**National Council for Mental Wellbeing**

**Association Executives Committee**

**Fall Meeting Summary Notes**

September 19, 2022

2:00 pm – 5:00 pm Eastern Time

Members Participating\*: Doyle Forrestal, Melanie Brown-Woofter, Gian-Carl Casa, Le Ondra Clark Harvey, Lauri Cole, Lydia Conley, Natalie Cook, Thomas Cook, Morgan Coyner, Richard Edley, Candy Espino, Mark Fontaine, Zoe Frantz, Heather Gates, Shannon Hall, Lisa Henick, Chelsea Hughes, Lee Johnson, Kyle Kessler, Teresa Lampl, Joel Landreneau, Maggie McCowen, Jin Palen, Cherryl Ramirez, Shauna Reitmeier, Malory Shaughnessy, Robert Sheehan, Chris Stoner-Mertz and Debra Wentz.*\*Not all call-in participants may have been captured.*

Staff in Attendance: Chuck Ingoglia, Deanna Roepke, Brett Beckerson, Neal Comstock, Rebecca Farley David, Keisha Pitts, Aaron Polacek, Sarah Surgenor, and Reyna Taylor.

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Doyle Forrestal, Association Executives Committee Chair, called the meeting to begin at 2:10 pm.

Summary – The Association Executives Committee held its Fall 2022 meeting and focused on: strengthening and defending the public community mental health and substance use treatment system and related advocacy efforts, the 2022 Association Executives Survey, the Association Executives Demographics Assessment, association culture and non-dues revenue, and adding new smaller, rural, and culturally diverse members.

Items Discussed – During the meeting, Association Executives discussed six main topics:

1. A presentation by Robert Sheehan, Chief Executive Officer of the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan, on supporting and defending the public community mental health and substance use treatment system -
   * The concerns expressed about a privatized managed care system include: high overhead expenses, false claims of fostering integration, damaging local partnerships, reimbursement based on out-of-date rates, patients understanding of being cared for by a for-profit entity, and dissolving local control.
   * The strengths and strategies of a public managed care system include: encouraging increased use of evidence-based practices, adhering to high performance standards, providing a comprehensive array of services, and proven abilities to control costs of care.
   * Strategies to consider for the future include: promoting support for public managed care; collaborating to undertake research on access, quality, and cost of care; developing fact sheets; engaging with coalitions of supporters; enhancing talking points and infographics; and sharing examples of access challenges and care denials with the U.S. Department of Labor.
2. 2022 Association Executives Survey Results -
   * The survey report included Association and member characteristics; members’ 990 data; budgets, revenue and dues; executive and staffing data; and policy/lobbying activity and priorities.
3. 2022 Association Executive Demographic Assessment -
   * Survey remains open for Association Executives to submit responses.
   * The group discussed improvements to the process next year, including rolling Demographic Assessment into the annual Association Executives Survey for 2023 and providing Association Executives with the questions to be asked ahead of time so that they can conduct their own surveys of their members if they choose to do so.
4. The Membership Committee is convening a work group to discuss methods and strategies to help recruit new smaller, rural, and culturally diverse members.
5. CCBHC Grants -
   * There is not yet an announcement from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) about new CCBHC grants. CCBHC grants will be discussed during the Public Policy Committee meeting on September 20th.
6. Follow Up from Association Executives Retreat and Next Steps -
   * The group expressed that the topics of association culture and non-dues revenue – presented at the Retreat in August -- were appropriate, timely, and helpful as topics for upcoming meetings.
   * The timing of the next Association Executive Retreat will be determined shortly.

Decisions Made – Summary Notes from the June meeting were approved. Association Executives agreed to focus on association culture and non-dues revenue in upcoming meetings.

Actions for the Board of Directors – No action is requested by the Board of Directors.

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There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:53 pm.

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Doyle Forrestal, Chair