



Clay County Local Advisory Council for Children's Mental Health

Thursday, November 6th, 2025, 8:30 am – 10:00 am

Family Service Center, 715 11th St N. Room 4

"To promote an accessible, comprehensive and a unified children's mental health system within Clay County."

Members Present: Michelle, CCSS; Joni, The Village; Michelle M, LMHC; Shelly, Crisis Mobile MH Crisis; Hannah, Crisis Mobile MH; Angie, Family Resource Center; Laurie – Hawley schools; Megan, Barnesville schools; Josh, WCJC; Lindsey, Juvenile Probation; Lisa, Public Health; Kara, PSJ; Michelle, parent representative; Brittany, Solutions; Aaron, Solutions; Lacey, CCSS; Madeline, Access

Agenda

Approval of September Meeting Minutes

*** Correction to the October minutes – the PSJ Fall Conference is Tuesday November 18th*

- Motion: Michelle
- Second: Joni
 - o Approved by all

Treasurer's Report

- Current Balance: \$4,992.00
- Michelle shared a copy of the bank statement to the group

New Business

- New positions that were elected in the last meeting will take effect in January
- January 1 (holiday) is the first Thursday of the month, so the first meeting of the year will be February 5, 2026.
- Family Night at the Career Academy – Family Night is Wednesday nights not Thursday
 - o The group previously discussed volunteering at Family Night in December to help with the activities.
 - Michelle will reach out to Amy for details
 - o The group will meet in December for a LAC meeting; anyone interested can volunteer their time at the Career Academy Family Night

Agency/Consumer Reports

Clay County Social Services: SNAP benefits have not been loaded for November however people can still come in an apply and they will process the application, but no new benefits will be dispersed. If someone still has funds on their card, they can use them until they are gone. Clay County Social Services budgets 120k a year in the Children's Mental Health grant for respite service needs across the County; due to dollars running low and expected to be fully spent by end of year – they are not approving any new respite requests. The goal of the dollars is to keep kids out the hospitals and residential facilities.

LMHC & Mobile MH – Have a small food pantry available for those in need at LMHC; on 11/13 the Salem Evangelical Free Church (across from LMHC) will have a big food drive where they will double the typical food they give out. No id is needed - just fill out a brief form with general information and you can get food. Michelle will share flyer with the group. Moorhead schools have a good supply of food they can send home with students, just reach out to the school social worker or school office staff. LMHC has a very short to no waitlist for adult and child case management.

Family Resource Center – hosting a November 13th event from 4:30pm - 7:30pm at the Moorhead Public Library for family fun and socialization and families can take a meal home. FRC can be a resource option to help families who need food resources. Just email Claycountyfrc@gmail.com if you have any needs or questions.

Hawley Schools – new middle school will open next year so continue planning for those changes, current superintendent will retire at the end of this academic year. Starting to see more needs of the students and parents have been open and accepting referrals to school-based mental health services. Staff have seen some kids who struggle with attendance move to online school which then makes it hard to know how things are going with them.

Barnesville Schools – started a partnership for online education through the Rochester School District (MNSync) where student participate in online school but still technically a Barnesville student and can graduate with their Barnesville class– students can do full-time or part-time online school. They continue their meal-repack program in the high and elementary school,

WCJC – gave a tour to a large group of state legislatures regarding Clay County's bonding request for a PRTF, next week a group of senators will come for a tour for the same reason. CLIPs is full on both the female and male sides, secure programming is full, non-secure has a couple openings. The status of each unit can change quickly, so call to check if you have a need.

Juvenile Probation – juvenile and adult probation teams moved two weeks ago to the 2nd floor of the FSC, the felony team is now in the courthouse. There is a Fill the Dome event in November where you can donate food or dollars.

Clay County Public Health – They are accepting new referrals, very excited to have hired a new nurse and in the process of hiring the director's position. WIC funds are active and loading onto cards until mid-November.

Access – the team is accepting new referrals; Hope is on maternity leave.

PSJ – have availability for both adults and children for in-patient services. PSJ works with Learn Well for education services for children receiving services inpatient and day treatment. Reach out to Kara if any schools or agencies would like contact information for the teachers at PSJ to facilitate communication. There is ROI on

the PSJ website that anyone can download and fill out. Do need 2 separate ROI's if you want to get school information while the child was in PSJ services one with Learn Well for academic information and one with PSJ for clinical information. The Fall Conference is coming up – has a motivational focus this year, will be at the Courtyard by Marriot on November 18th participants can get 6 CEU's, go to the PSJ website to register. AFSP is hosting an event for survivors of suicide loss day on– November 22, from 9am to 11:30am at the WF Fire Station – this is an adult only event (not geared towards family).

Solutions – hired Aaron as a new case manager who will clear the children's waitlist, CTSS family skills waitlist is still on hold as they continue trying to hire staff. Hired a liaison for Dorthy Dodds elementary – so all elementary schools have a liaison in the school for individual skills and crisis supports. Seeing an increase in families needing financial support, the Fargo emergency food pantry is opening more hours for November.

Youth Leadership Council (YLC) – the group is starting to plan for Foster Youth Day on the Hill in March 2026; they have a few new members who have joined the council.

The Village – starting adolescent addiction programming in February, in-home services are full, openings for wraparound, applying for a grant to train staff in a FASD therapy model that would start Spring/Summer 2026. Flex funds are available for Wraparound families.

Meeting called to order: 8:32 am

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 am

Minutes submitted by: Joni Medenwald

Next meeting: December 4th, 2025, 8:30am at Clay County Social Services Room 4.

**** REMINDER – the LAC will not meet in January 2026 do the New Years Holiday ****

Link to MN LAC Guidebook:

https://mn.gov/dhs/assets/lac-guidebook_tcm1053-386047.pdf