



MCLEAN COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COORDINATING COUNCIL

ISSUE 1 • SEPTEMBER 2020



WELCOME TO SEPTEMBER!

Congratulations! You've made it to September. You've made it through more than five months of a pandemic. You've made it through remote learning and the start of a new school year in a new time. You've readjusted programming in your organization....maybe more than once. You've physically distanced, ordered groceries online, and spent a lot of time in your own space. But you made it to September! We're so glad you're here!

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A NEW NEWSLETTER

BY TRISHA MALOTT,
BHCC SUPERVISOR

This newsletter is a space to share what McLean County Behavioral Health Coordinating Council's member organizations are focused on. We hope at present time, that this space allows agencies to highlight program openings, new starts, and modifications. We hope it gives our BHCC partners a chance to publicly share all that they've been doing in recent months.

In future newsletters, we hope to highlight other agencies in the community that are doing great things, new partnerships, and forward movement in behavioral health in McLean County.



PROJECT OZ

BY LISA THOMPSON

Project Oz has temporarily increased their capacity by almost 50%, expanding from 23 beds to 34 beds. This program provides safe, supportive apartments for young people and their children, keeping them safely housed and reducing their risk of experiencing exploitation or violence. It provides wrap-around care to help youth connect to community resources, learn the skills they need for a safe and healthy future, and heal from trauma.

"WE HAVE INCREASED CAPACITY IN OUR EMERGENCY SHELTER, WHICH IS AVAILABLE 24/7 FOR YOUTH NO SAFE PLACE TO STAY. IN ADDITION, WE OFFER EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE WITH RENT AND/OR UTILITIES TO HELP STABILIZE YOUTH WHO ARE AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS. OUR EMERGENCY SHELTER IS RUNNING AT TWICE ITS USUAL CAPACITY."

We have increased outreach to ensure young people have the supplies they need to stay safe, including masks, hand sanitizer, and basic necessities such as food, water and clothing. We continue to see youth on a walk-in basis or by appointment.

“

Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the overcoming of it.”

-- Helen Keller

McLean County FUSE Program

The McLean County FUSE Program has continued to serve existing participants through COVID-19 and is happy to be able to begin outreach to possible new participants again.

While engaged in the program, participants who have intersected with justice, homeless and crisis systems most frequently, receive intensive wrap-around case management services, therapy, psychiatric services, access to the FUSE team 24/7, and supports with housing and employment.

Marcfirst

BY BRIAN WIPPERMAN

Marcfirst is introducing new programs along with an expansion to the organization. A Behavioral Health Clinic is coming to the agency this fall! The clinic will provide therapy to the adults Marcfirst supports. In addition, Marcfirst Pediatric Therapy is now offering ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis) therapy to provide support to children with potentially challenging behaviors. For more details regarding ABA therapy, call Bre at 309-452-0069, ext. 111.

Along with the addition of ABA therapy, Marcfirst Pediatric Therapy is expanding and moving to a new location that is 4,700 square feet in the Carle BroMenn Medical Center. The growth of Marcfirst will better serve the families in the community who need our support.



CHESTNUT HEALTH SYSTEMS



Mobile COVID-19 testing in Colfax, July 2020

Chestnut Health Systems is partnering with McLean County Health Department to offer COVID-19 testing in rural McLean County. Chestnut's mobile health unit transports supplies while Health Department staff members administer tests. Chestnut Family Health Center is also offering McLean County residents free COVID testing at its Bloomington location.

THE ILLINOIS COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND AWARDED CHESTNUT \$100,000 TO TREAT PERSONS FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS RESULTING FROM COVID-19. MERIDIAN, WHICH PROVIDES GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED MANAGED CARE SERVICES TO THOSE WITH COMPLEX MEDICAL NEEDS, AWARDED CHESTNUT \$150,000 TO HELP PEOPLE DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED BY COVID.

Chestnut is partnering with Home Sweet Home Ministries, The Salvation Army Bloomington Corps, PATH, St Vincent DePaul Society, and Boys & Girls Club of Bloomington-Normal in using the funds to support people who are homeless or housing insecure during the pandemic. Chestnut has continued to offer primary health care, mental health counseling, substance use disorder treatment, and credit counseling since the stay-at-home order was issued in March, transitioning to single-occupancy rooms in its residential programs and offering outpatients a telehealth option in addition to in-person appointments.



The Baby Fold

BY DIANNE SCHULTZ

The Baby Fold has developed a new *Attachment and Trauma Fellowship and Certification Program* to train and attract high-level therapists from across the country. This 3-year Fellowship will equip talented therapists to make a big difference in the lives of struggling families. For years, The Baby Fold has been developing and sharing the highest standards in trauma-informed care while partnering with top experts in this field nationwide. The Department of Children and Family Services has asked The Baby Fold to replicate what we do to train our staff with others in the field. Those accepted into the Fellowship program will receive extensive training and individualized clinical supervision to assess needs and address complex issues for the families in need.

Earning this prestigious credential is expected to attract top talent from across the country. Through this program, The Baby Fold is truly reaching children and families across our state, nation, and world. Dr. Kathleen Bush is leading this fellowship program. She has many years of educational training and experience that makes her a powerful advocate for families. For more information or eligibility details, please contact Dr. Bush at kbush@thebabyfold.org or (309)555-1066.

The Baby Fold has also received some additional funding from DCFS to provide two new parent support group offerings:

The Nurturing Parent Program

&

Triple P Parenting Program

We anticipate these expanded parent support offerings will be offered later in the Fall of 2020.

All of our programs and services are fully operational either in person, or through a combination of in-person and remote service delivery options.

McLean County Triage Center

The McLean County Triage Center officially opened Monday, March 16, 2020 and is proud to be a part of the crisis continuum within McLean County. Staffed with visitor's aides, individuals in recovery with lived personal experiences in behavioral health, and trained professional staff as Triage Center specialists, the Triage Center offers a welcoming environment in which people can receive assistance resolving their crisis without more intensive intervention. People receive assessments with non-judgmental care and support, and linkage to ongoing resources when they're ready to leave.

- Services are available for individuals over the age of 18
- Services are available regardless of your insurance or income status
- Clients are seen as they need help and without appointments

Open 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 a.m., 7 days per week, 365 days per year

Important Notes

- **September is National Recovery Month**
- **October 4-10 is Mental Illness Awareness Week**
- **October 10 is World Mental Health Day**
- **A virtual McLean County Behavioral Health Community Forum is coming with new topics presented bi-weekly. Stay tuned for more details.**
- **Past Forum program booklets can now be found on the County website:**
www.mcleancountyil.gov



B H C C M E M B E R S

ADAMS, KRISTIN – DIRECTOR, AGENCY RECRUITING & DEVELOPMENT - COUNTRY FINANCIAL

BARISCH, STEPHANIE – STRATEGIC INITIATIVES COORDINATOR - CENTER FOR YOUTH & FAMILY SOLUTIONS

BARR TOM – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - CENTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

FOLEY, REBECCA - CIRCUIT JUDGE, 11TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

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FURLONG, LAURA – RETIRED CEO - MARCFIRST

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SHARAR, DAVE – CEO - CHESTNUT HEALTH SYSTEMS

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THOME, ERIC – DIRECTOR OF HEALTH AND WELFARE - STATE FARM

THOMPSON, LISA – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - PROJECT OZ

WIPPERMAN, BRIAN – CEO - MARCFIRST

SCHAFFER, SUSAN – COUNTY BOARD MEMBER

ZANGERLE, KAREN – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - PATH

