



# CICS

Supporting Individuals. Strengthening Communities.

## Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes March 27, 2024

**Committee Members Present:** Allie Wulfekuhle, Andrea Dickerson, Emilea Lundberg, Kendra Alexander, Lori Price, Rita Baker, Christa Mattly. **Absent:** Police Chief Rob Burdess, Rose Dickinson, Shirley Faircloth, Karie Foster, Keith Halleland, Kelly Moore, Dejah Roman, Melinda Struthoff, Dr. Jack Swanson, Clarissa Thompson. **CICS Staff Present:** Robin McKee, Betsy Stursma, Jen Sheehan, Starla Varrelman, Nikki Sprecher.

**Motion to approve the March 27, 2024 agenda. Motion by Lundberg, second by Mattly. All ayes, motion carried.**

**Motion to approve the November 29, 2023 minutes. Motion by Baker, second by Lundberg. All ayes, motion carried.**

**Operations Officer Betsy Stursma stated the FY25 budget was approved by the Governing Board.** Stursma also stated the Annual Service and Budget Plan was sent out to all committee members. Stursma explained spending down the fund balance to 5% and the expansion dollars that are in the budget. At this time it is unknown regarding peer or family support services due to difficulties with start up due to pay and benefits. It was stated a provider does want to expand peer support.

**Andrea Dickerson provided an update on the YSS Ember project.** This 52-acre campus is for substance use, shelter and crisis stabilization for children. YSS is working on updating their policies at this time due to the new campus in regards to leadership and program alignment. Construction continues to progress on the campus and the completion date is set for the end of August/early September. The hope is that students will be in the new facility by the new school year. Students living in the residential unit will go to Ballard/Huxley and the shelter and crisis and stabilization students will have the same school program that they have always had. In Mason City the residential program will be for 18-24 year old men – substance use will open in mid-April and will have 8 beds.

**Tony Raymer, Easterseals and Jen Sheehan, CICS Program Planner presented the Easterseals Multi-Systemic Therapy contract that was approved by the Governing Board.** Easterseals will provide MST services to 12-17 year olds involved with Juvenile Courts, conduct disorders, those at risk of out of home placement, those transitioning back home from places such as the Eldora State Training School, etc. They work with individuals in their community and surround services with the support system. These services will be available within a 90-mile radius of Des Moines and they are starting with two clinicians with plans to work up to four. Some areas may be telehealth and includes 24-hours on-call service. Those excluded from the services would be out of home placement due to suicidal/homicidal if mental health is more prevalent than behavior. They have a goal of not having a waiting list, have just hired a clinical supervisor and need to hire two more staff. They are planning to start taking referrals in June and Medicaid will fund this service, however CICS can fund if needed.

**Motion to approve Christa Mattly as the new Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Representative to the Governing Board. Motion by Wulfekuhle, second by Dickerson. All ayes, motion carried.**

**Motion to adjourn by Mattly, second by Dickerson. All ayes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned.**

Next Meeting is scheduled for **June 26, 2024** at noon, in person in Ames with virtual option available.