



Harvey-Marion County CDDO

Supporting increased independence, integration, inclusion, and productivity in individual homes and communities.

HARVEY-MARION COUNTY CDDO: BOARD of DIRECTORS

October 16, 2023

Meeting Minutes

Location: HMCDDO Meeting Room, 500 N. Main, Suite 204, Newton, KS 67114 (*Zoom option also available to anyone that requests access*).

Directors Participating: In Person: Kristi Berning, Chair; Marilyn Loganbill, Vice-Chair; Craig Simons, Secretary; Randy Dallke; Jen Dies

Present via Zoom: Mary Gill, Treasurer; Don Schroeder

Directors Absent: Kimberlee Jost; Todd Weeks

Harvey-Marion County CDDO Staff Present: Kevin Gaeddert, Executive Director; Nancy Plenert, Meeting Recorder

Guest via Zoom: Connie Rickard, Trinity Heights Respite Care

Call to Order. Chair Kristi Berning called the monthly Board meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

Proxies: None.

Quorum Status: Quorum present.

Public Comment: None. A web link for public access to this meeting was posted with the Newton Kansan and Marion Record. <https://harveymarioncddo.com/meetings>

Minutes of September 18, 2023 Board Meeting.

ACTION: *Kristi moved to approve the September 18, 2023 Minutes. The motion was seconded by Mary and passed by majority vote, with Randy abstaining.*

Financials: Packets contain the September 2023 Profit & Loss by Class report, the check register report, and balance sheet. At 03 of 12 months (25%), total Income reflects receipt of County Mill only. State Aid & CDDO Admin Funds have not yet been received.

- Balance Sheet dated **10/06/2023** reflects HMCDDO Total Assets at **\$130,715.53**
- Current Budget Overages:
 - We are anticipating that all current overages (Lines: 6005, 6111, 6112) will level out over the next few months.
- FY23 Audit is in full swing, and we will have a finding for being over the \$250k FDIC limit for too long. Our office has contacted Union State Bank (USB) and because we are considered a municipality, we can use a service through USB utilizing an ICS account.
 - Insured Cash Sweep (ICS) is a financial product offered by banks in the IntraFiSM network that maximizes FDIC insurance coverage for large deposits while earning interest on cash balances. There was related discussion on whether the CDDO checking account is an interest-bearing



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account. It is not. Craig asked Kevin to see if HMCDDO would be eligible for an interest-bearing checking account. Kevin will inquire with Union State Bank to ask about interest-bearing accounts.

ACTION: *Jen moved to accept the financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Craig and passed by unanimous vote.*

National, State (KDADS/KDHE/InterHab) & Local Updates:

National:

- October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month.
- SSI Savings Penalty Elimination Act: (S 2767 / HR 5408) The SSI Savings Penalty Elimination Act would raise the resource limits, which have not been changed since 1984, to \$10,000 for individuals (currently @ \$2,000) and \$20,000 for married couples (currently @ \$3000), and index them to inflation moving forward.
- Rehabilitation Act 50: At the Department of Labor, our North Star is building a more accessible and equitable workplace for all, including workers with disabilities. While we have made substantial progress towards fulfilling the promise of access and equity, there's still room to go. We know that many workers with disabilities are still being paid wages far below the federal minimum wage under section 14(c) certificates. We have been urged by not just advocates but also by numerous oversight entities and advisory groups, ranging from the Government Accountability Office, the National Council on Disability, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, to the DOL's own Advisory Committee on Increasing Competitive Integrated Employment, to carefully review the 14(c) program and prioritize competitive integrated employment. And that is what we are going to do. The Department of Labor – led by the Office of Disability Employment Policy, the Wage and Hour Division, our Solicitor, and our policy office– is embarking on engaging stakeholders to ensure opportunities for competitive integrated employment and to move toward greater equity and economic security for workers with disabilities. We are launching a comprehensive review of the Section 14(c) program to re-examine its use and future viability.

State:

- The KanCare RFP has been released: This was released on 10/02/23 and entities who will be submitting responses will be working to prepare to get these complete. Public Meetings regarding KanCare RFP:
 - 10/24/2023: 1-3pm (via zoom); 10/26/2023: 6-8pm (via Zoom). Please let me know if you wish to attend these meetings.
- The waiver renewal workgroups have all ended their work and hopefully submitting some form of recommendations moving forward. It seems that most of these were merely exercises in dialog that seemed to actually muddy the waters on each of the 7 workgroups. Only time will tell if there was any progress made from these groups as KDADS gets ready to submit their waiver application.



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- Conflict of interest (TCM/CDDO); Unbundling Day Services; Unbundling Residential Services; Ratio Billing; Supported Employment; Functional Assessment; Assistive Technology
- Kevin discussed the statewide waiting list. People often talk about eliminating the wait list. Rather, the focus should be on raising rates for providers. Agencies everywhere are struggling to find staff, despite the 25% rate increase in FY2023. That increase got us caught up, but many providers are still unable to offer competitive wages. Providers need to be able to adequately staff the individuals they serve, and currently do not have capacity if large numbers of individuals were to be offered wait list funding.

THRP 2023 Summer Program Report. Connie Rickard with Trinity Heights Respite Program joined by Zoom to give a brief report on the Summer Program that was funded with \$15,000 in Local Finance Plan Discretionary Funding. The kids that participated had a great summer and gained friendships through the group activities. Parents were appreciative of the extra programming that was provided. They had an average attendance of 10 kids for the group activities. A new in-home coordinator was hired in July and is doing a great job. Craig noted that the CDDO has budgeted a lower amount, \$10,000 for the THRP 2024 Summer Program. Will THRP still be able to provide a summer program with less funding? Connie replied that with less funding, they would change the type of group outings, to find free or lower cost activities. They are also looking at writing grants to fund some of their programming.

Service Management and Director's Report, cont.

Local:

- The HMCDDO Executive Director was nominated to the InterHab Board of Directors and voting will be sometime later this month.
- The HMCDDO Executive Director is currently on the CDDO/KDADS contract workgroup to ensure that our needs/views are registered as part of the CDDO contract negotiations team moves their work forward for FY25.

Service Provider Capacity:

- Our service area currently has 0 available providers for residential services, 2 providers for day services and 2 available providers for TCM services. Our service area also has 6 fiscal management providers (assists individuals/guardians with self-directed Personal Care Services). Randy asked how many service providers we currently have. We have three local providers (residential and day services) and four TCM agencies. The staff:client ratios are approximately 1:6 for group homes, and 1:20 for day service sites. CMS, through final rule, is trying to eliminate congregate settings, with a limit of 4



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people per setting, vs. the 6 or 7 some providers have. With all that is being worked on at the state level, there will be lots of system changes over the next 5 years.

Action on Service Management and Director's Report. *Jen moved to acknowledge receipt of and accept the Service Management and Director's Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Randy and passed by unanimous vote.*

Note: a copy of the Service Management and Director's Report is available upon request.

Adjourn: the meeting was declared adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Nancy Plenert

Next Meeting: Monday, November 20 @ 4 pm
HMCDDO Board Room, Newton, KS
<https://harveymarioncddo.com/meetings>