



Local Mental Health Advisory Council

Date: 07/08/2025

Time: 4:00-5:30PM

Location: Washington County Government Center, LL14

Voting Member	Position	Attendance
Bridget Gehrz	Family Member Representative	<i>Present</i>
Christopher Thewis	Residential Treatment Facility Representative	<i>Absent</i>
Clark Schroeder	Family Member Representative	<i>Present</i>
Daniel Parnell	District 1 Representative	<i>Present</i>
David Siebert	AMH Professional Outside	<i>Absent</i>
Faith Myers	Consumer Representative	<i>Absent</i>
Jeneal Olsen	NAMI Representative	<i>Present</i>
Jesse Shima	Consumer Representative	<i>Absent</i>
Kaonou Vue	Chemical Health Professional	<i>Absent</i>
Katie Pape	Canvas Health Representative	<i>Absent</i>
Kris Roberts	Consumer Representative	<i>Absent</i>
Michael French	District 2 Representative	<i>Absent</i>
Natalie Carstenbrock	District 4 Representative	<i>Absent</i>
Nicholas Stephens	Supportive Housing Representative	<i>Present</i>
Nicole Buatala	Chemical Health Professional	<i>Present</i>
Shana HarAldson Morse	District 5 Representative	<i>Present</i>
Tara Dahlager	Education Representative	<i>Present</i>
Timothy Hatten	District 3 Representative	<i>Present</i>
Non-Voting Member	Position	Attendance
Michelle Clasen	Washington County Commissioner	<i>Present</i>
Beth Reitzel	Washington County Representative	<i>Present</i>
John Nalezny	Washington County Representative	<i>Present</i>
April Martell	Washington County	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Consumer Representative</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Children's Mental Health Representative</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Former Consumer Representative</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Consumer Representative</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
Guests:		
Bambi Tobin, Lisa Wong, Jill Timm, Connie Tanner, Faua-Choa Khang		

Call to Order: 4:02pm

Approval of Minutes: Will vote via email as not a quorum.

Presentation of CHA/CHIP

- *Community Health Assessment*
- *Every 5 years- Required by MN State Statue 154A to conduct a community Health Assessment (CHA) See attached presentation below.*
- *Community Status Assessment (CSA) Collecting health data.*

- *Community Partner Assessment (CPA) Partnership Engagement & Coalition Engagement*
- *Community Context Assessment (CCA) Community conversation surveys.*
- *Goal: Work Together & Resources*
- *Top Health Issues: Health Care Quality & Access, Transportation, Community Safety & Housing*
- *Individual & Community Impact*
- *Selected Priorities: Access to Health Care, Housing, Mental Health & Transportation*
- *Next Steps: Finalized & Release Community Health Improvement Plan (CHP)*
- *Monitor & Track Implementation, Align with other Plans/Effects, Continue Engagement, Tailor to Groups Needs*
- *School Policy's – Cell phone usage – State vs District's*

LAC Discussion

- *School Policy's – Cell phone usage – State vs District's – see note below.*
- *Connie gave updates on MH Van. DOJ grant to hire a social worker for the emergency shelter.*

Remaining 2025 Work Plan

- *Amy Blair, November Emergency Shelter*
- *Would like to invite Barbra a planner on transportation.*

Next Meeting: *Tuesday, September 9th*

Adjourn: *5:33pm*



CHA CHIP LAC
Update July 2025.pd

Information provided by Tara on school cell phone policy.

The topic of cell phone policies in the school setting came up after Becca and Lisa spoke on WC Public Health's partnership with school districts in addressing mental health. Here is more information that I found in my quick google search.

Thanks, and take care,

Tara

Mandate:

The [Minnesota State Legislature](#) mandated that all school districts and charter schools create and implement cell phone policies by March 15, 2025.

- **Purpose:**

The goal of the mandate is to address the potential negative impacts of cell phone use on students, such as disruptions to learning, mental health issues, and decreased academic achievement.

- **Policy Options:**

The law does not specify the exact nature of the policies, allowing districts to choose from various approaches, including complete bans or restrictions during specific times.

- **Implementation:**

Many districts began implementing their policies in the summer of 2024, with the goal of having them fully in place by the start of the 2024-2025 school year, though the official deadline is March 15, 2025.

- **Model Policies:**

The [Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association](#) and the [Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals](#) collaborated to provide model policies for schools to consider. These models include options like a total ban on cell phone use during the school day or allowing limited use during lunch and passing periods.

- **Enforcement:**

Enforcement of the policies varies by school and district but may include things like confiscating phones found in class or sending them home.

- **Ongoing Discussion:**

The conversation around cell phone policies in schools is ongoing, with some advocating for stricter measures or even complete bans.

MDE School Cell phone policy mandate

According to Minnesota state law (Minnesota Statute 121A.73), school districts and charter schools in Minnesota were required to adopt a policy on students' possession and use of cell phones in school by March 15, 2025.

The law also required the Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association and the Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals to work together to offer schools best practices for reducing the impact of cell phones on student behavior, mental health, and academics. The law was enacted to address concerns about classroom distractions and potential negative effects on student well-being and learning. While it doesn't specify a particular policy, it mandates that districts establish a clear policy regarding student cell phone use during school hours. Some districts have policies requiring phones to be off and out of sight, while others have implemented stricter rules like requiring phones to be stored in designated areas during class.