

## Region 2 AMHI Meeting Minutes

8/4/2025

### In Attendance:

X	Kellsey Firehammer		Jeff Lind	X	Anne Lindseth
X	Jamie Halverson		Brian Ophus	X	Emily Utech
X	Michael Edminster	X	Amy Ballard	X	Brad Vold
	Mackenzie Snortum	X	April Miller	X	Robin Wold
X	Shawn Anderson	X	Danielle Turner		Renea Weigel
	Jenny Hollis		Brina Ellison		Ashlea McMartin
X	Catie LeMay		Tony Kramer	X	Joseph Cook
X	Lori Schlinkert	X	Dave Erickson	X	Halen Groenke
	Monica Yeadon	X	Richard Huth	X	Teri Savoie
X	Michelle Hensel				

### Introductions and Updates

**Coordinator Update:** Kellsey had no updates

**State Update:** No updates

**Beltrami:** Anne reported that DHS has decided to end their Housing Stabilization Services Immediately due to concerns around Fraud, Waste, and Abuse.

**Clearwater:** Jamie reported no updates

**Hubbard:** Emily shared that they have a new vice-chair for the Hubbard County LAC. They are still looking for a secretary. They are developing their mission statements and are working on their bylaws. They will be looking to work on a community needs assessment at their next meeting. Emily also shared that they have a Vincent St. Paul Society that is available to help individuals with various needs.

**Lake of the Woods:** Amy reported no updates

**Blue Cross and Blue Shield:** Brad had no updates

**Enlightenment Psychiatry:** Michelle shared that they are continuing to work on launching an app and podcast on their website.

**Headwaters Alliance for Suicide Prevention (HASP):** April shared that they are working to bring back the run walk skate and they are re-naming it A Walk For Hope. They are waiting for approval. There is an upcoming event for youth providers to connect and network.

**Hope House:** Robin shared that they have been busy removing trees from their property. They also had some flooding. Their robot project is wrapping up the end of this week. They will be evaluating the data. They have hired a new employee that will be starting on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Lake Country Associates:** Shawn shared that their Bemidji office has therapy openings. Their ARMHS program is full, but they try to serve everyone that needs. They are still looking for someone to repair their fence.

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**Medica:** Teri shared no updates at this time. They do have some reserved psychiatry appointments available that can see people 24-48 hours.

**PrimeWest:** Danielle shared no updates.

**Red Lake Mental Health:** No updates

**Regional Suicide Prevention:** No updates

**Sanford Behavioral Health:** Catie shared some data from their housing program including how many people were served, the type of services they received, and housing setting types individuals were placed in. They have served 32 people January 1 - June 30, 2025. Their outreach provider at their day center is leaving so that service won't be available until they are able to fill that position.

**Schackman Kramer & Assoc.:** Joseph shared they are having a provider network meeting coming up.

**Stellher Human Services:** Dave shared their employment program for kids is struggling to get approval for services. They have a new crisis worker who is starting soon. They are also bringing on another psychiatric nurse 2 days per week.

**United Way Bemidji:** Halen shared they have about \$260,000 in the disaster release funds. They are looking at long-term recovery grants for non-profits helping families. Email Annie for applications. They continue to work with Community Resource Connections, for storm clean up. They still have about 150 people needing assistance. There is a National Bank of Commerce brat picnic fundraiser this Thursday. They will also have their wine and beer tasting social at the end of the month at the Sanford Center.

**Wellness in the Woods:** Richard shared that he attended the Roseau County Fair where he spoke to about 300 people. He will also be having a booth at the Koochiching County Fair. Richard is also going to Hubbard county to do some outreach.

### **Team Building or Mental Health Story Sharing**

Catie lead the ice breaker activity where people shared if they were a kitchen appliance what would they be.

### **Community Needs Forum**

Emily asked if there are school supplies available. United Way is working on their stuff a bus event, some Salvation Army groups are holding distribution events, Country Fair Church and Salvation Army in Clearwater County are both holding distribution events.

Kellsey shared that there are a few trainings coming up through Trainlink on the Department of Human Services website. There is a Child Protection survey that Kellsey will send out. There is an opioid epidemic response grant also available on the DHS website.

Kellsey shared there is a requirement to do a yearly community needs assessment. Kellsey shared the location on the R2amhi.org website where there are some questions available for people to answer. She asked for opinions on additional questions people would like to see asked. When people complete the

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questions the responses will be emailed to Kellsey. Kellsey would like to see providers, partner agency staff and community members complete the questionnaire.

### **Subcommittee/Workgroup Development**

Kellsey continues to reach out to HRDC to have them come share information on their transportation work.

### **Finance Update**

No updated finance report was available.

### **Provider Spotlight**

Shawn shared information about Lake Country Associates. LCA started around 2009, and their first office was located in Park Rapids. They started with Therapy, ARMHS, and groups. They have expanded to Bemidji and Mahnagha for out-patient services. Their ARMHS program serves adults with serious mental illness, so they are able to remain in the community. They also provide CSP that is a little more flexible for individuals not able to receive ARMHS. They have a couple staff in each office that are trained to provide EMDR. The Mahnagha office is in Wadena county and is a small office. In 2017 LCA expanded to provide a drop-in center called Lake Country Cottage. The Cottage is open 6 days per week. Anyone can be referred to their program. They can do diagnostic assessments and will accept diagnostic assessments completed by other providers. ARMHS are available to individuals 18 and over. If someone is in the hospital they are able to use ARMHS to help transition individuals back into the community. They provide Reach Out cards and letters for individuals that don't attend for awhile or when someone is hospitalized. They aren't certified under the Clubhouse model but they do follow some of the general practices.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on October 1, 2025, at 1 pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the community service center at Beltrami County.

Submitted by Jamie Halverson