



# CICS

Supporting Individuals. Strengthening Communities.

## Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes September 27, 2023

**Committee Members Present:** Dr. Jack Swanson, Emilea Lundberg, Kendra Alexander, Lisa Heddens, Shirley Faircloth, Rita Baker, and Andrea Dickerson. **CICS Staff Present:** Robin McKee, Starla Varrelman, Meghan Freie, Liza Maxwell, and Russell Wood.

**Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm.

**Motion to approve the September 27, 2023 agenda. Motion by Lundberg, second by Swanson. All ayes, motion carried.**

**Motion to approve the July 26, 2023 minutes. Motion by Swanson, second by Lundberg. All ayes, motion carried.**

Starla Varrelman gave an update on her position as Children's Crisis Network Coordinator.

Andrea Dickerson gave an update on the YSS Ember Recovery Project. They are hoping to be done in the fall of '24. The facility will be in a new school district, so they have been working with the Ballard/Huxley schools. Heartland AEA will still provide educational services in the facility. They have separate work groups working on young adult programs, crisis response programs since they will be located outside the city limits, school groups. The work groups will come together once a month. Julie Sterns from ISU and some of her students are working on the landscaping and being mindful about how the environment can impact therapy and recovery. YSS Services are provided to 18 years and younger currently but they will be looking at providing some residential substance abuse treatment for the 18- to 24-year-olds. Robin also then gave an update regarding the schools within the Region that now have started working with YSS for the Suicide Prevention program.

Dr. Jack asked about the ITP process in the ER's and how the Service Coordinators follow up with the clients that use the service. Starla and Robin explained how the Service Coordinators reach out to the client and families and try to help them set up any recommended services.

Robin McKee stated that the committee had all received copies of the Children's Directory and asked that everyone look at it and bring comments back to the November meeting.

The committee also decided for more agenda items in November would be setting meetings for the next year and having Betsy Stursma, Finance Officer share the budget for fiscal year 2025.

**Motion to adjourn by Swanson, second by Faircloth. All ayes, motion carried.**

Next Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 29, 2023 at noon available via Zoom only.