Harvey-Marion County CDDO

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

HARVEY-MARION COUNTY CDDO: BOARD of DIRECTORS

August 17, 2026

Meeting Minutes

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

Directors Present: Clarke Dirks, Chair; David Welfelt, Vice-Chair; Lynne Fruechting, Secretary; Kristi Berning; Kimberlee Jost; Terry Scott
Directors Absent: Todd Weeks, Treasurer; Thomas Gill
Harvey-Marion County CDDO Staff Present: Kevin Gaeddert, Executive Director; Audra Kennedy; Nancy Plenert, Meeting Recorder

Call to Order**.** Chair Clarke Dirks called the monthly Board meeting to order at 3:56 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 July, 2026 Board Meeting**.**
ACTION: *Kristi moved to approve the July 20, 2026 Minutes. The motion was seconded by David and passed by vote of 5-0. Lynne abstained from voting due to being absent from the July Meeting.*

Financials: Packets contain the July 2026 Profit & Loss report, the check register report, ICS check register report (balance over $250K), and balance sheet. At 01 of 12 months (8.33%), total income reflects receipt of County Mill, State Aid, CDDO Admin & Assessment funds.
• Balance Sheet dated **08/07/2026** reflects HMCDDO Total Assets at **$324,133.14**
• The Board packet also includes the finalized FY26 (unaudited) financial report for HMCDDO Board review.
ACTION : *Clarke moved to approve the Financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Terry and passed by unanimous vote.*

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

- **HMCDDO:**
  - **FY27 CDDO/KDADS Contract**:
    - We are pleased to report that the HMCDDO has signed the KDADS contract, and we now look forward to the initiation of State Aid distributions.

- On August 10, 2026, the HMCDDO hosted Representative King at our office for over an hour! Our discussion covered review of our functions as a CDDO and TCM service provider, as well as upcoming legislative priorities impacting the IDD service system. We are grateful for the time he took to spend listening to our presentation and hope that will continue to advocate alongside Owens and Avery for the IDD system.

- **HMTCM:**
  - HMTCM currently provides services to 135 individuals, supported by a team of three full-time case managers: Joyce, Virginia, and Traci. Additionally, HMTCM Director Jaci Schrag maintains a small, active caseload alongside her leadership duties.

Service Provider Capacity:

- Our service area currently has 3 residential, 1 shared living, 4 day service, 5 TCM, 1 agency directed PCS, and 5 FMS service providers are currently available for new referrals.

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

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

Review and Approval of HMCDDO Voluntary Leave Transfer Policy. Kevin explained that with two employees recently experiencing significant health conditions, this internal policy was developed to establish a process for employees to voluntarily share leave time. The policy applies to all regular and full-time employees who have completed their 6-month probationary period. An eligible recipient may be granted a maximum of 160 hours of donated leave in a 12-month period. Additional hours are subject to individual review and approval by the Executive Director and HMCDDO Board. The Board offered positive comments for this policy, while cautioning that each employee's leave time should remain a guarded resource. In some cases, the donated leave hours could prevent losing a good employee.

Action on Approval of HMCDDO Voluntary Leave Transfer Policy. *David moved to approve the Voluntary Leave Transfer Policy. The motion was seconded by Kimberlee and passed by unanimous vote.*

Managed Care Organization (MCO) Review. Kevin outlined an ongoing conflict between a Newton-based community service provider (CSP) and Sunflower (MCO) that began after the provider's capacity doubled during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mandated by the Uniform Access to Services rule, the agency took in several individuals with severe complex behavioral needs who were transitioning from state institutions or incarceration. This shift led to a lot of community friction and increased encounters with local law enforcement and emergency services. Following concerns raised by the Newton Police Department, Sunflower abruptly terminated its contract with the provider without cause in the summer of 2023 - an extreme

and unprecedented move in Kansas that forced consumers to abruptly change service providers or MCOs. Despite the CSP's significant improvements since the termination, Sunflower refuses to renew the contract. This standoff actively threatens the upcoming October 2026 Community Support Waiver (CSW) rollout. As the agency will be the only initial qualified provider of CSW Life Skills services in Marion County, Sunflower members there will be denied access entirely (until another provider comes into the network for Marion County). Despite Kevin's appeals to Sunflower and certain state legislators, he was told MCOs have absolute network authority. Echoing this local capacity crisis, Representative Buehler (District 40) recently called out the MCO system's lack of progress for the KS IDD system. As a member of the Bethell Joint Committee on HCBS, he continues to question the MCO model, as it relates to the KD IDD system, and has asked the committee to consider reverting the IDD/HCBS waiver to a fee-for-service model.

Action: *No action was taken, as this review was for informational purposes only.*

Adjourn: the meeting was declared adjourned in a motion made by David and seconded by Kimberlee at 4:52 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Nancy Plenert

Next Meeting: Monday, September 21, 4:00 p.m.
HMCDDO Board Room; Newton, KS
https://harveymarioncddo.com/meetings