



**SOUTHEAST IOWA LINK (SEIL)
MENTAL HEALTH AND DISABILITY
SERVICES REGION**

DES MOINES, HENRY, JEFFERSON,
KEOKUK, LEE, LOUISA, VAN BUREN
& WASHINGTON COUNTIES

DATE	CONVENING TIME	LOCATION
February 10, 2021	1:30pm	Henry Co. Emergency Management 900 West Washington St. Mount Pleasant, IA 52641 ZOOM

**Southeast Iowa Link Governing Board Meeting
Approved Minutes**

Present: Rick Larkin, Jack Seward Jr., Marc Lindeen, Tom Broeker, Dee Sandquist, Mark Meek, Bob Bartles, Tracy Liptak, Mark Schneider, Rynanne Wood, Ken Hyndman, Sarah Berndt, Tami Gilliland, Bobbie Wulf, Leia Craff, Tracey Lamm

1. Approve Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm.

Motion to approve the agenda

By Marc Lindeen

Second Mark Schneider

Motion passes

2. Consider Approval of January 13, 2021 minutes

The document was viewed via screen share.

Motion to approve the January 13, 2021 minutes

By Tom Broeker

Second Jack Seward Jr.

Motion passes

3. Update from Adult and Children Advisory Committee Members

The SEIL Change Agent stakeholder group did not meet today.

Adult advisory discussed the mobile crisis program and lack of face to face availability.

There is a bill SF 293 that would make transportation a core service. This could be helpful but there is concern that there is no additional funding. This would be an unfunded mandate for the SEIL Region. Transportation is a big issue, but providers don't support legislation saying regions are to pay for the service without additional funding.

Discussed what has been happening with customers since January. There is an up surge in referrals and increased intensity of need both for behavioral health services and domestic violence programs. There is compassion fatigue with providers and professional staff exhaustion from dealing with more severe levels of trauma than has been seen before. Looking at workforce wellness is important too. There is a need to look at supports that can be provided to staff during this time. Providing direct service professionals pay of fifteen dollars an hour would help with recruitment and retention.

Southern Iowa Mental Health Center has three subacute beds. Feedback from those accessing that service is the service is wonderful and needed by the people who used the service.

Children's advisory elected officers: Tasha Beghtol is the children's advisory chair and Tammy Wetjen-Kesterson is the vice chair. Work continues on the goal to build capacity. Chanel Wagner from Early Childhood Iowa and



Marcus Johnston Miller from the Iowa Department of Public Health were invited to the meeting. They were involved Universal Screening Panel which was a workgroup put together by the Iowa Children’s State Board to look at universal screening tools for children as it applies to social emotional behavioral health. The panel has met five times and have three goals, provide public education about the importance of assessing children’s social emotional behavioral health, implement a universal screener, and use a system that coordinates between agencies better. They are working on a broad goal to provide family support and targeted training and to find a way to fund this in the state of Iowa. It was noted that there is screening questionnaire burn out with parents who have to respond to multiple screeners. Locally providers see duplication of effort and would like to choose one screener and get together to combine efforts.

4. Consider Approval of Claims as per Running Totals Document- January

The document was viewed via screen share. All member county reports were submitted. Expenditures were typical and match what was approved in the January minutes. There were no payments from member counties to the fiscal agent. Property taxes are coming in at a lesser amount. Other revenue included client care reimbursement from an interim assistance reimbursement from Social Security of \$4,659.41 and interest for last month.

Jefferson County continues to be off three cents for a liabilities deduction payable; they are still working to make the correction.

The Children’s WRAP Around funds shows a January expenditure of \$120.00. This will be reimbursed by the Department of Human Services.

Motion to approve the claims running totals document for January
 By Jack Seward Jr. Second Tom Broeker Motion passes

5. Discuss and Consider Approval of Governing Board signatory on claims

Motion to approve Tom Broeker as signatory on claims
 By Jack Seward Jr. Second Dee Sandquist Motion passes

6. Consider Approval of Claims for Fiscal Agent Account as per Claims 2-10-2021

The document was viewed via screen share. Mandated claims totaled \$21,817.64, expenditures totaled \$343,359.23, Children’s WRAP Around expenditure totaled \$751.20 and total claims to be paid is \$365,928.07.

The Children’s WRAP Around funds are through the Decat that serves Jefferson, Keokuk, Van Buren and Washington Counties. Funding is available to pay for services for children when there is no other funding available. Decat in the other four member counties do not offer Children’s WRAP Around funds.

Motion to approve to approve claims for fiscal agent account per claims 2-10-2021
 By Marc Lindeen Second Tom Broeker Motion passes

7. Receive and File Fiscal Agent Report- January

The report was viewed via screen share. Revenue posted was for client care charges in the amount of \$4,659.41. No interest was posted. Total expenditures paid was \$446,502.35.



Motion to receive and file fiscal agent report for January

By Jack Seward Jr.

Second Mark Schneider

Motion passes

8. Discuss and Consider Approval of successful Crisis Assessment Services RFP applicant Tracey Lamm

Proposals for mobile crisis assessment were submitted by Optimae from Fairfield and Integrated Telehealth Partners (ITP) from West Des Moines. The request for proposals could score up to one hundred points, twenty-five points for each, on experience, previous work performance, capacity to complete scope of work and cost. On the scoring the providers were close; it came down to cost of the proposals and those costs being in line with the SEIL budget. Optimae proposed a minimum cost of \$161,000 to a maximum of \$305,900 per year. ITP was a cost of \$305,000 the first year and \$173,000 annual after the first year. The crisis assessment is to be provided at the point of crisis where the person is located and primarily by telehealth with some in person assessments. Due to the requirement to be Chapter 24 accredited this did rule out some interested providers. The recommendation is to accept the proposal from Optimae based on the scoring. The SEIL Management Team was involved in evaluating the two providers, reviewed the scoring and supports the recommendation.

Motion to accept and approve the recommendation for the request for proposal to be awarded to Optimae

By Tom Broeker

Second Dee Sandquist

Motion passes

9. Discuss Accessing Mobile Crisis Response- Dee

The mobile crisis response provider was invited to participate in this discussion today. The purpose for this discussion is about access and getting the system to work.

There was a post to a Facebook Group about an individual who needed services. The mobile crisis number was posted to the group. A neighbor to the individual the post was about called the mobile crisis number. The reported outcome of the call to mobile crisis was that there seemed to be resistance from police to intervene, the neighbor needed to talk with the provider and get the person to agree to mobile crisis services and to call the police and ask them to get involved. Procedurally as the management team understands it would be accurate that a person can't call in and request a dispatch to another location. The person identified as being in crisis would need to agree to talk with mobile crisis response. It was noted by Optimae that in Jefferson County when a call is made for a wellness check the police are willing to respond and that law enforcement works well with Optimae staff. In other counties feedback from people who called for mobile crisis response service said that it has gone well.

Services are provided in Jefferson, Keokuk, Louisa and Washington Counties. Presently mobile crisis isn't providing face to face services, their dispatch is doing the de-escalation via phone or telehealth. This is due to Covid. Mobile crisis response is concerned with Covid exposure and is working on getting their responders vaccinated so they can provide face to face services safely. If mobile crisis is to respond within sixty minutes with the current practice is SEIL getting what they are paying for? There has been a turnover in management with the mobile crisis response provider serving SEIL. SEIL isn't the only region struggling with the delivery of mobile crisis response. Workforce shortage is an issue for service delivery.

The governing board members are eager to have this service provided in all eight member counties. It seems a lesser service is being provided which is not meeting SEIL expectations. There is also the concern the public isn't being educated on how to access mobile crisis response. The expectation of educating the public with the mobile crisis response phone number was clearly stated to the provider by the management team. How the mobile crisis response number is publicized is different in each county. The coordinators of disability services where mobile



crisis response is available have done their best to promote this in their communities. The governing board has requested data on the services being provided and outcomes from that work. They want to know what is working and what needs additional support that the management team can address. The governing board wants to know is the cost of this service providing the expected benefit. The SEIL Management Team has a Zoom meeting with the mobile crisis response provider February 24th. Governing board members were invited to participate in this meeting. There will be an open dialog to get the issues expressed today resolved and reiterate the expectations of SEIL for the provision of mobile crisis response services.

There is a national effort to have an 811 number to call for mental health emergencies. Foundation II is the designated provider for 811 in Iowa, but it is marketed as Your Life Iowa. Your Life Iowa is to connect people to local services. Regions will have to figure out how 811 relates to dispatch for mobile crisis response.

10. Discuss and Consider Approval of ETP for claims submission outside of 60 days/payment outside of 90 days to REM for client ID#185097- Ryanne

This provider submitted an invoice for services outside the timeframes allowed in the SEIL management plan. REM is not a contracted provider and was not aware of SEIL timeframes for submitting invoices. There was another region involved and the invoice was sent to the wrong region which was part of the delay in getting it submitted to the SEIL Region.

Motion to approve the exception to policy for REM client ID#185097

By Tom Broeker

Second Mark Meek

Motion passes

11. Discuss and Consider Approval of ETP for claim submission outside of 60 days/payment outside of 90 days to Hope Haven- River Cross Client Participation for client ID#182531-Sandy

Hope Haven is a contracted provider and aware of the SEIL payment process. There was integrated health home (IHH) involvement in this case. The provider and IHH thought there was an alternate source of funding for client participation and were seeking funding from that source. There wasn't another funding source in this case and that created a delay in getting the invoice to SEIL within the sixty day timeframe in the SEIL management plan.

Motion to approve the exception to policy for client ID#182531

By Marc Lindeen

Second Jack Seward Jr.

Motion passes

12. Discuss and Consider Approval of SEIL Statements of Understanding for Region Designated duties:

- a. Des Moines County
- b. Henry County
- c. Jefferson and Van Buren Counties
- d. Keokuk County
- e. Lee County
- f. Louisa and Washington Counties

Each year the statement of understanding is completed between the region and member counties whose employees are assigned regional duties. There has been a modification to the Jefferson and Van Buren County statement of understanding due a change in population which changes the percentage allocated in the statement of understanding. Duties were added to the statement of understanding, so governing board and board of supervisors are aware of the duties being performed. There is redesignation of the organizational structure in process, but this won't have implication to the percentages of time allocated. The redesignation is about designated duties and



specialty functions. Coordinators do have dual designation of functions currently and the management team is looking at streamlining this along with implementing checks and balances among the management team. The statement of understanding will be sent to the member county auditors to be placed on the board of supervisors agenda for approval.

Motion to approve the Des Moines County Statement of Understanding
 By Jack Seward Jr. Second Mark Meek Motion passes

Motion to approve the Henry County Statement of Understanding
 By Jack Seward Jr. Second Tom Broecker Motion passes

Motion to approve the Jefferson and Van Buren County Statement of Understanding
 By Mark Meek Second Jack Seward Jr. Motion passes

Motion to approve the Keokuk County Statement of Understanding
 By Jack Seward Jr. Second Marc Lindeen Motion passes

Motion to approve the Lee County Statement of Understanding
 By Tom Broecker Second Marc Lindeen Motion passes

Motion to approve the Louisa and Washington County Statement of Understanding
 By Jack Seward Jr. Second Mark Meek Motion passes

13. New Business
 None

14. Adjourn
 Motion to adjourn
 By Mark Meek Second Jack Seward Jr. Motion passes

Minutes submitted by Marc Lindeen, Secretary, February 25, 2021. MLsb