeting.
- VI. **Bay County Health Department Update:** Joel talked about the need to educate expectant mothers as well as providers on what is a reportable offense when it comes to abuse and neglect and what is reportable and what is not. The discussion at the state-level seems to be how best to engage these families, especially when medical and recreational marijuana as been legalized. As far as COVID, the public health emergency is over, COVID is still out in the community and seeing people hospitalized. BCHD will be doubling our efforts on what people can do if they get COVID, informing people that tests are still available free at the health department (as long as supplies last), and that treatments are available (and free as long as supplies last from the federal stockpile). Joel, Beth, and Charlie plan to discuss and address the increased inquiries from the elder population regarding vaccine recommendations. The health department will continue engaging with long-term care facilities and

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putting together a comprehensive page on our website, so there is no confusion. Most of the requirements for businesses, hospitals, and schools have gone away or will be going away. For example, after this school year, schools will no longer be required to report outbreaks, but still will have to report it if any student comes down with COVID as it is a reportable disease. There are a variety of resources available from the state, which include masks, tests, and free HEPA air purifiers (for schools only).

- VII. Membership Survey:** David reported on the results of the membership survey, highlighting that a large portion of the group favored a hybrid approach to the meetings. Technology will be important so that everyone will be heard. Both the Bay Area Community Foundation and BAISD have Owl technology that are reported to function very well with hybrid meeting formats. There will be a trial run of a hybrid approach at the next steering committee meeting, which will be at the Bay Area Community Foundation given its smaller space. It was mentioned that the BAISD might be able to accommodate the general membership meetings given its larger space. David will follow up with Gretchen to see whether it would be feasible to do that.
- VIII. Dues Update:** Most of the membership have paid their dues, there are a couple he is working with and a few stragglers that remain. David also shared what the health department has been working on its marijuana education grant: focusing on a multi-media campaign with ads on the Metro busses and on Facebook and Instagram. There will be a time-lapse video on the creation of one of the bus ads that will be posted on social media for folks to look at. The medical director at the health department is working on a presentation with the latest information surrounding marijuana use and its impact on pregnant and breastfeeding mothers to better equip providers with information to pass on to their patients and clients. There will also be 5x7 educational cards focused on the harms of marijuana use while pregnant and breastfeeding that will be disseminated widely throughout the community. Finally, the health department is on Instagram and anyone is welcome to follow them.
- IX. BHSCC Taskforce/Subcommittee/Affiliated Group Reports:**
- **Great Start Collaborative:** David stated that Rich VanTol could not make the meeting today due to a prior commitment, but included a document in the email reminder for the meeting that contained information about what the GSC is working on, its goals, and its objectives for the next year or two.
  - **Bay County Youth and Family Connect:** Amanda Johnson, the co-chair, provided an update. She mentioned the group has had presenters from the Youth Shelter, Great Lakes Pride, Youth Advocacy Program, and DHHS. People who are attending the meetings are DHHS, BAISD, YMCA, Head Start, and BABH. Attendance has decreased due to COVID, but hoping to get that back up. Topics we have discussed are ACES, trauma, how it affects kids in our community, the Wraparound community team is now a part of the group, so there have been discussions about wraparound services.
  - **Community Violence Response Team:** No representative was in attendance to report out. However, Lindsay Richardson from BAWC reported that there have been conversations about the direction of that group. It is not going away, but is going to be reshaped.
- X. BACF Grant Applications:** Beth reported that the second grant cycle at BACF will begin in July 10. Contact Joni King if you have any questions or need help with the process.
- ~~1<sup>st</sup> Grant Cycle:~~ Opens January 9, 2023. ~~BACF has a new platform. No password is needed, but all users will have to create an account (unless you applied in the fall of 2022).~~

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- ~~Application submission deadline March 13<sup>th</sup>. (HSCC Review in March— Grant recommendations are approved by BACF Board of Trustees in mid-May)~~
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Grant Cycle:** Opens July 10, 2023. BACF has a new platform. No password is needed, but all users will have to create an account (unless you applied in the fall of 2022).
  - Application submission deadline September 11<sup>th</sup>. (HSCC review in October – Grant recommendations are approved by BACF Board of Trustees in mid-November.)

**XI. Roundtable Updates – Please keep updates to programs/services/community events**

- Debbie Kissel: City of Bay City is starting their housing repair program back up. They are able to be generous due to ARPA guidelines, but homeowners still must meet income limits. Roofs, furnaces, and hot water tanks are eligible. Taxes must be up-to-date. City of Bay City is slowly advertising this and is building up a contractor list. Due to the contractors, they are scheduled out to September to get them done. Their annual planning process is still open and will be making an announcement within the next couple weeks that the plan will be open for public comment.
- Kathy DePrekel: Helen M. Nickless Clinic is happy to report they have three new providers, one of them being a cardiologist on staff and two retired providers from Great Lakes Bay.
- Elan Nichols, LSEM: She provides housing discrimination trainings focused on youth in housing and families. Please reach out to her if you are interested.
- Emily Yeager, CAN Council: The next parenting series starts June 14 and it's a 16-week course. They have openings available and anyone interested can call their office to get registered.
- Gail Frohm, DSRC: Collecting applications for their ramp builds. If anyone you know needs a ramp in Bay County, please contact the Disability Services Resource Center as soon as possible. Also, their Summer special needs enrichment program is open until tomorrow and is for ages 5 to 36. They have a few spots remaining.
- Jill Sutton, MMCA: They are open and all services are available. Weatherization is still open and have 3 grants for it, with 5 million to spend in the next 5 years. If anyone has any weatherization requests, please send them over.
- Joelin Hahn: BABH continues to expand their mobile response, which is primarily for children and youth. Partnered with Public Safety to doing trainings with law enforcement on mental health issues that will take the next year to fully complete. They also recently hired a school liaison who will be connected with the ISD and school systems to provide additional mental health support.
- Lindsay Richardson, BAWC: Working with law enforcement to ensure they know what BAWC services are and what can be provided in addition to informing the rest of the community and agency partners on what they do. There is a 5k-9 event on June 11 at the Bay Area Community Center, which will support the cost of boarding for pets when their owners are seeking shelter at their agency.
- Marnie Westphal: Recovery Pathways is expanding. They have another staff member, Kaysie Williams, doing enhanced women specialty. They do home visits for their most at-risk women

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and men that include young children to help them recover. One of the only places that offer the Sublocade shot. They also offer the Vivitrol shot too. Please refer anyone who needs help to their website or call their main office number. If you have any questions, please call Marnie and she will help navigate that process with you.

- Ryan Thick, Fair Housing Center at LSEM: looking for more volunteer testers. Testers pose as prospective renters for the sole purpose of gathering information to determine if the housing providers are complying with the fair housing laws. Volunteers are paid \$15 a phone test and \$50 for on-site test plus mileage reimbursement. Contact Ryan if you are interested.
- Sarah B, Disability Network of Mid-Michigan: ADA picnic will be held in Frankenmuth this year at Heritage Park. Working on developing a flyer to get the word out to the public on the details and location change.
- Sarah Humerickhouse, Foster Families: Foster Fest was the previous week went well and appreciated all the agencies that were attendance for the event. They are working on creating a “resource wall” at their facility. If you have tri-fold brochures or any other kind of informational document with your agency services, you can mail them over, drop them off at their facility, or reach out to Sarah and she will have an intern pick them up. They have remodeled their downstairs with a bunch of spaces, which are available for other agencies in the community to use. The Bay Leadership Class will have an open house on June 20, 5-8pm in their training room.
- Beth, Department on Aging: Their Olympic Games are back and start June 12. If you know anyone 55 years old and better, please reach out to them. There is pickleball, golf, mini-golf, fishing, bike-riding, and kayaking. Participants get a t-shirt and can earn medals.

**Upcoming Events:**

With no further business to come before the Committee the meeting adjourned at 9:50 AM.

The next regular HSCC meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 26. The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, June, 28 at the Bay Area Community Foundation.

Respectfully submitted, David Wesoloski, HSCC Recorder & Coordinator, Bay County Health Department.