

## **South Central Regional Psychiatric Hospital Advisory Panel**

### **Agenda**

**September 20, 2024 1:00-3:00 PM**

**6<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room,  
Sedgwick County Offices 100 N. Broadway, Suite 630**

<https://www.youtube.com/@ksdept.foragingdisabilitys6122/streams>

**I. Call to Order**

Scott Brunner, Deputy Secretary, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services

**II. Approval of Minutes from August 16, 2024**

Scott Brunner

**III. Project Updates**

Scott Brunner and Tania Cole, Assistant County Manager, Sedgwick County.  
Basil Sherman, Pulse Design Group

**IV. Physician and Psychiatrist Coverage Sedgwick County**

Claudio Ferraro

**V. Regional Hospital Operating Budget**

Scott Brunner

**VI. Final Panel Report—Review draft report and preliminary recommendations**

Scott Brunner

**VII. Adjourn**

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#### **Panel Members attending:**

Scott Brunner, Deputy Secretary of Hospitals and Facilities, KDADS  
Sarah Lopez, Sedgwick County Commissioner, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Claudio Ferraro, President, Ascension Via Christi St. Joseph  
LaTasha St. Arnault, Principal Consultant, LS Nonprofit Solutions  
Marc Bennett, District Attorney, Sedgwick County  
Mary Jones, President/CEO, Mental Health America of South Central Kansas  
Tom Stolz, County Manager, Sedgwick County  
Senator Usha Reddi, 22<sup>nd</sup> District  
Representative Will Carpenter, 75<sup>th</sup> District  
Joan Tammany, Executive Director, COMCARE

#### **Panel Members not in attendance:**

Jason Gregory, InSite Real Estate Group  
Jeff Easter, Sheriff, Sedgwick County  
Representative KC Ohaebosim, 89<sup>th</sup> District  
Representative Henry Helgersen, 83<sup>rd</sup> District

### **I. Call to Order**

Chair Scott Brunner, Deputy Secretary of the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services, called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM.

### **II. Approval of Minutes from July 19, 2024**

Ferraro moved, and Jones seconded to approve minutes as corrected to Ms. Jones' organization's name. Motion passed.

### **III. Project Updates**

Tania Cole, Assistant County Manager, informed the Panel that the Board of County Commissioners approved the land donation agreement of 11.72 acres by the Lange Community Foundation for the South Central Mental Health Hospital on August 7, 2024, with closing for the property occurring on or before August 31, 2024. Additionally, Ms. Cole shared construction timeline updates:

- design development completed on July 26, 2024
- construction documents completed and out for bid by October 24, 2024

- bids due to Sedgwick County Purchasing by November 26, 2024
- bid contract signed by December 19, 2024.
- Construction will begin in February 2025 and be completed by August 2026.

The Panel discussed the origin and rationale behind the 18-month construction timeline, a potential groundbreaking event, and the City of Wichita waiving the typically required Letter of Credit.

Brunner updated the Panel about the State budget cycle relative to hospital staffing during the construction and opening timeline, with additional details forthcoming during the September and October Panel meetings. Basil Sherman, Pulse Design Group, provided the Panel with digital renderings of the internal and external facility design elements, which aligned with his August 1, 2024, Town Hall presentation. The Panel discussed safety standard adherence, design element cost, and potential project contingencies within the budget.

#### **IV. Report from August 1, 2024, Town Hall**

Dr. Ryan Vaughn, LTI, gave the Panel an overview of the third Town Hall meeting held at Campus High School. Over forty community stakeholders participated in the event, which included project updates, a design walkthrough, the vision for the OneRise campus, and moderated Q&A. The presenters answered 40 questions about establishing the new psychiatric facility, covering governance, community engagement, operational logistics, workforce, infrastructure, collaboration with educational institutions, and community impact. Additional stakeholder feedback was gathered via a post-event survey, with predominant themes reflecting the community's hope for enhanced mental health services and the impact on the greater community while emphasizing the concern for an adequate workforce and the importance of transparency and collaboration in planning.

#### **V. Presentation - National Association of State Health Policy (NASHP) Behavioral Health Workforce Policy Academy**

Taylor Bremer, KDADS Assistant Behavioral Health Commissioner, presented details to the Panel regarding the state's awarded opportunity to partner with the NASHP over the next two years to develop and advance state-level behavioral health workforce improvement strategies, optimizing team-based, evidenced-based interventions in the adult-serving systems.

#### **VI. Presentation - Behavioral Health Center of Excellence**

Michelle Ponce, Associate Director at the Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas, provided an overview to the Panel about the Kansas Behavioral Health Center of Excellence, including member agencies, newly developed mission, vision, and goals, organizational structure, characteristics of effective centers, early successes, and a plan for FY 2026. The Panel discussed connection and communication with other community groups to improve effectiveness and reduce duplication of efforts.

#### **VII. Final Panel Report and Preliminary Recommendations**

Brunner sought Panel input on the preliminary recommendations for the final report. Panel feedback included adding Cowley County to the initial catchment area, updating the workforce development to include three new/additional psychiatry residential slots, revising legislative recommendations to allow for any best practices identified by reviewing other states' involuntary commitment statutes, creating a nonprofit foundation to support the hospital's mission, developing a Citizens Advisory Group to support the regional hospital administration and adding language to address the ongoing needs of individuals that are high utilizers of services.

### **VIII. Adjourn**

St. Arnault made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Tammany. The meeting adjourned at 3:01 PM.