

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

March 24, 2025 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: Marilyn Loganbill, Chair; Craig Simons, Vice-Chair; Kristi

Berning, Secretary; Clarke Dirks

Directors participating via Zoom: Todd Weeks, Treasurer; Kimberlee Jost

Directors Absent: Don Schroeder; Thomas Gill

Harvey-Marion County CDDO Staff Present: Kevin Gaeddert, Executive Director; Audra Kennedy, Quality Assurance/Provider Relations Specialist; Nancy Plenert, Meeting Recorder

Guests Present: Jaci Schrag, community member

<u>Call to Order</u>. Chair Marilyn Loganbill called the monthly Board meeting to order at 4:02 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 February 24, 2025 Board Meeting.

<u>ACTION</u>: Craig moved to approve the February 24, 2025 Minutes. The motion was seconded by Kristi and passed by unanimous vote.

<u>Financials</u>: Packets contain the February 2025 Profit & Loss by Class report, the check register report, ICS check register report (balance over \$250K), and balance sheet. At 08 of 12 months (67%), total Income reflects receipt of County Mill, State Aid, CDDO Admin Funds, & BASIS Assessment payments.

- Balance Sheet dated 03/14/2025 reflects HMCDDO Total Assets at \$380,842.31
- Notable Budget Overages: Overages reported last month remain the same.

<u>ACTION</u>: Clarke 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:

• FROM ANCOR: On 03/14/2025, the U.S. Senate voted in favor of the fiscal year (FY) 2025 continuing resolution (CR) to keep the government funded through September. This vote



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comes after the U.S. House of Representatives voted to pass the CR earlier this week. With

- the passage of this legislation in both chambers, Congress averts a government shutdown.
 We also wanted to remind everyone that the CR is part of the FY 25 appropriations process, which is separate from the budget reconciliation process. The CR does not impact Medicaid funding.
- Kevin noted that Medicaid cuts are still a possibility. Clarification: after learning of proposed Medicaid cuts at the February, 2025 CDDO Board meeting, Don Schroeder shared information about proposed Medicaid cuts with Harvey County Commissioners. This resulted in Harvey County Now contacting the CDDO to do an interview regarding proposed Medicaid cuts. The article featured perspective from the CDDO as well as Kristi Berning's perspective as a caregiver on how cuts to Medicaid could impact persons in services.
- Kevin shared the three big items that are being hashed out at the state level: MFEI Assessment, Conflict-free Case Management, and unbundling of Day Services. This has resulted in lots of meetings that focus on each item. KDADS has tasked Andrew Brown, Deputy Secretary of Programs with KDADS, with chairing the meetings. This sends the message that KDADS is trying to find resolution to each item. Day Services unbundling is a clearer path with recent changes to the original proposal. It is doubtful that MFEI and Conflict of Interest will be mitigated anytime soon. Craig asked whether other CDDO's have Conflict of Interest with TCM. Kevin replied that some CDDO's are also service providers, while others are not.
- Kevin introduced Audra Kennedy, our new Quality Assurance/Provider Relations Specialist. Audra assumes the role that Elizabeth Schmidt recently retired from. This is a full-time position and Audra shared that she hopes to provide a positive image of Quality Assurance.

Service Provider Capacity:

• Our service area currently has 3 residential, 3 day service, 1 TCM, and 5 FMS service providers available for referrals.

<u>Action on Service Management and Director's Report.</u> Kristi moved to acknowledge receipt of and accept the Service Management and Director's Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Clarke and passed by unanimous vote.

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

Harvey-Marion Targeted Case Management Proposal.

Outcome:

The establishment of a conflict-free Targeted Case Management (TCM) provider network in the HMCDDO Service Area.



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Action Steps:

- The HMCDDO engaged with KDADS on 02/24/2025 to alert them about plans to initiate the HMTCM program.
- To ensure that all individuals in the HMCDDO Service Area have conflict-free targeted case managers with a target date of 01/01/2026. This timeline will all depend on licensure and credentialing with the MCOs, but ultimately the goal remains 01/01/2026 for conflict free TCM in the HMCDDO service area.
- Establish Harvey-Marion Targeted Case Management as an agency to provide conflict-free case management services alongside our current conflict-free case management affiliate(s).
- Develop strategies and processes with our current TCM affiliate(s), in the HMCDDO service area, to
 engage in unbiased options counseling, as well as the subsequent process of choosing a new
 conflict-free TCM provider.
- In the fall of 2025, the HMCDDO will contact all conflicted participants/guardians of ResCare (approximately 37 individuals) to let them know that they will need to choose a new TCM provider to come into compliance with the KDADS corrective action plan regarding this issue.
- KDADS' compliance option number two will be the course of action moving forward so that we maintain as much TCM provider capacity as possible.

Option #2: HMCDDO Service area currently has 238 individuals receiving TCM services

ResCare has 37 individuals that also receive ResCare residential/day services. They will
have the option of changing to: HMTCM or Lifespan

The remaining **201** individuals in the system will have the option to remain with, or change to: **HMTCM**, **Lifespan**, & **ResCare**.

Finance:

- A three-month startup budget has been produced to show all the initial costs for the HMTCM program.
 - The budget request will be in the form of a loan from the HMCDDO pending approval from the HMCDDO Board of Directors.
 - The HMCDDO will also apply for the Conflict-Free Kansas Grant which opens on 03/24/2025. This grant operates exclusively on a reimbursement basis and does not include any prospective payments. Awarded applicants must incur and pay for expenses first and then submit for reimbursement according to the established schedule.
 - The grant will help Community Developmental Disability Organizations (CDDOs), and agencies
 providing Targeted Case Management (TCM) comply with the Home and Community-Based
 Services (HCBS) <u>Settings Final Rule</u> and other federal regulations, including regulations around
 conflicts of interest.
 - The grant will help grantees transition to providing only TCM, intellectual and developmental disability (I/DD) services, or CDDO functions (i.e., intake, assessment, options counseling, and quality assurance). TCM agencies would exclusively provide targeted case management services, while CSPs would deliver only direct I/DD waiver services.



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• Applicants must propose to use grant funds in a manner that promotes community integration

- Applicants must propose to use grant funds in a manner that promotes community integration and person-centered practices and is consistent with the <u>HCBS Settings Final Rule</u>.
- Approved activities eligible for each type of organization. Each grantee can spend grant funds on any of the activities listed under their organization type, so long as those activities are related to the goals on the Conflict-Free Kansas Grant.
 - Hiring business consultants for advice on becoming conflict-free
 - Administrative costs related to becoming conflict free or starting a new conflict-free TCM agency
 - Hiring and retention bonuses
 - Applying for a new business entity or ownership
 - Licensure fees
 - Communicating with the public about becoming conflict-free
 - Creating or updating websites
 - Translating materials from English to another language, plain language, etc.
 - Moving to a new location or a new catchment area
 - Ending an existing lease to secure a new location
 - Recruiting new TCM staff
 - Purchasing technology (hardware or software) to support TCM functions
 - Hiring consultants or subcontractors to revise policy documents
 - Training staff in relevant skills, including providing stipends for staff to attend training
 - Administrative costs related to becoming conflict free or starting a new conflict-free TCM agency
- Kevin stated that HMCDDO is the first CDDO to approach KDADS with plans to initiate a TCM program. Goodwill, who announced plans to eliminate TCM from their services effective 6-30-25, has ceased TCM services due to all of their TCM's leaving.
- The CDDO has secured the office next door, Suite 206, with provision to enter into a lease pending approval of the HMTCM program.

<u>ACTION</u>: Kristi moved to 1) obtain a one-year lease for Suite 206; 2) the CDDO will provide startup funds in the form of a loan to initiate the HMTCM program; 3) follow the action steps and plan as laid out in Option 2. The motion was seconded by Todd. There was discussion about repayment of the loan. It was decided that the terms of repayment will be decided at a later date. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

<u>Other</u>. Marilyn thanked Kristi for telling their family's story in the Harvey Co. Now article. Kevin shared that he forwarded the article to our local legislators, including Senator Stephen Owens. That same day, it was announced that \$8.5 million SGF was added to the Legislature's FY2026 Budget for a proposed 3.4% increase for the HCBS IDD Waiver. Senator Erickson found funding in KDHE's budget and Senator Owens made the motion to add it in for the IDD waiver.



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Marilyn asked if the April Board meeting will be held in Hillsboro. Kevin will confirm this with Project Search Director Robert Haude. Be watching for details!

Adjourn: the meeting was declared adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Nancy Plenert

Next Meeting: Monday, April 21, 2025
(Tentative) Intern presentations at 3:30 followed by Board meeting at 4:00
Blue Gold Room, Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas
https://harveymarioncddo.com/meetings