

Partners,

I am writing to update you. In addition, from now on, I will be providing weekly updates (with some weeks requesting a call in addition to or instead of an email). As always, if you have any questions or comments about anything below or how you are receiving information about this work, please let me know.

HOSPITAL PROJECT:

UP Region/OSF: Brittany, Kelsey, Jim, Nora, Huda, Kim and I talked with a group from OSF on Thursday, April 18th. After the call, MOP members debriefed.

- We agreed that there is a need to provide more linkages between OSF and community MAT providers. OSF expressed agreement and has been working with their hospital president to do some additional planning. We are talking with OSF on a follow-up call this coming Thursday at 12pm. A number of us will be on the call, but as always, if you would like to be included, please let me know. There will be a debrief call on the same day at 3pm.
- Jim linked us with Great Lakes Recovery (GLR) and the same group had a call with GLR on Thursday, April 25th. GLR is already working with OSF to provide MAT and behavioral health support for community transition and GLR was helpful on the call, both with letting us know what is happening in the UP around OUD and MAT, and providing feedback about additional needs, including echoing many needs that Jim (and OSF) have talked with us about before.
- We expect to be recommending that we allocate additional grant funds for this applicant using leftover funds once the initial grants are made. We discussed that this applicant and its partners have a great need and motivation, and few resources.
- CFSEM is in the process of moving a grant forward as planned to OSF for their requested amount.

Northern Lower Peninsula Region/Munson: Brittany, Kelsey, Jim, Nora, Kim and I talked with Munson hospital and community providers on Friday, April 19th. After the call, we debriefed.

- Our group agreed that the conversation reflected their proposal. Munson seems to have things in place for a model project for rural communities treating OUD in the hospital and community.
- CFSEM is in the process of moving a grant forward to Munson as planned for their requested amount.

Southeast Region:

- **Beaumont:** Brittany, Kelsey, Nora, Kim and I talked with Beaumont Hospital staff by phone on Friday, April 19th. Our group agreed that efforts to change the culture at Beaumont and provide the best possible treatment for OUD patients is strong. There were, however, concerns about their efforts to identify enough MAT providers to provide treatment in the community. MOP members asked for an in-person meeting with not only Beaumont staff but the staff of CARE of Southeastern Michigan, their main link to community MAT treatment. Beaumont moved quickly and Huda, Nora and I had an in-person meeting with the Beaumont project team (three physicians, the lead PharmD and the foundation staff) and CARE leadership (President/CEO and the Program Director of Peer Recovery Services) on Tuesday, April 23rd. Beaumont and CARE were able to comprehensively address our concerns regarding the capacity of community providers to care for Beaumont patients. CFSEM is moving forward with a grant to Beaumont as planned for the requested amount.

- **Ascension:** Brittany, Kelsey, Nora, Kim, Huda and I talked with Ascension hospital staff on Friday, April 26th. There were many questions regarding their application proposing a model of care which did not quite fit the model that we described in our RFA, but we had initially agreed to move forward with them, knowing that we would need to discuss their “hub and spoke” model further. Some MOP partners expressed concerns from the beginning, specifically around their hospital treatment of OUD inpatients and ED patients followed by transition to a community provider for MAT. A great concern of those MOP partners (including the State) was their deemphasis on MAT treatment in the community. This continues to be a concern. One critical issue is that there is not enough confidence among all of the partners that Ascension’s project will meet the objectives of the SAMHSA grant, the original source of the funds. With the State’s guidance, I reached out to Ascension for additional clarification and Ascension provided answers on Friday afternoon. We are not expecting that things will be different for this proposal, therefore CFSEM is placing this application on hold.

CFSEM is working quickly but diligently to make these three grants with appropriate conditions that will need to be met for each hospital. With room for another hospital and the anticipation of supplemental funds that will allow for the addition of still another hospital, we have been in touch with several prospective applicants who have expressed interest in our project but were not able to develop and submit a full proposal by the deadline, along with connecting with MHA who has reached out to hospitals as well. I’ll be updating you as to the progress made in this area this week.

COMMUNICATIONS:

The MOP Communications Subcommittee had a call on Monday, April 22nd with a great turnout, representing all but one of the MOP partner organizations, with multiple communications staff on the call. The comms teams from BCBSM and CFSEM are co-leading this effort and working on a press release now that everyone will be able to review when it is drafted. Also, they are in the planning stages for the anticipated press conferences (one in each region).

EVALUATION:

The Evaluation Subcommittee, led by Rory at MHEF (thank you, Rory), released the RFP last month to a group of various evaluation firms and contractors in Michigan. The proposals are due May 7th and the subcommittee will be going through those soon after. If you have questions about that process, please let Rory or me know.

REPORTING:

CFSEM is in the process of hiring a consultant to help with the large amount of reporting that these grants require (both programmatic and financial). I will provide an update next week on this progress. Monthly reports are already being submitted for the State grant.

SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS/ANTICIPATED:

I will be updating next week about the additional work we are going to be starting with the anticipation of the supplemental funds from the State. An application to the State for support for those additional projects will be completed this week. For more specific information, please see my notes from April 12th meeting that I sent out earlier this month (they will also be available next week on the private page of our MOP website--*Please note this in an internal link only.*

<https://cfsem.org/michigan-opioid-partnership-resources/>)

Thank you to the self-selected committee who has been working diligently to ensure the best possible outcomes for these grants, including our State partners who have served on that

committee and provided a great deal of extra support through calls and emails, I truly appreciate it.