



Adult Mental Health Local Advisory Council

Date: August 20th 2026

Time: 1:30-3pm

Location: North Minneapolis Human Service Center Community Room and Virtually via Microsoft Teams

Attendance

In Person Attendees: Tom Normile, Eve Lee, Tanoa Thome, Rehana Kedir and Laila Zemar

Online Attendees: Tood Heintz, Sheila Wiegman, Muhannah Kakish, Hannah Cushing, Margie DuPois, Jeff Alberts, Foua Khang, Donna Rapacz, Marilyn Galloway and Negin Emami

Agenda

1. **Welcome and Introductions-** Laila
 - a. Everyone share their name, role on council and how long they have been involved
2. **Approve July Agenda & Minutes –Laila**
 - a. Any changes or additions to the July meeting notes-none noted; minutes approved.
 - b. If not, make a motion to approve the meeting minutes.
3. **Discuss Next Steps for the fall Mental Health Awareness Community Event:**
 - Day/Time of event: October 17th from 12-4pm
 - Locations: Minneapolis Central Library [Minneapolis Central Library | Hennepin County](#)
 - Current community partners (those in red aren't confirmed yet):
 1. Touchstone MH (Ellie Skelton) (Confirmed)
 2. MN MH Clinics (Marilyn Galloway) (confirmed)
 3. BlueCross/Blue Shield (Foua Khang) (confirmed)
 4. NAMI Hennepin- Contact is Jennifer Springer jenspringer19@gmail.com (confirmed)
 5. **Wellness in the Woods- Dayna Henry is checking with leadership**
 6. **Minneapolis Library- not sure if they want their own table. Emailed 8/10.**

7. RADIAS Health- Annie Backie connected with Nancy.Steffen@radiashealth.org who will attend (confirmed)
8. Care Counseling (Optum)- Raven Baker (confirmed)
9. Prairie Care- Kiz Gorham (confirmed and can bring refreshments)
10. Hennepin County Behavioral Health (confirmed)
11. Greta Sher - Certified Halotherapist www.essentialsaltspa.com salttherapy.glossgenius.com 763.900.2049 (confirmed)
12. Sanchez, Javier E Javier.Sanchez@medica.com Medica (confirmed)
13. Indian Board of Health Cassandra Holmes
<cassandra.holmes@indianhealthboard.com> - confirmed
14. CLUES- emailed Liz Franklin- waiting for confirmation
15. Interact- can ask them to have an art display?
16. CUHCC- Heather Logren hlogren@umn.edu- Eve asked, waiting to hear back
17. Northpoint- Laila reached out
18. Second Harvest Hartland-Laila reached out
19. Saegent- Melissa D. Bonetti Melissa.Bonetti@sagentbh.com and nolan.mulligan@sagentbh.com- confirmed

- Performance/Art ideas:

- Discussed idea of having performers have up to 15-20 minutes and have a lineup for the day between 12-4pm with a 5-10 minute break in between each performer
- Spoken Word/Hip Hop performers- Laila is contact and is following up
- Interact art display- Eve is reaching out
- East African culturally specific performance- Rehana is contact and is following up
- Hmong Dance Group- Foua is contact and is following up
- Northern Stars Center for Performing arts (singing)- Negin is contact and is following up
- Todd Harper- Jazz musician- Eve is contact and following up
- Jean and Chris Sidewell-singers- Eve is contact and is following up

- Give aways:

- Blue Cross providing socks and hats
- Another volunteer group providing hygiene kits- Eve will follow up with Shika
- Swag offered by each vendor- try to focus on basic needs if possible/usable items
- Gift cards for performers or raffle drawing- Eve is looking into this

- Food/refreshments:

- Kiz Gorham (Prairie Care) can support water/refreshments
- Wrektangle pizza- who can reach out?
- Afro Deli-who can reach out?
- Fawks Coffee-who can reach out?

Hennepin County

300 South Sixth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487

HennepinCounty.gov

- Cosmic Coffee- Tom is reaching out and will loop back
- Marketing/communication plan to increase attendance:
 - i. Promote to all wavier and MH CM providers- Eve
 - ii. Council members promote in their respective organizations-all
 - iii. Get on HC social media/website and AMH LAC webpage-Eve
 - iv. Create flyers and post in local community shops, businesses- all
 - v. Inform other areas/depts at Hennepin County to promote -Eve

4. Touring Anoka Regional Treatment Center (ARTC)- Eve

- a. Each year the AMH LAC has members tour the center and receive updates about it's operations
- b. This year the tour will be from 10-11am on Thursday September 17th
- c. We can have up to 10 people attend and it can't be anyone who has already toured previously
- d. Those who attend the tour could have lunch together somewhere if desired prior to the LAC meeting at 1:30pm the South Mpls Human Service Center (or online)
- e. ARTC employees will join our 9/17 meeting for Q and A for 20-30 minutes following the tour
- f. Who would like to attend and can confirm that time on 9/17 works?
 - i. Tanoa Thome, Laila Zemar, Eve Lee, Negin Emami, Sheila Wiegman, Rachel Engstrom (attended in the past), Ashwak Hassan, Donna Rapacz, Lewis McKinley?
 - ii. Raven Baker, Rehana Kedir and Muhannah Kakish (if no other members want to attend)
- g. Eve sent an outlook invite to anyone who indicated interest in attending with address and other details. If you can no longer attend, please let Eve know asap.

5. Review LAC Member Engagement Survey Results- Eve

- a. We asked for your feedback on how the council meetings are going and to gather your ideas.
- b. The link to the survey that Eve put in the chat for the June meeting and emailed out afterwards:

https://forms.microsoft.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=n9_vioCHv0aPt0ySRlOovlkrQKOMCo9NkhaZ3ygc4EBURFY0TkpESFhQWE82Sjl1RFBaVVBOR09SVC4u
- c. Discussed as a next step creating a survey:
 - i. Create a short 4-5 question survey to get community member feedback about gaps in MH Service system.
 - ii. Eve, Tanoa and Laila can take the lead in creating with support from HC communications. May need leadership approval.

Hennepin County

300 South Sixth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487
HennepinCounty.gov

- iii. This survey most likely won't be ready for MH day at the State Fair on 8/31, but could be utilized at other events.
- iv. Would be helpful for folks to have incentives to complete a survey such as gift cards or give aways. Need to check on if budget can be used for that.
- v. Getting this input could also take place through dialoguing with folks informally to get their input and then capturing notes and reviewing themes.
- vi. Council discussed the importance of people being aware of suicide prevention resources and to give input on any gaps there are in awareness to those resources. (Cope, 988, Peer Supports, etc...)
- d. Consider hosting public/community feedback sessions to hear input towards developing the Council's Unmet Needs report for the presentation to the county board in June of 2027
- e. Consider collaborating more with organizations to impact systems change:
 - i. Vail place- connect with policy director on a presentation (Tom Normile is contact)
 - ii. NAMI- could have a policy presentation/dialogue-contact namihelps@namimn.org

6. Next Council Meeting- Laila

- a. September 17th, 2026 from 1:30-3pm
- b. South Minneapolis Human Service Center Room 221 or Online via TEAMS
- e. The meeting will occur following the AMRTC tour that morning and AMRTC employees will join our meeting for Q and A.
- f. If you can't attend, please let eve.lee@hennepin.us know

7. Council Announcements- Laila

- a. If anyone wants to meet and learn more about Minnesota Mental Health Clinics - feel free to use this link to schedule time with me either virtually or in-person (big fan of ice cream over here!) I have lived experience + our company I represent takes all those who are struggling, we take all insurances including Medicaid, Medicare and PMAP's, we see people in-person and virtually. We offer Case Management services in Hennepin County and Dakota! [Minnesota Mental Health Clinics](#). Therapy, psychiatry, and assessments across 11 Twin Cities locations. Locally owned for 40 years.

8. State Fair Mental Health Day- Eve (Only those volunteering need to stay on and anyone else can leave the meeting if they'd like)

- a. Date of MH Day at the Fair is August 31st starting at 5:45am (set up) to 5pm.
- b. Send sign up around- need two people for each time slot:

Hennepin County

300 South Sixth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487
HennepinCounty.gov

6-8am (join Eve for set up): Eve and Ashwak

8-10 am: Lewis?, Ashwak

10-12 pm: Ann Clark (BH Employee) and Tanoa Thome

12-2 pm: Laila (tentative); Eve will check with BH employees to see if anyone can help

2-5 pm: Laila, Sheila

- c. The fee to attend the fair \$385; this has been approved by EC and BH Director
- d. Order a \$20 State Fair Mental Health Day T-Shirt here: [T-Shirts — Mental Health Awareness at the Minnesota State Fair](#). Can pick up shirts the day of volunteering
- e. Eve is handing out tickets to volunteers at this LAC meeting. **If you weren't able to attend in person, please contact eve.lee@hennepin.us about getting your ticket prior to 8/31.**
- f. Day of Detail for Volunteers:
 - i. Parking:

See fair website for all options: [On-Site Parking | Minnesota State Fair](#)

 - Metro Transit, MVTA, SW Transit
 - Free Park & Ride
 - On-site parking
 - Bike parking
 - Taxi & rideshare apps
 - Neighborhood parking
 - ii. Where to go:
 - Dan Patch Park- Eve will email map to all volunteers
 - iii. What to bring:
 - Sunscreen
 - Bugspray
 - Bottled water
 - Snacks for yourself
 - Rain coat
 - Umbrella
 - Portable phone charger if you have one
 - Your TICKET 😊 contact Eve is you still need your
 - Comfortable shoes for walking

Hennepin County

300 South Sixth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487

HennepinCounty.gov