



Harvey-Marion County CDDO

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

HARVEY-MARION COUNTY CDDO: BOARD of DIRECTORS

April 15, 2024

Meeting Minutes

Location: Blue Gold Room, Tabor College Student Center, Hillsboro, Kansas (*Zoom option also available to anyone that requests access*).

Directors Participating: In Person: Marilyn Loganbill, Vice-Chair; Craig Simons, Secretary; Randy Dallke; Kimberlee Jost

Present via Zoom: Kristi Berning, Chair; Don Schroeder; Todd Weeks

Directors Absent: Mary Gill, Treasurer

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

Guests: Robert Haude, Project Search Coordinator; four Project Search interns; Stacey Parks, Marion Co. Special Ed. Coop (MCSEC) Executive Director; Thomas Gill, Project SEARCH Para; Connie Rickard, Trinity Heights Respite Care Director

At 3:30, we began with a presentation by the four 2023-24 Project Search interns. Each intern presented information about the various internships they were involved in during the school year. There was opportunity to ask questions after each presentation. Robert shared that they have graduated 27 interns from the program since it began, with a nearly 80% success rate for employment. The goal is for each intern to find employment following completion of the program. Tabor College has hired three past interns. Pioneer Catering at Tabor College has hired 8 past interns. Project Search follows the typical school year, meeting from 8-3 daily. There is 90 minutes of classroom time, followed by work in their assigned areas. Graduation is May 2. Five interns have been accepted for the 2024-25 school year; four students and one hybrid intern. A sixth person is interested, but undecided.

Call to Order. Chair Kristi Berning 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>

FY2025 Funding Requests

Marion County Special Education Cooperative Project SEARCH: Amount requested for Program Support in FY2025: \$35,000.00



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Stacey Parks, MCSEC Director, gave an overview of the Project Search budget and their revenue sources: Categorical Aid Reimbursement; HMCDDO funding; The Northview Developmental Service Endowment Foundation (NDSEF) and fundraisers, donations and other grants. NDSEF provided start-up grant funds and continues to fund the program each year, but they have reduced their funding amount in recent years. The majority of Project SEARCH expenses are for staff salaries. Funding is the same regardless of the number of interns in the program each year. Stacey commended the quality staff that make Project Search a successful program. *No action was taken on the Project SEARCH funding request. This will be considered when the Draft FY2025 Budget is presented at next months' Board meeting.*

Trinity Heights Respite Care: Amount requested for Program Support in FY2025: \$70,000.00
Connie Rickard, THRC Director, gave an overview of the Respite Program. Children ages 0-16 who are determined eligible for the Intellectual/Developmentally Disabled (IDD) waiver by HMCDDO are eligible for up to 28 hrs/month of Respite Care that is funded by the CDDO. For FY2024, HMCDDO increased the reimbursement rate from \$15 to \$20/hour. That, along with a large amount of children who were determined eligible and were interested in receiving respite care has resulted in significant overspending this fiscal year. THRC also receives funding from NDSEF, United Way and various fundraisers throughout the year. Families pay on a sliding fee scale if they exceed the allowed 28 hrs/month, or when siblings also receive respite care. THRC is currently serving children in Newton, Halstead, Sedgwick, Goessel and Hillsboro. With the increase in reimbursement for FY24, they were able to increase wages from \$12 to \$18/hr., depending on experience. In the past year, THRC is no longer under the umbrella of Trinity Heights U.M. Church, although they are still allowed to use the facilities free of charge. They have also hired a grant writer and are working to expand their website for added visibility for grant purposes. Craig asked what would happen if HMCDDO was not able to fund the total amount requested? Connie replied that they would possibly cut hours or would not be able to serve newly-eligible children and have to begin a waiting list for services. Kevin added that HMCDDO Discretionary-Funded Supports budget item is usually under budget. We will look at reducing that amount to allow more budget dollars for THRC. Connie provided 2024 Budget amounts; she was asked to also provide current expense amounts. This will be sent out to Board members. *No action was taken on the THRC funding request. This will be considered when the Draft FY2025 Budget is presented at next months' Board meeting.*

Minutes of March 18, 2024 Board Meeting.

ACTION: *Craig moved to approve the March 18, 2024 Minutes. The motion was seconded by Todd and passed by unanimous vote.*

Financials: Packets contain the March 2024 Profit & Loss by Class report, the check register report, and balance sheet. At 09 of 12 months (75%), total Income reflects receipt of County Mill, State Aid, CDDO Admin Funds, & BASIS Assessment payments.

- Balance Sheet dated **04/04/2024** reflects HMCDDO Total Assets at **\$246,825.69**



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- Current Budget Overages:
 - 6530: Trinity Heights: THRP is at 103.01% with 3 remaining months and this line item will be over budget.
 - Budget Discussion for FY25: A slight increase to County Mill will be requested to further assist capacity growth of this service. The Trinity Heights Respite Program was set up as a benefit to families upon eligibility to the HMCDDO. There have been inroads to Marion County with THRP, however that is a slow build. For now, it should simply be noted that THRP serves many individuals and their families, and the growth of the program is directly linked with CDDO system eligibility for those ages 0-16.

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

National, State, & Local Updates:

National:

- No new reporting at this time.

State:

- **Legislative/KDADS Budget Updates:** On 04/02/24, House and Senate conferees met late in the evening to conclude their negotiations on the 'mega' budget bill. There were several positive outcomes for the Kansas IDD network among the items agreed to, including:
 - An increase to the Supported Employment rate to \$40 per hour.
 - Establishment of a 14c provider transition fund totaling \$5 million SGF
 - Restoration of \$1 million in discretionary state funds
 - An increase to Family Service Coordination for Early Childhood Developmental Service providers.
 - A general funding increase for Early Childhood Developmental Services.
 - An increase to Personal Care Services rate on the IDD Waiver.
 - An increase to Specialized Medical Care rate on the IDD waiver.
 - Funds to bring 500 persons off the IDD waiting list.
 - Language 'capping' the IDD waiting list at 4,800.
 - Language prohibiting KDADS from making changes to IDD TCM without legislative approval.
- **MCOs:** The state has moved forward on some of the KanCare 3.0 RFP submissions. Two of the applicants had received follow up questions from the state – CareSource and Healthy Blue. All current MCOs also received these questions as well. At this point, speculation reveals that the pool has gone from 7 to 5 MCOs left in the running.
- **TCMs:** KDADS is working to make a new resource for members called TBD Solutions which will offer technical assistance and information sharing for TCM. PCG has wrapped up their study and has provided four recommendations for conflict of interest in the TCM system. *Kevin added that three options were discussed at today's TCM workgroup meeting. Option 1: CDDO's take over TCM. This would increase CDDO staff from 3.5 to approximately 14. Option 2: Do a TCM swap: Individuals who have a TCM from an agency that is also a service provider would choose a TCM who works for a different Service Provider. So, no person would have a TCM and Service



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Provider from the same agency. Option 3: Independent TCM agencies only. The plan for conflict-free TCM needs to be in place for CMS requirements but does not need to be implemented right away.

- **Final Rule:** KDADS is working with CMS on the remediation plans that were submitted over the past month and the end is in sight. Heightened scrutiny will have to be revisited.
- **BASIS/MFEI:** KDADS emailed notice that Brutus Segun will be working on the MFEI rollout, with a proposed timeline has been shared with a date of 01/01/2025 (as a non-tiered approach with this assessment). *Kevin added that we currently realize about \$25,000/year in revenue from Functional Assessments. If/when transitioned to MFEI, the assessment will be done every two years. This would essentially cut our Assessment revenue in half.
- **Waiting List:** KDADS is also concerned about how the system will handle 500 people coming into service and that the acceptance rate is usually 75%. KDADS also shared capacity concerns and the lack of data around where the challenges will be. KDADS has shared that they are open to the idea of capping the waiting list at 4,800, as well as any other possibilities that could assist with provider capacity. *Kevin added that we are anticipating that 5-10 individuals in our area will receive waiting list offers. It is hoped that an individual currently receiving Residential services funded with Discretionary funding will be one of the recipients. This would free up a considerable amount of funding to be allocated elsewhere.
- **14c:** KDADS has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Labor that they (KDADS) will be managing the 14c provider transition fund.
- Statewide CDDO contract negotiations are set for 04/18/24 & 04/25/24 in Topeka. More to come on this next month.

Local:

- No new reporting at this time.

Service Provider Capacity:

- Our service area currently has two available providers for residential services, four available day service providers, and two available providers for TCM services. Our service area also has six fiscal management providers (assists individuals/guardians with self-directed Personal Care Services).

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

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

Board Member Recognition. Mary Gill, serving a Second Consecutive 3-yr term, 7/1/22 through 6/30/25, has resigned from the Board due to work obligations. Mary's son, Thomas Gill, has shown interest in being a Marion County Board member. His name will be submitted



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to the Marion County Commissioners for approval. Thomas was asked to relay to Mary a big “Thank-you” for her years of service on the HMCDDO Board.

Adjourn: the meeting was declared adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Nancy Plenert

Next Meeting: Monday, May 20, 2024
HMCDDO Board Room; Newton, KS
<https://harveymarioncddo.com/meetings>