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MOUNT ROGERS COMMUNITY SERVICES

August 24, 2026

Minutes

The Mount Rogers Community Services Board of Directors met on Monday, August 24, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. at the E. W. Cline Jr. Building in Wytheville, Virginia.

PRESENT:
Ms. Susie Dixon Garner
Ms. Tammy Terry
Ms. Sandy Worrell
Mr. Patton Graham
Mr. Andrew Moss
Ms. Michelle DeBord
Ms. Susan Clark
Ms. Joanne Groseclose
Ms. Kristyna Lathem
Ms. Sandra Venzie
Ms. Betsy Shearin

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Mr. Kris Ratliff
Ms. Kathy Havens

STAFF PRESENT:
Mr. Matt Sabo
Ms. Sandy Bryant
Ms. Patty Belcher
Ms. Kayla Fisher
Ms. Wendy Gullion
Ms. Dedra Helbert
Mr. Mark Morin
Mr. Shaun Charles
Dr. Kathy Cressel
Ms. Rebecca Martel
Mr. Duncan Sandoz
Mr. Richie Pack
Ms. Lakesha Mayes
Ms. Kim Woodlee
Ms. Samantha Crockett

OTHER:
Ms. Barbara Bartnik

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I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Susie Dixon Garner, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

II. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Ms. Dixon Garner offered a moment of silence in recognition of the decisions made during the meeting and the people whose lives are affected by the decisions.

III. CITIZEN'S TIME

None.

IV. ACCEPTANCE OF July 27, 2026, MINUTES

The minutes of July 27, 2026, were approved by Ms. Kristyna Lathem and seconded by Ms. Tammy Terry

The motion passed unanimously.

V. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

Ms. Kayla Fisher, Director of Executive Office Operations, announced the agency had received various donations for July 2026 for a total of $2,210.80:

- First United Methodist Church - $250.00 - Supplies - One Day at a Time Boxes
- Ebenezer Lutheran Church - $50.00 - Supplies - One Day at a Time Boxes
- Ammi's Barbershop - $150.00 - Supplies - One Day at a Time Boxes
- Sally Moorer - $50.00 - Meals- Creating Connection Class
- Shirley Lockhart - $50.00 - Meals- Creating Connection Class
- The Henderson - $800.00 -Facility Rental Space- Creating Connections and C3 Recovery Groups
- Lincoln Theatre - $300.00 - Rental Space & Snacks - CHATS
- Tom Hower - $200.00 – Building Rental and Storage for One Day at a Time Boxes
- Sandy Bryant - $33.00 – Mental Health and Grant Writing Books
- Susie Dixion Garner - $200.00- Clothing for the Peer Wellness Center
- Lakesha Mayes - $127.80 – Special Olympics Field Day

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MOTION: Ms. Sandy Worrell moved that the Board accept the donations for July, as presented.

The motion seconded by Ms. Kristyna Lathem, passed unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

None.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Budget and Finance Committee Report

1. Ms. Patty Belcher presented the financial statement for July 2026 for Board review and approval.

   MOTION: On behalf of the Budget and Finance Committee, Ms. Kristyna Lathem, Chairperson, moved that the Board accept the financial statement for July 2026, as presented.

   The motion passed unanimously.

2. Ms. Patty Belcher mentioned that they are still working on the financial report. She said there are still a few specific areas that need to be totaled.

3. Ms. Sandy Bryant reviewed in detail the vacancies in our current residential living locations. Reiterating the concerns of Mount Rogers being charged local match dollars when we are serving individuals outside of our localities.

B. Chief Executive Officer Report

Evaluation led by Virginia Tech (Mary Beth Dunkelberger & Lara Nagle). Performed a 6-part Community Needs Assessment (CNA) required every 3 years under the CCBHC-IA grant to ensure compliance and guide planning. Data collected via interviews/surveys in 2025; evaluation timeframe covers January–May 2026. Strengths: Lifespan care continuum, capacity for high-acuity clients, and a state-model crisis program using living room settings that accepts TDOs. Concerns: Stigma, high SUD/youth tobacco rates, travel barriers, crisis staffing shortages, intake/referral bottlenecks, and inadequate community primary care access.

MRCS's Response: Integrating primary care directly into mental health workflows. Redesigning the internal vehicle fleet and expanding in-school youth services. Updating the website/communications to counter stigma, using Wellness Centers as

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low-barrier entry points (e.g., Fishing for Veterans), and deploying Eligibility Specialists for benefit continuity.

VIII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Program and Administrative Monthly Reports

Mr. Mark Morin presented Case Management. Structure & Load: 4 managers covering catchment area (LHM highest volume). Caseload targets are ~40 for Adult CM and ~25 for complex DD CM. Core Role: Delivers individualized, conflict-free care through linking, monitoring, and supporting clients, with a focus on face-to-face contact, same-day access, and guardian voice. DD Challenges: VIDES assessments are delayed by school record retention issues and heavy paperwork compliance before service delivery. Transitions: Operates 3 priority tiers (hospitalization raises priority). Hospital Liaisons face barriers placing state inpatient referrals into nursing homes and ALFs.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on the motion of Ms. Joanne Groseclose, motion seconded, which passed unanimously.

Signed by:
Betsy Shearin
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Ms. Betsy Shearin, Secretary