

**Draft - subject to change
at the October meeting**

***Ashland County and Bayfield County Regional
Comprehensive Community Service (CCS) Meeting
Via Zoom– Ashland County – Downtown***

July 13, 2021

Members Present: Thomas Mittelstaedt, Josh Gilbert, Terry Barningham, Colleen Grand, Jan Kupczyk, Tom Croteau, Dale Irwin, Sandra Notzke, Lorna Gamble, Val Levno

Members Excused: Evren Poe, Karlan Williams

Members Unexcused: None

Others Present: Elizabeth Skulan, Shelby Eckland

Call to order and Introductions

Mittelstaedt called meeting to order at 12:31 pm. Introductions made.

Discussion of Roberts Rules

Mittelstaedt Reviewed Roberts Rules of Order. Discussion points included: Raise hand and wait to be called on; be sure to state your name when called upon so the minute taker knows who is speaking.

Discussion and Possible Action: Review of the April 13, 2021 Regional Meeting Minutes

Motion by Gilbert, second by Irwin to approve April 13, 2021 Regional meeting minutes, as presented. Motion passed.

Review Program Report

Enrollment: Both Ashland and Bayfield County have had an increase in enrollment and on the lower end for discharges. There has been plenty of referrals coming from BHU Inpatient Services, more than likely due to the pandemic.

Staffing: Within the last two months Ashland County CCS has hired two full-time Service Facilitators, taking over the place of the ones who have retired. Due to lack of Service Array staff CCS has also hired a position as half Service Facilitator and half Service Array. Finally, with the new hires, both Ashland and Bayfield County programs are fully staffed.

Provider Network: Still in need of Service Array staff. The program now has a contract with Innovative Services and they will be mainly providing Individual Skill Development Enhancement.

GT Independence is working on hiring a managing position at the Ashland office and sometime in the fall Ashland CCS will be connecting with them to see if they would like to provide CCS services.

North Country Independent Living has interviewed for additional skill building staff and they have a potential hire. One provider passed away suddenly, therefore both staff and participants are coping with this loss. They will be posting an ad soon to hire someone for this open position.

Equine Connection out of Washburn, WI has been providing equine therapy. In contract negotiations with Jodie Petit out of Mason, WI who will be providing equine therapy as well.

Mittelstaedt asked if the skill based staff is considered Peer Support or if they are two different services. In which, Levno stated they are different. Skill based staff go into homes and help with the community supports.

Last fall Headwaters, who provided most of those supports, gave CCS notice. GT Independence and North Country Living picked up some of these services; due to issues picking up the robust provider network, most Service Facilitators have been providing these services. CCS has every intention to contract out for those supports and for Service Facilitators to go back to doing service facilitation. In the meantime, Service Facilitators have been doing an excellent job stepping up.

Marketing and Outreach: CCS Program will have a table at Northland College when classes start to promote the program and reach out to any student or even anyone they know who can benefit from services. There will also be information regarding the programs internships and for potential employment when they graduate.

Children Services

Currently still in need of some more providers. Service Facilitators are providing a substantial amount of services including the following: how to act in social situations, strategies for working with emotions, as well as self-care. The program also provides Psychotherapy, Equine Therapy, and Certified Peer Specialists (12+).

New Business

None.

Opportunity for Public Comment (Limit 3 minutes)

None.

Other (Informational Items)

Kupczyk asked if Roberts Rules necessarily needed to be on the agenda anymore in which Levno stated it was originally put on for all members to understand the rules of the committee.

Barningham said the current group in the committee is rather understanding of these rules and the concept of them, but it is something that could be revisited when needed. Levno will be taking Roberts Rules off the agenda until any newer members attend.

There is potential for the October meeting to be held in a room within the Ashland County Courthouse. There is plenty of room for everyone to safely social distance and also if any of the members prefer to attend via Zoom, they are more than welcome to do so. Levno will not know the availability of the room until the end of September.

Future Meeting Dates:

- October 12, 2021 at 12:30 p.m. Presentation of Division of Vocational Rehabilitation in regards to mental health and/or substance use recovery if possible.

Motion to adjourn

Motioned to adjourn by Grand, second by Kupczyk. July 13, 2021 Meeting Adjourned. Motion passed.

Minutes submitted by: Shelby Eckland, Administrative Assistant – Ashland County