Local Advisory Council (LAC) North

St. Louis County

August 18, 2022 4:30 – 6:00 @ Virginia GSC and Teams

Present: Todd Swenson, Ann Marie Lubovich, Jennifer Rich, Brenda Shafer-Pellinen, Macy Viita, Michelle Long, Heather Kainz, Katy Lofquist, Sandy Tuin

Absent: Patty Stensland, Daniel Triestman, Lacy Podlogar, Nicole Stone, Darcie LaFlamme, Linda O’Neil Dremme

• Meeting started at 4:40 due to some technical difficulties. Tod opened the meeting and read the LAC Values. May minutes were approved.

• Tod went over the LAC Mental Health Advisor Guidebook and let the Council know where to find the manual – Attached is the web address to the manual: <https://mn.gov/dhs/assets/lac-guidebook_tcm1053-386047.pdf>

• Review of LAC Priorities were discussed. Macy did a fantastic job at collecting the individual responses and Tod took the responses and collected them into a cumulative total. Below are the results:

1st (tie) - Address Mental Health Needs of Older Adults in Community and Institutional Settings & Virtual Mental Health Resource Hub

2nd - The Older Adult Population

3rd - Social Isolation on Adults In Facilities

4th (tie) - Centralized Mental Health Resource Hub & Reduce wait time for inpatient treatment openings

5th - Finding a balance between professional help and peer support

6th - Homeless drop in shelter

7th - Establish a drop in shelter

8th -Create mental health positions in schools that do not have them

It was decided by the LAC that they will start working on Senior Mental Health.

• LAC discussed who they should get for speakers to discuss on the topics of Senior Mental Health. It was decided on the following for speakers:

September Meeting – Brenda will ask Dr. Bianco from Essentia Health, and Macy will email one of her past Professors at CSS to see if she would be willing to speak also.

October Meeting – Ann Marie will reach out to Monarch Management in the Cities to see if they would be willing to speak.

November Meeting – Brenda will reach out to AEOA, Northwoods in Ely and Elder Circle since she works with those agencies to see if they will attend our November meeting.

• Next item discussed was that the LAC is looking for a Co-Chair as Lacy will not be able to remain doing it this year. Tod will remain as the other Co-Chair. Tod asked for volunteers but no one at the meeting accepted. Tod will send out an email to all to see if anyone not at the meeting would be willing to Co-Chair with him.

• Sandy asked about updating the St. Louis County website for the LAC. We need to update the email address for people that may have questions. Tod volunteered to be the contact person, so Sandy will get that updated.

• Sandy got two emails of interested candidates that would like to be on the LAC. Sandy asked if they want to be on the Council now or wait for an opening. It was discussed that Daniel Triestman and Patty Stensland should be contacted to see if they want to remain on the LAC as they haven’t been at the last couple meetings. Sandy will email them to ask about their interest. If they decline to be on the LAC, then we can discuss at the next meeting about asking the other candidates that showed interest.

• LAC wanted to know if Melanie turned in the recommendations to the County Board. I told them I would check with Melanie and find out. The LAC would also like to know if the recommendations were turned in and if so, can they find out the results. They would also like to know if they can turn in recommendations as they are completed or if they need to wait and turn them in together.

• Meeting was adjourned at 6 pm.