

**Central Wisconsin Health Partnership
Comprehensive Community Services (CCS)
Regional Coordinating Committee (RCC) Meeting
Wednesday, March 10, 2021, 10:00 – 12:00**

Participants: Tim Cottingham (Chair), Dawn Buchholz, Alivia Lensing, Leanna Denu, Leanna Hagen, Linda Calaway, Brooke Schluter, Christine Gabay-Hess, and Tara Achley – Juneau County; Jan Lehrer, Kay Saarinen-Barr, Jill Amos-Polifka, Tina Lintner, and Brenda Freeman – Waupaca County; Dr. Toni Morgan-Jones – Waushara County; Jason Jerome and Kate Meyer – Green Lake County; Kelly Oleson, Adam Short, Diane Osborn, and Dave Zelenski – Adams County; Mary Walters, Jeremy Lee, Mandy Stanley, and Dawn Woodard – Marquette County; Deb Ramacher – Wisconsin Family Ties; Lori Martin – Regional Coordination

1) Welcome and Introductions

- Two new Committee members were welcomed. Dave Zelenski is a County Board Member with Adams County, and Tara Achley is an individual with lived experience from Juneau County.

2) Approval of agenda

- Approved

3) Approval of meeting minutes from December 9, 2020 meeting

- Approved

4) County Updates (include one unique service or resource you provide)

- Adams – Adam Short shared they are currently serving 64 clients in CCS. Referrals continue to come in. There are two service facilitator positions open. Unique resource: Practical Cents, a local thrift store where individuals in CCS can work on skill development and socialization skills.
- Green Lake – Kate Meyer shared update. Approximately 30 individuals enrolled. Unique resource: Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics (NMT) assessment at SaintA. Assesses trauma and brain development in children. They provide the assessment and then recommendations for moving forward. Staff have been trained as CCS providers. Work very well with the families and team. For more information: www.sainta.org/nmt
- Juneau - Dawn Buchholz introduced Brooke Schluter as their new CCS/CST Manager. Prior to accepting this position, Brooke worked as a dually licensed therapist for Juneau County for 3 years. Leanna Hagen, an experienced CCS service facilitator, took the CCS lead position. 48 individuals enrolled, 13 in referral process. Taking a step back and regrouping around the recovery focus of CCS. Linda Calaway shared an update on the art group that occurs monthly – masking and social distancing practiced; transportation is provided if needed; recent group activities included card making and developing mosaics; attended by 6 – 8 participants.
- Marquette – Jeremy Lee shared an update. Continue to have one staff whose primary role is service facilitation, and one staff who works mainly in crisis but works with a couple of CCS clients. Currently 15 consumers. Unique resource: Dungeons and Dragons group of 6 to 7 individuals meets weekly; also exploring implementation of an in-home family therapy model of treatment in CCS for families who have experienced trauma.
- Waupaca – Tina Lintner shared an update. Approximately 42 consumers. Have been seeing an increase in referrals. Some staff support both CST and CCS – currently reviewing referral process and how to ensure an individual or family receive the services and support would best address their needs.

Unique resource: Have also used NMT with success. Have a licensed PhD on staff – looking to better utilize her skills to serve clients.

- Waushara – Dr. Toni Morgan-Jones shared an update. Enrollment has remained stable around 20 consumers; recent uptick in referrals (currently 6); working to collaborate more with child welfare and crisis units. Unique resource: Craft group run by a consumer; prior to COVID were meeting at the Neshkoro school building, now meeting at Waushara DHS 2 times per month. Transportation is a challenge for some. Cooking group – developing independent living skills and vocation skills, run by an experienced service facilitator – emphasizes food prep and safety; 3 – 4 consumers have gone into food service line of work.

5) Resignment of Committee Co-Chair

- Tim Cottingham shared that as of March 2nd, Tancy Helmin has resigned from the Committee and her position as Co-Chair. He reflected on what she brought to the Committee and to the PLEX group during her many years of service.
- Nominations for a new Co-Chair will take place during the June meeting

6) PLEX (Persons with Lived Experience)

- Brenda Freeman spoke to the importance of having PLEX member representation from each of the six counties on this Committee.
- Diane Osborn shared Adams County will be appointing a PLEX member to the Committee in the coming months.
- Jill Amos-Polifka will contact Tancy to see if she can get information related to resource directory that was being developed by the PLEX group.
- Brenda will follow-up with Joann Stephens from DHS regarding a state-level peer forum.
- Tim Cottingham spoke to the value of PLEX members and encouraged all counties to appoint a representative to this Committee if the position is vacant.

7) County Board Member Report

- Juneau – Tim Cottingham; CCS has grown very fast. Over the past 2 years, there have been 3 departmental reorganizations, 2 of which significantly affected CCS. There had been challenges retaining master’s level and dually licensed positions. Part of the reorganization included increased pay and pre-employment agreements – Juneau will provide supervision and hours needed for licensure and in return, the staff agree to work for Juneau County for a specific amount of time. An LCSW position was filled yesterday. Interviews are planned this afternoon for another therapist position. Another part of the reorganization - new clinic manager, Kevin, was hired; Brooke filled the CCS/CST Manager position; and Leanna H accepted the newly created CCS lead position.
- Marquette – Mary Walters; excited about recent local CCS meetings – consumers shared their stories including how CCS has helped them overcome their struggles; looking forward to more successes and interaction once COVID passes. Working to do more outreach during COVID.
- Waupaca – Jan Lehrer; a CCS client shared with the Human Services Board how the program has helped his family and their son. This was enlightening to the Board. The local CCS coordinating committee has had difficulty reaching a quorum. Encouraging them to recruit new members.
- Adams – Dave Zelenski, no report at this time, as he is new to the Committee.

8) Marquette County's Contract Liaison Report

a) Evaluation of Regional Coordination Role

- Mandy Stanley coordinated the annual evaluation effort. Received feedback from 4 of the 6 counties. Overall very positive. Suggestions included development of additional online training opportunities and simplification of CCS forms.

b) CWHP DHS Directors' Meeting

- Met on 2/5 to discuss regional CCS administrative challenges faced at the Director level and to brainstorm ways to improve collaboration from a program administration standpoint. Topics discussed included: pros and cons of contracting vs utilizing county staff; possibly of an increase in cross-county shared staff; consistent language for contracting with providers; and ways to potentially increase shared services in the region.
- Have another meeting scheduled for March 11
- One agenda item – discussion of switching regional coordination contract liaison and fiscal lead

9) Deb Ramacher, Wisconsin Family Ties

- 14 years ago, Deb was involved with Coordinated Services Teams (CST) in St Croix County as a parent of a youth with an emotional behavioral disorder (EBD). She is now Wisconsin Family Ties' (WFT) Associate Director. WFT, a non-profit, is statewide and has experience working with families with youth involved in CLTS, CCS, and CST. A "one stop shop" for parents and families who are involved in multiple systems of care. They provide resources, emotional support, and help families navigate systems. They are very well trained in working with schools.
- All WFT employees are parents of youth with EBD. They currently employ 16 Parent Peer Specialists and are planning to add more. Currently providing services in Adams County, but would like to offer their services to the other counties in the CWHP.
- For more information, please contact Deb: deb@wifamilyties.org or 715-246-4778.
- WFT's intake email is connect@wifamilyties.org, and phone: 800-422-7145, option 5 (for crisis situations or referral to resources).

10) Regional Coordinator Report – Lori Martin

a) State and regional updates

- As of February 1st, there is a new Medicaid Residential Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Benefit available to individuals, including individuals involved in CCS.

If involved in CCS, CCS services must be temporarily suspended while a consumer is in Residential SUD (similar to when in a hospital setting); service facilitator can help with transition planning out of the Residential SUD.

The benefit does not cover room and board.

There have been many related to the benefit and CCS – DHS is considering revisiting this topic at a future bi-monthly statewide Zoom meeting.

- During one of the February Statewide Zooms, a representative from R&R House shared information about their Peer Run Veterans Respite home (<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/news/releases/012821.htm>). Home-like environment on 1.5 acres in a residential neighborhood in Pewaukee (SE) Wisconsin, which is open to all Veterans, men and women, statewide regardless of length of service or discharge status.
 - Self-referrals only (Veteran needs to call themselves / take the first step). Call (262) 336-9540 leave a message; staff will respond within an hour.

- Can stay up to 7 days / 6 nights (after 60 days, have the opportunity to stay again). Also do follow-ups with individuals after they leave.
- Also have a warm line to support Veterans and connect to resources (same phone number as above)
- Participants asked to maintain sobriety for the time they are there. Also need to be self-sufficient related to health needs including taking own medications.
- Can help arrange transportation on a case-by-case basis, but don't pay for transportation.
- Questions, can contact the presenter, Victor Kilpatrick - victor@mhawisconsin.org, (262) 336-9540

b) Training Subcommittee report

- There are a lot of training opportunities – especially virtual ones, out there. Lori shares related opportunities both in WI and nationally with the CCS leads as they become available.
- Focus regionally is on the development of training videos. There are now 7 educational videos available on the training page of the CWHP website, with the most recent being released less than 2 weeks ago on the subject of recovery planning (<https://www.cwhpartnership.org/ccs-orientation.html>), 38 minute video that explores the roles of the service facilitator, consumer, and team members in the recovery planning process, emphasizing the "golden thread" that ties the assessment/assessment summary and recovery plan together.
- Another focus – training of individuals in the role of CCS lead. Lori is developing the curriculum and will be meeting virtually with 4 of the newest CCS leads to deliver the training which will include a walk-through the specifics of our CWHP shared services region, pertinent sections of DHS 36, and Medicaid requirements.

c) Quality Improvement Subcommittee report

- A common theme across several of the counties is “getting back to basics”
- Taking a fresh look at procedures and forms that we’ve been using with an eye on improvement and consistency (where possible) across counties in the region
- Considering areas of consistency related to contracting with outside providers

11) Future Meetings

- June 9th – agenda items: Jill Amos-Polifka’s son shares his story
Juneau will host – planned to have options for attending in person or virtually via Zoom
- September – Lori will send scheduling poll
- December 15

12) Meeting Adjournment – 11:39 AM