NORTHWESTERN COUNSELING & SUPPORT SERVICES 107 FISHER POND ROAD ST. ALBANS VT 05478

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES June 5, 2024

<u>Present:</u> Angela Poirier, Rob Hirss, Elaine Carpenter, Jason Minor, Ken Gagne, David Hutchinson, Casey Toof, Anjanette Watson, Dan Thompson, David McCallum, Andrea Patrick-Baudet, Meg Marshall

Excused:

<u>Staff</u>: Todd Bauman, Derek Hoy, Kim McClellan, Stacey Remillard, Belinda Bessette, Samantha Thomas, April Mathieu, Matthew Habedank, Joe Halko, Emily Richards,

Presenters: Miranda Tatro

Minutes received and meeting called to order by Angela Poirier at 5:38 pm.

Motion was made to approve May minutes as presented by Dan Thompson. Second by Rob Hirss. All in Favor.

Presentation

TMS Presentation

Executive Director Report

Motion was made to move to executive session by Dan Thompson. Second by Rob Hirss. All in Favor. All staff except Todd Bauman, Derek Hoy and Stacey Remillard left.

Motion was made to come out of executive session by Dan Thompson. Second by Jason Minor. All in Favor.

Motion was made to authorize the action as discussed in executive session by Dan Thompson. Second by Ken Gagne. All in Favor.

- Todd talked about where we stand with the redesign. Everything is going very well with this. We will give all staff new badges that represent team NCSS and this will be the book end of the process.
- As we talked about before Joe Halko is retiring. We will be having a party for him on June 26th, and we would like you all to come. Todd shared the invitation on the screen.
- We have a closing date for 3 Home Health Circle. We negotiated that they can rent the space from us through September 1st. This will give them time to move out of the building without having to rush.
- Todd also wanted to share that the state has been selected to be a demo state for CCBHC. This makes all the work we are doing to be ready to become a CCBHC really important.

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We would like to be the next agency that puts their hand up and says we are ready to go. to put their hand up.

Financial Report

- Derek reviewed the financial reports that were shared with the board.
- DMH (Department of Mental Health) / The State of Vermont requested help from us in a strategic manner to help support the stability of the Mental Health system in Vermont.
- All divisions are looking very strong.
- We have made upgrades to our fleet using a combination of agency and grant funds.
- We are in the FY25 budget planning process.

Executive Committee Report

- Thank you to Rob for his time toward the interview process for the new Community Relations Director.
- We will cancel the July meeting and re-convene in August

Community Mental Health Update

- We recently had the Celebration of the Arts and it was a great night.
- We juts got a new van for out CRT programing; it will fit six clients but is also set up to service clients in wheelchairs. The CRT staff felt very supported during the process.
- Camp Rainbow is full for enrollment. We have 45 volunteers but do need more.

Early Childhood & School Based Services Update

- Wanted to give a Amy Irish (School Based Services program manager) Margaret Walsh (the Parent Child Center program manager) and Holly Branon (Children Home & Community Based Services program manager they have been working closely and so well together.
- Reily Benware was hired to take Amy Irish's team leader position.
- Matt shared he got an email from Micheal Bombard on a student who transitioned back to his sending school and it was a very positive experience.
- Soars graduation is June 14th and we would love to invite you all.
- We are working through a process to hire with a collaboration within the Soar and CAT team.

Nursing and Psychiatry Update

- Lindsey, our Soar nurse is busy finishing up the school year while getting ready for all the summer camps.
- Kath is doing CPR and First Aid Trainings at Soar for all the seniors. She is also training all the Camp Rainbow volunteers.

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- As a team we are working on our no-show rate, it doesn't seem to be improving so we are trying to be creative.
- Chantel is working on getting us caught up with our special procedure trainings

Developmental Services Update

- Sam met with all her state DS partners to talk about all the changes and plans that on the roadmap for her division. There are so many things happening it was nice to talk about it with others who are going through the same things.
- Todd met with the peer group and chatted about the redesign. Part of the conversation was about the badges and the group felt it was great we are being inclusive.

Community Relations Update

- The client who performed his poem at the Celebration of the Arts has agreed to join Joe on the next episode of Here for You. He is very excited, and the episode will include him performing the poem.
- The golf tournament is coming up and we have a full field, and it is the first time Joe can remember this happening. Joe is also the only person on the planning committee who has been there all 16 years of the tournament.
- Dr. Strockoff's social media presentations have been invigorating, and interesting fact that the folks in Silicon Valley were the first folks to ban cell phones in schools.
- Joe also wanted to say thank you for all your support over the last 24 years.

Human Resources Update

- The HR newsletter is available and if you were to look at page 4 there is the information about the space survey we are doing. IT would be really nice if you all could take the survey for us.
- We have been awarded the Worksite Wellness Aware again this year. Our WE committee works really hard on this.
- We have been given our third round of loan forgiveness money and this round is available to all staff, which is very exciting.
- June 25th is our in-house job fair; it is in the main conference room please feel free to stop by.
- Next week we have a three- and half-day training. It is for all our leadership and is a national model. We have also invited a few staff that are not on the leadership team in the effort to build our bench. You do have to sign a year's commitment to the agency if you accept the funds. So far the retention rate for these funds is 98%
 - The question was asked if we knew the average staff student debt? Stacey will find the answer and report back at the next meeting.
 - The question was asked if there is something that talks about hardships as a criteria for the funds? Yes there are different criteria to be eligible for the funds and one is based on hardships.

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Quality and Risk Management Update

- The IT partnership with C2 kickoff meeting is tomorrow. The team is very excited to develop this project plan.
- We have offered to help Lamollie County Mental Health with their billing. We are happy to be in a spot where we can help them out.

New Business

- Next meeting is in Aug. Ken may not be there.
- Best board packet they have gotten in years. Thank you for the work from board members who work on stranding committees.

Motion made to adjourn by Ken Gagne. Seconded by Ron. Motion passes with all in Favor.

Meeting adjourn at 7:50 pm

Minutes recorded by: Emily Richards