



close eye on the agencies to make sure all funded programs are secure and within their contact agreements.

- Jessica McKnight shared EAV breakdown document and indicated more tax funds was allocated to mental health in CY22. Jessica stated the tax rates have not changed and the nickel towards Behavioral Health does not increase unless the tax rate increases.
- Jessica was asked if any programs were struggling after reallocating funds toward MHFA (Mental Health First Aid). Jessica stated not currently, but sustainability could be an issue.

b. Board of Health's Behavioral Health Grant Presentations Facilitated by Applicants for CY23 Funding

**PRESENTATIONS FOR FUNDING FOR CY23**

**McLean County Center for Human Services-Adult Psychiatric Services**

**Information provided from written application:**

- This program provides services to McLean County residents that relieve symptoms of mental illness with the goal of improving an individual's emotional status and functioning abilities and prevent hospitalizations.
- Must be 12 years of age, income 175% below poverty level, and have a diagnosable mental illness or functional impairment.
- This program is designed for individuals who often have few resources to assist them with their illness, caring for themselves, self-advocacy, and medication regimen.

**Information provided from in-person presentation:**

- Agency provides much underserved clients with an onsite full-time subscribers and case management.
- Psychiatric Services provides nurse practitioners and recently hired another APN with family nurse experience and specialty in psychology.
- The program provides medication management, monitoring effectiveness of medications, possible side effects of medications, medication training, how to take medications, medication distribution and injections.
- Currently the agency has recently added using prepared medications from Axline. Psychiatric services is able to draw blood and toxicology screens utilizing a lab in the department and uses outside referral agencies as necessary.
- Psychiatric services strives on serving the population with the most needs.

**Summary/Discussion**

- Psychiatric Services has received some resistance from physicians with the desire to not treat individuals with certain types of diagnosis.

- The board asked if Psychiatric Services has utilized the Triage Center. Currently Psychiatric Services does not use the Triage Center, as MCCHS as their own case center management services inhouse. The Triage Center is on their list of referral agencies.
- Psychiatric Services received a State grant last year and was asked how the funds were used and if any funds from this grant was left. No State grant funds are left, and this grant paid for prior years' agency deficient. The presenters were asked if the agency is currently looking for any additional funding or grant opportunities. The agency replied they are always looking and search for additional funding opportunities. If they were supported through Medicare, they would not need to request further funding.

### **McLean County Center for Human Services-Mobile Crisis Unit**

#### **Information provided from written application:**

- Mobile Crisis unit provides 24-hour on-call crisis assessment/intervention to anyone needing crisis services with the goal of stabilizing the individual, provide community resources, screen individuals, conduct welfare checks and conduct follow-up services.
- The crisis team is involved in active outreach to the community to increase awareness of behavioral health issues and resources, promote preventative measures, and collaborate with community entities to improve the delivery of services and overall health of the community.

#### **Information provided from in-person presentation:**

- Mobile Crisis provides call and walk-in services providing resources for specified services. Much of the service provided to clients is finding gap services while on waitlists.
- Engagement Specialists are utilized, and this engagement increases and encourages ongoing treatment.

#### **Discussion and Summary**

- The board asked about the insurance process for crisis events. Trying to ask for insurance during a crisis event is extremely difficult, most of the time Medicaid insurance is learned after the fact.
- Held a discussion regarding the renewal of the 590 grant for crisis. Yes, the 590 Grant is renewed, but MCCHS received approximately the same funds as the prior grant. This grant only covers the new staff and training of new staff.
- The board asked if Crisis Unit interface and collaborates with the Triage Center. Yes, refer and assist as needed. Crisis Center refers to Triage Center and FUSE Programs.
- A discussion of the number of individuals utilizing Crisis services has doubled in the past year.
- A board member asked the Crisis staff, "If you could add one thing to your program, what would that be?" The staff member replied, "Placement services for care". There is a large lack of capacity, and it is worsening. Hospitals are full or not staffed to capacity and individuals are spending too much time in ER, instead of receiving care services.
- A board member asked what is the hospitals objection to hire staff internally for crisis care. Currently, the hospitals are so short staffed, and have their own financial and staffing issues. It is not that hospitals do not want to assist and help out during crisis events, they understand mental health is a concern, but have too many fires themselves to resolve.

## **Regional Office of Education-Embedded School Program**

### **Information provided from written application:**

- ROE #17 is an advocate for education by providing positive leadership, coordinating, and delivering state and local services, and disseminating information for educators, school districts, and the community.
- ROE prioritizes the emotional well-being of the students it services. Services are individualized based upon the needs of the school district.
- The program provides individual/family counseling, advocacy, and case management services to assist youth in achieving their highest level of functioning.
- Outreach services provide on-site, school, home, and community services to youth and families identified as a high risk of behavioral health problems.

### **Information provided from in-person presentation:** Provided Infographic Handout

- ROE is asking for additional funding for additional schools and clients to be added. All of the outcomes have been met or exceeded and ROE would like to expand services in CY23.
- The addition of 4 more schools and 2 additional counselors.
- In the past year the research proves the increased need for youths struggles with mental health concerns.

### **Discussion and Summary**

- All schools within the county are provided services for Medicaid individuals. All schools in the county are aware of the Embedded program and can call for consultation or contact with concerns.
- A conversation of data collection and uses of data was discussed. ROE would like to place focus on the information collected and pair statistical information with attendance, grades, and reduction for the need of behavioral health services. ROE would like to provide informational data from the school aspect side and bridge the data gap.

## **PATH-Crisis/211 Call Center**

### **Information provided from written application:**

- PATH Inc's mission is to provide access to help to improve and save lives.
- The staff at PATH serve as advocates and experts in their fields.
- PATH Inc call center provides 24/7 contact for people in various crisis by calling 211 and connects to a live trained person to listen, assess, and provide means of support to anyone in need.
- Path Inc's call center provides a full resource database to provide behavioral health services.

### **Information provided from in-person presentation:** Provided Infographic-The Difference Between 211 & 988 Services

- This grant has traditionally paid for supervisory staff salaries, and for CY23, asking for the supervisory staff salaries.

- Supervisors focus is making sure data is being collected correctly along with employee relations.

### **Discussion and Summary**

- 988 is not a new service, 988 is being expanded. 988 is the 1<sup>st</sup> step of the 5-year change for the State of Illinois.
- 211 is accredited and meets national standards. 211 is a way to provide assistance and access before becoming a crisis and preventative before the crisis.
- Data for texting is low and probably would increase if marketed better.
- A discussion regarding if the State is offering another grant for 211 services. The state provides salaries for 4 staff for 988 for 211 to utilize.

### **Project OZ-Youth Substance Use Prevention**

#### **Information provided from written application:**

- Program provides in-school substance use prevention education to junior high students in McLean County by utilizing “Too Good for Drugs Program”.
- The program educates students to develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes students need to reduce or prevent substance use and to keep the school and community drug-free.

#### **Information provided from in-person presentation:** Infographic handout provided

- Since the pandemic, there is a significant rise in alcohol and drug abuse, which made easier with isolation.
- The new concern is ‘Cocktails on the Go’ and how to manage these sources.
- Another concern is marijuana products being readily available in everyday store locations.
- About 3,000 students will be seen in this school year. Bloomington Jr. High and 3 rural schools will be added to the program.

### **Discussion and Summary**

- A discussion if there is currently a need to discuss with even younger age group such as 4<sup>th</sup> grades is needed. Yes, data shows this. Programs go as young as kindergarten level; it is a matter of funding to provide services all through the school years to make it possible.

### **Project OZ-Youth Suicide Use Prevention: NAMI Ending the Silence (ETS)**

#### **Information provided from written application:**

- ETS is a school-based youth suicide prevention and mental health education program that reduces stigma and increases help-seeking behavior.
- The program is offered to all incoming students in public schools and content is tailored to each grade level to build a foundation for mental health education and address mental health challenges.
- Goal of ETS is to create a generation of students in McLean County who are will-positioned to end the silence and stigma surrounding suicide and mental illness.

- ETS encourages messages of: Mental illness is a medical illness, there are warning signs of mental health conditions, help is available, and recovery is possible.

**Information provided from in-person presentation:** Infographic\_Handout provided

- Project OZ-NAMI program will reach about 3,000 students this year, 1 year in Jr. High and 1 year in High School levels.
- Goal is for students to recognize warning signs in others and themselves.
- Youth Mental Health is such an important topic, as there are reports from the youth population indicating poor mental health, including thoughts of suicide and self-harm.
- In person is such a necessity for this program, as students relate to the staff worker and after presentations some have found comfort to privately discuss their mental health challenges.

**Discussion and Summary**

- The board asked if they are used as consultants by the schools and/or teachers. Yes, the staff worker interacts with counselors and school staff with concerns of students.
- Discussion if schools are open to fund this program. Yes, there is a desire and recognized need by the school, but funding is not available.
- The board asked if after violent national school incidents if the need for services greater. Yes, students' stressors increased during these stressing times, and concerns of safety. But, no to copycat behaviors of violence.

**The Baby Fold-Healthy Start**

**Information provided from written application:**

- The Baby Fold's Health Start Program provides infant mental health home visiting services, focusing on building nurturing, safe and trusting relationships between caregiver and child to maximize opportunities for all children and parents to reach their full potential.
- The program is designed for parents facing life stressors such as mental health concerns, single parenting, poverty, adverse childhood experiences, abuse and neglect, substance use, and domestic violence.
- Families enroll prenatally or within 3 months of the baby's birth. Services are offered free of charge to parents.

**Information provided from in-person presentation:**

- Presentation began looking back at the history of the Baby Fold and BoH. BoH has pushed the Baby Fold to stretch and create endowment for sustainability of programs.
- As the Baby Fold learned and changed over the years, there has been many individuals, families and babies benefitted by many programs the Baby Fold offers.

## **Discussion and Summary**

- The Baby Fold is asking for more funding due to IDHS (Illinois Department of Human Services) has reprioritized funds to counties that are truly struggling and needing to provide services. McLean County is not on that list currently due to the work of this program.
- The State of Illinois increased wages for program workers.
- The Baby Fold received PNC grant for hosting virtual cook classes involving instructor leader, parents, and children. The impact was much greater than anticipated. Great concern for the future is due to Covid-19, the teen pregnancy rate is high, and future clients and services will be needed.

Adjournment at

Motion by Cory Tello to adjourn and seconded by Susan Schafer

Meeting Adjourned @ 1:19 PM

Approved