

## Minutes

### ASSET & JOINT FUNDERS MEETING

ISU Research Park Core Facility  
1805 Collaboration Pl. (New Location)  
September 12, 2024 at 5 p.m.

In Attendance: Pa Goldbeck, Sandra King, Jenny Schill (Admin Assistant), Ron Smith, Ashley Thompson, Emma Cassabaum, Amy Dombrowski (virtual), Linda Hagedorn, Becky Harker, Mindi Heeren, Brad Hill, Joel Hochstein (virtual), Nick Joos, Karen Kile Rosser, Mike Lazere, Moriah Morgan, Anneke Mundel (virtual), Aidan Shervheim, Katie Shively, Stephanie Spence, Beth Waage, Gloria Betcher, Rachel Junck, Bronwyn Beatty-Hansen, Anita Rollins, Latifah Faisal, Linda Murken, Lisa Heddens

Guest: Karla Webb (CICS)

Meeting called to order at 5:03pm, Becky Harker, Chair

#### WELCOME/ INTRODUCTIONS

Volunteers introduced themselves as this was the first Joint Funders meeting for some of the new volunteers.

#### PUBLIC FORUM

None

#### Story County General Assistance (GA) and Central Iowa Community Services (CICS)

CICS currently consists of 15 counties and has office locations within each county. Some staff work within multiple counties and so days when staff are present in a county can vary. The Ames office is a full-time office which at the end of June moved to 1103 Buckeye Ave, Ste 104 in Ames, located in the office building behind Red Lobster.

CICS's vision is a world where everyone has the means and freedom to live purposefully and abundantly. Mission is to collaboratively engineer and implement supportive social, economic, and environmental systems where individuals thrive. Values include providing support, respecting individuals, cultivating strength, and fostering community.

Service coordination staff support and connect individuals to mental health and disability services as well as other services and resources desired by the individual. CICS provides funding for mental health and disability services for individuals who are uninsured and underinsured and CICS partners with organizations to develop mental health and disability services.

Some recent work and projects include:

CICS is currently working with Elevate CCBHC to open an intensive residential service home in Marshalltown, Newton, Fort Dodge, and Indianola, each of these sites will be 4 beds, anticipate these services becoming available in October. Optimae Life Services began providing this service in June in Ames in a 4-bed home and 43 North Iowa in Mason City is

also providing this service. Intensive residential services support individuals who need more intensive support to live successfully in the community.

CICS partnered with 43 North Iowa in Mason City to develop crisis stabilization residential services. This program opened in mid-August and has the capacity to serve 5 individuals at a time. This service is for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis who need support to stabilize outside of an inpatient behavioral health setting, this service is up to 5 days.

Mary Greeley Medical Center continues to provide subacute services in Ames, which is also for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis who need support outside of an inpatient behavioral health setting to stabilize their mental health, this service is up to 10 days.

CICS collaborated with Polk County Mental Health and Disability Region, Broadlawns Medical Center, City of Des Moines, and Society of St. Vincent de Paul to create a new center in Des Moines for individuals with behavioral health needs. The new center will provide 23-hour crisis observation, behavioral health urgent care, and a sobering center. The project moves the behavioral health urgent care and 23-hour observation from Broadlawns Medical Center to the new center location. The new center will double the capacity for both services. There also will be community navigators onsite who will help patients with meeting other social determinants of health. Mid-October is the projected program opening. Residents of the CICS region are being served by Broadlawns in the two programs and anticipate more individuals being served with the increased capacity. CICS has been physically bringing together providers throughout the region to collaborate, build relationships, and work through processes for the access center network to encourage seamless transition and care for individuals. Along with this, a collaborative initiative called OASIS was formed,

OASIS stands for Optimizing Access to Services and Integrated Supports. This is an initiative aimed at addressing the complex needs of individuals requiring intensive behavioral health services. OASIS addresses situations where individuals are in a level of care that does not meet their needs or exceeds an agency's service capacity. It provides a framework for identifying additional support, maintaining individuals in their home community, and minimizing unnecessary transitions. If a different level of care is needed, the process promotes planned transitions to minimize trauma. This process brings together the service provider serving the individual with complex needs, a CICS staff member, service providers who can provide technical assistance on the treatment plan, and may include other stakeholders such as managed care organization's case management, school counselors, and others supporting the individual. The Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is leading the way through a behavioral health realignment process. As of July 1, 2025 instead of 11 MHDS regions, the state will have 7 behavioral health districts, a map of the behavioral health districts can be found on HHS website along with information regarding the behavioral health realignment process. HHS has issued an RFP process to select administrative service organizations (ASO) for the behavioral health districts. Access to prevention, treatment, recovery and crisis mental health and addiction services will fall under the purview of the ASO. Long term services and supports will fall under the purview of the Aging and Disability Resource Network, under this network there will be disability access points. The ADRC network map is the same as the behavioral health district map. CICS intends to apply to be the ASO for 3 behavioral health districts and disability access points. HHS is revamping the home and community-based waiver programs. The Home project which is Hope and Opportunity in Many Environments will realign the current waiver

[www.storycountyasset.org](http://www.storycountyasset.org)

programs into two waivers, one for children up to age 20 and one for adults. Implementation is targeted for July 1, 2025.

The Story County Mental health expo is occurring on September 24th. Question, Persuade, Refer suicide prevention training will be available during the expo, the training is limited to 30 people, are encouraged to sign up for the QPR training by going to expo website.

#### **APPROVAL OF:**

Smith moved approval of the August 8th, ASSET Minutes, seconded by Spence. Motion carried unanimously.

Betcher moved approval of the January 18<sup>th</sup>, Joint Funders Minutes, seconded by Murken. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Smith reported the current balance is \$4832.91.

#### **REPORTS**

##### **Joint Funders**

Betcher reported that Ames City Council approved \$12,000 for the study of homelessness and a consultant. Heddens reported that the Story County Board of Supervisors approved \$12,000 for the study of homelessness and a consultant also. Faisal thanked the Volunteers for their efforts and time.

Hochstein stated that United Way will soon start their strategic planning process and engage the community to address needs in the community. Heeren reported that ISU Priorities were approved, and they are working on a food insecurity task force.

##### **Administrative Team**

Goldbeck reported that ASSET held their annual Agency Training in August. ASSET also offered a budget workshop for agencies to help address questions they have about completing their budget forms. King added that this time was informal and that agencies appreciated that format. Goldbeck shared that after today's meeting, ASSET will hold its annual Volunteer Training.

Thompson shared that the United Way is kicking off their strategic plan, so look for their new strategic plan coming soon. Thompson also shared with the Board that previous United Way CEO, Frankee Olson passed away recently. United Way also hosted its annual Golf for Kids event and had a great turnout. Sept 20<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for grants from the Golf for Kids, so send those who are hosting kid events to the United Way website to apply for those grants. The United Way of Story County's Annual Day of Caring is tomorrow, Friday Sept 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am. The Childcare Coalition is hosted by United Way and new staff member Sarah Mansell is taking this on. This group is always looking for new partners. United Ways' new Finance Director started today, Cindy Smith.

##### **Volunteers**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Update on Emergency Shelter Services**

King reported on the Emergency Shelter Services. She gave a brief overview of the background on this service to date and added that ASSET issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) but did not award funds to the sole applicant, The Bridge Home (TBH). Since then, ASSET approached other agencies about filling the gap for delivery of this service. The Salvation Army (TSA) agreed to start funding hotel stays for those in need of housing. The Funders also decided that a study and community conversations are needed to gain an understanding of the issues leading to an increase in homelessness. Goldbeck shared that there were a few key goals ASSET is seeking from the community conversations and the Consultant's help including: 1) looking at the any known existing data as it relates to homelessness and summarizing findings 2) researching available funding in this space for City and County governments 3) engaging in conversations with service providers to learn about what they're seeing and possible solutions 4) engaging with homeless individuals to learn causes and possible solutions, as well any barriers they are experiencing trying to access service. All this would culminate in a community-wide action plan to prevent homelessness and improve services to homeless individuals. Lazere asked about having community forums. Goldbeck said there would be some way that information is collected from the community, but the format hasn't been decided yet. Murken asked if there was information or data we could gather from other regions or agencies. Thompson reported they met with Matt White and got some good data, but it isn't specific to Story County. She also reported that Mudel has gathered data on this topic from the American Community Survey and has provided it to the Funder Staff. Betcher stated that Des Moines has been making quick policy changes and the Ames City Council hopes to learn from these and improve on these policies and learn from their mistakes. Cassabaum thanked the Funder staff for taking this process on. Harker shared that at Admin meetings it has been stated that it seems that ASSET was tasked with solving the homeless issue and the Admin Team wanted to make sure that the Funders understood this problem is much bigger than something ASSET can take on and solve.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Funder Priorities (ISU)**

ISU GSB has approved their Priorities and there were no changes from last year.

## **ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

Mundel shared that she has provided packets of information on how to log into Scorecard for the Volunteers. She has downloaded the specific Scorecards for each agency and provided it to each Volunteer that they are a liaison for. Harker reminded volunteers that liaison visits can begin tomorrow, and liaison reports are due Nov 14<sup>th</sup>.

Betcher thanked the Volunteers and staff for all of their hours committed to this process. Hall reported that ISU will be transitioning payments to a different process and have claims submitted online.

Meeting adjourned at 6:07 pm, Becky Harker, Chair