

***Bayfield County and Ashland County
Comprehensive Community Services (CCS)***

Regional Committee Meeting

Via Zoom

July 12th, 2022

Ashland Members Present: Colleen Grand, Jan Kupczyk, Terry Barningham

Bayfield Members Present: Tom Croteau, Sandra Notzke, Cecelia Webb, Josh Gilbert, Lorna Gamble

Members Excused: Thomas Middlestadt, Dale Irwin

Members Unexcused: Georgia Tolliver, Melissa Dunphy

Others Present: Eric Lindell, Karlie Pierson, Andrea Yrjanainen, Elizabeth Skulan, Val Levno

Call to Order and Introductions:

Discussion and Possible Action: Review of the April 12th 2022 ACCS Meeting Minutes.

Discussion and Possible Action: Review of the April 12th 2022 Regional Committee Minutes

Motion by Tom C to approve the April 12 th minutes and a second by Cecelia. Motion is passed.
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The BRICK Ministries: A Program Overview by Eric Lindell, Benevolence Manager

A power point presentation for the Ashland/Bayfield County Regional committee was presented by Eric Lindell on all aspects of the Brick Ministries.

2021 CCS Quality Assurance Report for Ashland County

Val presented the 2021 CCS Quality Assurance Report for Ashland County to the committee.

- As we are in the second year of providing services in the home, community and office during the pandemic, about 25% of our patients are able to use telehealth such as Zoom for services.
- There was a 17% decrease in contracted services. Most of this is due to being unable to hire employees due to the lack of qualified applicants. Internally, we experienced the same issues and the decision was made to reduce the educational requirements from a Bachelor's degree to an Associate's Degree for the position of Service Facilitator.
- 132 participants were served in 2021 and 18 were children. There were 81 admissions and 86 discharges from the program.

- Staff for the program includes: a part time Administrator, part-time Service Director/Mental Health Professional, full-time Mental Health Professional/Substance Abuse Professional, two full-time Service Facilitators, one full-time Service Facilitator/Functional Screener, one full-time Service Facilitator/Functional Screener/Substance Abuse Professional, one full-time Service Facilitator/CST, one full-time Substance Use Professional, one full-time Registered Nurse and one part-time Registered Nurse. Participants were served by ten Service Array Providers including peer specialists, parent peer specialists, employment specialists and in-home/community skill building specialists. We contracted with twenty people to provide psychotherapy and five people to provide adult mental health day treatment. The program also supported a Bachelor's level intern from Northland College and one intern from Northwood Technical College – Ashland's Human Service Program. Six CCS staff are shared staff with the Ashland Community Support Program and two CCS staff are shared staff with the Bayfield Comprehensive Community Service Program.
- It was noted in the conversation by Val that going from requiring a Bachelor's degree to an associate's degree has been effective. However, finding qualified people is a statewide problem, not just affecting our counties, but the industry as a whole. In the case of the contracted providers, most have HS degrees and are willing and happy to help. There is sufficient PPE to hand out as well regarding Covid concerns.
- Colleen asked if people just aren't applying and Val responded with yes, but most are not qualified. Ashland County only requires associates for some positions now where Bayfield requires a Bachelor's degree and contracted providers are high school degree only. There was no other discussion at this point.

2021 CCS Quality Assurance Report for Bayfield County

Val presented the 2021 CCS Quality Assurance Report for Bayfield County to the committee.

- As we are in the second year of providing services in the home, community and office during the pandemic, about 25% of our patients are able to use telehealth such as Zoom for services.
- There was a 17% decrease in contracted services. Most of this is due to being unable to hire employees due to the lack of qualified applicants. Bayfield County experience a significant increase in referrals towards the end of the year. 19 of the 34 referrals were received in the months of November and December, which equates to 44 percent of the referrals for 2021. There was a 32 percent increase in admissions as well for 2021.
- 43 participants were served in 2021 and 6 were children. There were 23 admissions and 11 discharges from the program.
- Staff for the program includes: a part- time Administrator, part- time Service Director, full-time CCSS Supervisor/Mental Health Professional/Psychotherapist and two-full time service facilitators. Participants were served by 8 Service Array Providers including peer specialists, parent peer specialists, employment specialists and in-home/community skill building specialists. We contracted with 20 people to provide psychotherapy and five to provide adult mental health day treatment. This program also supported a Master's level intern from St. Scholastica

Program Report

The Program report for the Regional committee was presented and no additional comments.

Children's Services

- Val brought up for discussion the lack of providers for children's services and how it is hurting us as a program. We are struggling to find providers. Brigid Ripley is reaching out to children with her equine assisted learning. Service facilitators are providing to children. With the increase in numbers, there are waiting lists between MMC BHU and NorthLakes Community Clinic at this time. Both BHU and NorthLakes are trying to minimize the waitlist for therapy.
- Tom C. states that there is a lack of availability to see kids in school or in the home in Bayfield County. Josh G. asked the question of is there a system in place for the services provided to children continue through the teen years/adult years.
- CCS continues through the participant's life span as long as they are eligible and is a seamless transition from children's services to adult services. Although maturity levels differ from case to case, working with older teens on finding employment and furthering education happens as well.
- Karlie also reminded everyone about the statewide meeting that is focused on Parent and Youth on Coordination Committees.

New Business

- No new business was brought up for discussion at this time.

Public Comment (Limit to 3 minutes please)

- No other participants beside the committee for Ashland or Bayfield County.
- Josh G from Bayfield County did ask if there was any sort of outreach to our participants for the committee. The meeting notices are published in the Ashland Daily Press and the agenda and handouts are posted on each county website.

Other (Informational Items)

- No other items at this time.

Future Meeting Date: Will be a Hybrid meeting on October 11th, 2022 at 12:30pm held at the Bayfield County Board Room and on Zoom.

Motion to Adjourn. Colleen Grand adjourned the Regional Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) for Ashland and Bayfield County meeting at 1:43pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Andrea Yrjanainen, Administrative Assistant Ashland County CCS