**Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program**

**Advisory Board Meeting**

**January 18, 2024**

**Minutes**

The Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (Byrne SCIP) Advisory Board meeting was held on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at the Michigan State Police (MSP) Headquarters in Dimondale, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Lt. Col. Chris Kelenske.

Roll call was taken by Ms. Kayla Wilson.

The following board members were present:

* Lt. Col. Chris Kelenske
* Mr. Bob Stevenson
* Ms. Jenita Moore
* Mr. Ryan Gamby
* Ms. Angie Povilaitis
* Ms. Cheri Bruinsma
* Mr. Matt Saxton

The following representatives were present:

* Dr. Hsing-Fang Hsieh, University of Michigan, on behalf of Dr. Marc Zimmerman
* Ms. Mackenzie Furnari, University of Michigan, on behalf of Dr. Marc Zimmerman

The following guests were present:

* Ms. Nancy Becker Bennett, Director, MSP Grants and Community Services Division (GCSD)
* Mr. Matt Opsommer, Manager, Grants Management Section, MSP GCSD
* Ms. Kayla Wilson, MSP GCSD

The following board members were absent:

* Mr. Robert Sheehan
* Mr. Bryant Osikowicz

A brief discussion was held regarding Mr. Osikowicz. He no longer works for the Office of the Attorney General (AG) so a replacement board member will need to be chosen.

Ms. Moore, Executive Office of the Governor (EOG), introduced herself to SAB members as the board replacement for Mr. Nate Engle. Ms. Becker Bennett also introduced Mr. Opsommer who is assisting with the Byrne SCIP grant until a new analyst is hired.

**Approval of October 5, 2023, Minutes**

Lt. Colonel Kelenske asked members to review the October 5, 2023, meeting minutes and then asked for a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was made by Mr. Stevenson and seconded by Ms. Moore. No discussion was offered. The motion to approve the October 5, 2023, meeting minutes as written was unanimously approved.

**Approval of Agenda**

Lt. Colonel Kelenske asked for additions to the meeting agenda or a motion to approve the meeting agenda. A motion to approve the agenda was offered by Mr. Gamby and seconded by Mr. Saxton. No discussion or additions were offered. The agenda was unanimously approved.

**Old Business**

1. Update on the Open Meetings Act (OMA) – Lt. Colonel Kelenske

Lt. Colonel Kelenske stated that he and Ms. Becker Bennett recently had more in-depth discussions with the AG’s office and MSP Legal Affairs regarding the SAB bylaws and the conduct of SAB meetings going forward. Due to some initial confusion, it has been determined that the SAB will now operate under the OMA in accordance with Executive Directive 2019-11. This directive encourages advisory bodies not subject to the OMA, but located within a department or agency, to voluntarily comply with the OMA and operate consistent with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Thus, unless a reasonable accommodation request under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or due to military leave is received in advance of an SAB meeting, all board members will need to be physically present for Byrne SCIP meetings.

The SAB is not just advisory, as Ms. Becker Bennett stated that the federal grant application guidance asserts the SAB must agree to the way the budget is distributed. The program and budget plans must be developed in coordination with and demonstrate evidence of approval by the SAB.

1. Review of Bylaws – Lt. Colonel Kelenske

A draft of amended and updated bylaws to incorporate the changes just discussed regarding the OMA and FOIA, as well as the removal of the Community Violence Intervention (CVI) office from MSP, was emailed to board members for review prior to the meeting. A motion to approve the amended bylaws as presented was offered by Mr. Saxton and seconded by Ms. Bruinsma. Further discussion was then held on the amended bylaws. Mr. Gamby agreed with the changes to the bylaws but informed members that the OMA allows the board to establish by rule the format and limits of public comment. Discussion was held about public comment and how it will be initiated. Lt. Colonel Kelenske said that the MSP does have some standard language on this, and Ms. Becker Bennett agreed to find what that is and incorporate it into the bylaws. Further discussion about the process and language will be held at the next meeting. Meetings will be publicly posted going forward. No further discussion or additions were offered. The amended bylaws were unanimously approved.

**New Business**

1. Update on MDHHS CVI Grant – Ms. Becker Bennett on behalf of Ms. Jennifer DeLaCruz

Due to the absence of Ms. DeLaCruz, Ms. Becker Bennett provided the MDHHS CVI grant update. A press release issued on December 18, 2023, was read to the board members. More than $7 million in funding was awarded to eight organizations through a competitive request for proposal for CVI projects. Applications were received from 26 organizations across the state, with requests for more than $26 million in funding. The awarded funding will support two-year projects from January 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025. The eight grantees are:

* Black Caucus Foundation of Michigan - $1,000,000
* Gryphon Place - $1,000,000
* Michigan Public Health Institute - $1,000,000
* Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency - $1,000,000
* Oakland Community Health Network - $999,910
* Washtenaw County Sheriff - $999,440
* Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation - $900,000
* Migrant Legal Aid, Inc. - $200,080

Grant applicants that were not awarded were provided with the Byrne SCIP application information. The MDHHS CVI Director position was posted in late November and interviews will begin soon. Additional information on the specifics of grantees and funded programs is not yet available.

1. Update on Byrne SCIP Grant Awards and Applications – Ms. Becker Bennett

Phase 1 was the initial awards and the organizations identified with assistance from the EOG when the federal application was written. Due to new guidelines by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), each subgrant must be again approved by them before MSP can issue a contract. Thus, the process is taking a bit longer than expected, but once approved, the subgrants to be awarded for a total of $2.432 million are:

* Prosecutors
* $1,268,250 – Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan
* Research and Evaluation
* $422,850 – The University of Michigan Institute for Fire
* Parent, Youth, and Victim Services Education and Outreach
* $290,000 – The Urban League of West Michigan working with the Kenty County Sheriff’s Department
* $251,562 – The Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Southwest Michigan working with Berrien County
* $100,000 – The Marquette Women’s Center
* Healthcare providers, including Community Mental Health
* $99,360 – MSP and MDHHS, Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management Training (Ontic/Sigma)

Phase 2 is a new application cycle that was released on January 8, 2024, to expend the rest of the year 1 and year 2 combined funding of approximately $7.9 million. Phase 2 application information was sent to all SAB members, is posted on the Byrne SCIP website, and is currently open for application submissions through 12 noon on Friday, February 9, 2024. By request of the EOG, all funding for Phase 2 will go to community based organizations (CBOs) to provide a more geographic disbursement of Byrne SCIP funds. The funds can only be awarded to a unit of local government in partnership with a CBO. The following areas are eligible for funding:

1. Parent, youth, and victim services firearm violence reduction and outreach programs.
2. Community education and training on the prevention of gun violence.
3. Counseling and peer monitoring programs for youth focused on gun violence.
4. Behavioral threat assessment training.
5. Counseling and peer mentoring programs focused on preventing/reducing intimate partner violence.

A question inquiring if the organization is receiving any current funding from MDHHS CVI grant, the City of Detroit, or any other funding source for violence prevention initiatives was included on the application. The SAB will need to meet to discuss, review, and approve application decisions. Reviewers will utilize a 100-point scoring guideline that will cover each section of the grant. The applications will need to be submitted to the BJA for final approval once the SAB determines the awarded subgrants.

Ms. Becker Bennett then asked how the SAB wanted to conduct the grant review and gave a couple of options. Lt. Colonel Kelenske suggested a motion be made regarding how to proceed with the application review process. The motion was made to allow GCSD staff to do the initial review and scoring of applications for recommendations which will then be brought back to the SAB for discussion and final approval. Mr. Stevenson approved the motion, with support from Ms. Moore. Additional discussion took place on how to implement the process. Ms. Becker Bennett stated a special meeting will need to be scheduled for final grant reviews. GCSD will send an email with possible dates for this special meeting which will need to follow the OMA.

1. Research/Evaluation Update from University of Michigan (U of M) – Ms. Furnari and Dr. Shieh

Ms. Furnari read five updates from the U of M Institute for Firearm Intervention Prevention (IFIP) team.

* Measure/Survey Development
* In the process of finalizing the self-reported measures for the outcome evaluation measures at the individual organizations level to assess change.
* Since each CBO will be implementing a different intervention program, IFIP would like to work with the MSP to establish common core violence outcome measures that will be asked all grantees.
* Grantee Technical Assistance (TA) Activities
* This consists of Intake Interview Guideline, Meeting Schedule, and TA Assessment survey for implementation.
* The purpose of these activities is to assess the grantees’ program development, readiness, and capacity.
* Grantee Activity Tracking System
* A database in AirTable has been created to track the program development, implementation, challenges, and data collection process for each CBO.  
  Comprehensive Catalog for CVI Programs in Michigan
* Early stages of putting together a comprehensive catalog of all currently active community violence intervention programs across the state, to provide a clear and detailed overview of the existing programs.
* Kick-off Presentation
* The short presentation will focus on what evaluation is, why evaluation is important, and IFIP’s role in helping them with their implementation and evaluation.

Ms. Becker Bennett stated that a requirement of the grant is that each CBO have their own local evaluator, and that evaluator must collaborate with the U of M IFIP team to ensure the data being collected is in line with what they need to fulfill their state evaluation goals. Ms. Povilaitis asked what qualifies a local evaluator, to which Ms. Becker Bennett responded that evaluators are typically affiliated with a university, college, or research organization and can be based out of state.

Lt. Col. Kelenske requested that the IFIP updates be distributed to board members via email.

1. Discussion on Additional/Future Projects – Lt. Colonel Kelenske and Ms. Becker Bennett

The phase 3 grant solicitation is anticipated to open during summer 2024. The Byrne SCIP grant provides a total of five years’ funding, and the year 3 start date is likely to be October 2024.

The MSP received funding of $500,000 in the fiscal year 2024 appropriation for gun safety locks. The MSP is collaborating with MDHHS child welfare workers, child protective services workers, and local health departments to assist with distributing the gun safety locks to community members. The gun safety locks will be purchased through the National Shooting Sports Foundation’s Project ChildSafe Foundation, which is the largest gun safety lock distributor in the country. As requested by the EOG, when the gun locks are provided to MDHHS offices, a press release will be written and distributed by the MSP and MDHHS.

Board members held discussion about exploring different efforts to broaden the scope of groups receiving the gun locks to ensure they are reaching the majority of the community. The distribution of the gun safety locks will be discussed at a future meeting once more information is obtained on the process. In addition, Ms. Becker Bennett will be meeting with MDHHS soon to discuss implementation and advertising for P.A. 17 of 2023, the Safe Storage of Firearms Law.

Further discussion on potential new grant-funded projects and initiatives was held. Mr. Gamby brought up the possibility of utilizing funds for Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) Act based initiatives and projects. The projects could be geared towards establishing treatment programs for individuals who may have mental health issues or other prevention-based programs to distinguish the underlying cause to help reduce the risk to society. Discussion was held about possible pilot programs and projects focused on ERPO. The Byrne SCIP solicitation will be emailed to board members for review and their consideration of future projects and initiatives.

**Adjournment**

No announcements were made. Lt. Colonel Kelenske thanked the board for their input and discussion.

The next advisory board meeting will be held Thursday, April 18, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at MSP Headquarters in the Centennial Conference Room.

Date options will be emailed for a special meeting to review and discuss application scoring.

Lt. Colonel Kelenske asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Ms. Povilaitis and Mr. Saxton seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.