



Dakota County

Community Services Committee of the Whole

Agenda

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

1:00 PM

Conference Room 3A, Administration
Center, Hastings

If you wish to speak to an agenda item or an item not on the agenda, please notify the Clerk to the Board via email at CountyAdmin@co.dakota.mn.us

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Note: Any action taken by this Committee of the Whole constitutes a recommendation to the County Board.

2. Audience

Anyone in the audience wishing to address the Committee on an item not on the Agenda or an item on the Consent Agenda may send comments to CountyAdmin@co.dakota.mn.us and instructions will be given to participate during the meeting. Verbal comments are limited to five minutes.

3. Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

3.1 Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

4. Consent Agenda

4.1 Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held on April 15, 2025

5. Regular Agenda

5.1 *Public Health* - Update On Mental Health Promotion And Proclamation Of May As Mental Health Month

5.2 *Employment and Economic Assistance* - Update On Medical Assistance And MnCHOICES

6. Community Services Director's Report

7. Future Agenda Items

8. Adjournment

8.1 Adjournment

For more information please call 651-554-5742.

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<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Government/BoardMeetings/Pages/default.aspx>

Public Comment can be sent to CountyAdmin@co.dakota.mn.us



Community Services Committee of the Whole

Request for Board Action

Item Number: DC-4492

Agenda #: 3.1

Meeting Date: 5/13/2025

Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)



Community Services Committee of the Whole

Request for Board Action

Item Number: DC-4493

Agenda #: 4.1

Meeting Date: 5/13/2025

Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held on April 15, 2025



Dakota County

Community Services Committee of the Whole

Minutes

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

1:00 PM

**Conference Room 3A, Administration
Center, Hastings**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioner Slavik, Commissioner Atkins, Chairperson Halverson, Commissioner Droste, Commissioner Workman, Commissioner Holberg and Commissioner Hamann-Roland

Also in attendance were Heidi Welsch, County Manager; Lucie O'Neill, Assistant County Attorney; Marti Fischbach, Community Services Division Director; and Colleen Collette, Administrative Coordinator.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by the Chair, Commissioner Laurie Halverson.

The audio of this meeting is available upon request.

2. Audience

Chair, Commissioner Laurie Halverson, asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to address the Community Services Committee on an item not on the agenda or an item on the consent agenda. No one came forward and no comments were submitted to CountyAdmin@co.dakota.mn.us.

3. Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

3.1 Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Mike Slavik

On a motion by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, seconded by Commissioner Slavik, the agenda was unanimously approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Ayes: 7

4. Consent Agenda

Motion: Mike Slavik

Second: Joe Atkins

On a motion by Commissioner Slavik, seconded by Commissioner Atkins, the consent agenda was unanimously approved as follows:

4.1 Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held on March 18, 2025

Motion: Mike Slavik

Second: Joe Atkins

5. Regular Agenda

5.1 Receive Reports From Dakota County's Local Advisory Councils For Mental Health

The following staff and Local Advisory Council (LAC) members presented on this item and stood for questions: Mark Oster, Social Services Supervisor; Chris Thole, Children's LAC Chair; Dave Zetervall, Adult LAC Co-Chair; Julie Allen, Adult LAC Co-Chair.

This item was on the agenda for informational purposes only. No staff direction was given by the Committee members.

Information only; no action requested.

5.2 Adoption Of 2025-2026 Strategic Plan From County Board Appointed Opioid Response Advisory Committee

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

Erin Carder, Public Health Deputy Director, presented on this item and stood for questions. The Committee recommended sunsetting the County Board Appointed Opioid Response Advisory Committee.

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Opioid Response Advisory Committee (ORAC) was established as a County Board Appointed committee in October 2023 and supports the development of a comprehensive and effective countywide response to the opioid crisis; and

WHEREAS, it provides recommendations to the County Board on the use of Opioid Settlement funds for external projects and initiatives; and

WHEREAS, by Dakota County Policy 1015, County Board appointed committees must consult at least annually with the County Board Committees of the Whole to seek direction on the topics on which they will advise the County Board to ensure that the committee's work complements the County mission and goals; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County Policy 1015 also requires that periodic advisory committee reports be scheduled on the appropriate County Board committee or Board meeting agendas; and

WHEREAS, the ORAC plans to engage the Board regularly through its Staff Liaison to provide updates and receive direction regarding their work; and

WHEREAS, from December 2024 through March 2025, the ORAC engaged in a facilitated strategic planning process; and

WHEREAS, the ORAC has developed a two-year plan that aligns with the County Board goals as well as the 2024-2025 community survey results; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2025, the ORAC voted to recommend the draft 2025-2026 ORAC Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, upon Board approval, the ORAC will work towards accomplishing its goals as outlined in the strategic plan and keep the Board informed of its progress.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the 2025-2026 strategic plan from the Dakota County Opioid Response Advisory Committee.

This item was approved and recommended for action by the Board of Commissioners on 4/22/2025.

Ayes: 4

Commissioner Slavik, Commissioner Atkins, Chairperson Halverson and Commissioner Hamann-Roland

Nay: 3

Commissioner Droste, Commissioner Workman and Commissioner Holberg

6. Community Services Director's Report

Marti Fischbach, Community Services Division Director, referred the Committee to the fact sheet provided to them, making note that the Department of Human Services Communication toolkit on Medicaid provides information as conversations arise due to potential Medicaid cuts from the federal government.

7. Future Agenda Items

Chair, Commissioner Laurie Halverson, asked the Committee if anyone had a topic they would like to hear more about at an upcoming Community Services Committee of the Whole meeting. No topics were brought forth.

8. Adjournment

8.1 Adjournment

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Joe Atkins

On a motion by Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland, seconded by Commissioner Joe Atkins, the meeting was adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

Ayes: 7

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Collette, Administrative Coordinator
Community Services Division

DRAFT



Community Services Committee of the Whole

Request for Board Action

Item Number: DC-4409

Agenda #: 5.1

Meeting Date: 5/13/2025

DEPARTMENT: Public Health

FILE TYPE: Regular Action

TITLE

Update On Mental Health Promotion And Proclamation Of May As Mental Health Month

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Receive an update on mental health promotion and proclaim May as Mental Health Month in Dakota County.

SUMMARY

May is National Mental Health Month. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the Center for Disease Control:

- One in five United States (U.S.) adults experience mental illness
- One in twenty U.S. adults experience serious mental illness
- 50 percent of all lifetime mental illness begins by age 14, and 75 percent by age 24
- In 2024, 1 in 5 employees in the U.S. reported experiencing burnout, with mental health problems being one of the key contributors. (nami.org)
- 1 in 5 children aged 3-17 in the U.S. have a mental health condition, with ADHD, anxiety, and depression being the most common diagnoses

Mental health is an important determinant of overall health and well-being for individuals. The COVID-19 pandemic, along with compounding community trauma, continues to have a significant impact on adult and child mental health, particularly for people with pre-existing mental illness and Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and for communities of color. Many residents are struggling with the long-term impacts of illness, loss of loved ones, social isolation, job loss, changes in routines, racism or other forms of discrimination, and community trauma. As a result, many are experiencing unprecedented levels of fear, anxiety, and stress. See Attachment: Community Health Profile - Mental Health, for an overview of Dakota County statistics related to Mental Health.

Dakota County has maintained a focus on connecting people to community mental health and SUD services, promoting mental health messaging and initiatives, addressing service needs and gaps through community partnerships, training, and engaging the perspective and voice of people with lived experience. This includes providing community members with practical tools they can use to improve their mental health and increase resiliency. Prevention is an effective strategy to reduce the impact of mental health conditions and, with effective treatment, those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives.

Dakota County has a network of mental health services and initiatives that provide mental health support and promote mental health awareness and education. Dakota County staff, in partnership with other organizations, are committed to building public awareness and addressing stigma as important steps in supporting people to access treatment and support. Promoting mental health and awareness of resources and support is especially important given the impacts of the pandemic and community trauma on mental health and well-being.

Staff will provide an update on mental health services, resources, and initiatives, including initiatives focused on awareness, education, prevention, and early intervention.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Dakota County Board of Commissioners proclaim May as Mental Health Month in Dakota County and support efforts to promote mental health awareness, trauma-informed training, education, and access to services and supports to serve the mental health needs of the residents of Dakota County.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

None.

- | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> Current budget | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> New FTE(s) requested | |

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, May is National Mental Health Month; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the Center for Disease Control:

- One in five United States (U.S.) adults experience mental illness
- One in twenty U.S. adults experience serious mental illness
- 50 percent of all lifetime mental illness begins by age 14, and 75 percent by age 24
- In 2024, 1 in 5 employees in the U.S. reported experiencing burnout, with mental health problems being one of the key contributors. (nami.org)
- 1 in 5 children aged 3-17 in the U.S. have a mental health condition, with ADHD, anxiety, and depression being the most common diagnoses

; and

WHEREAS, mental health is an important determinant of overall health and well-being for individuals; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic, along with compounding community trauma, continues to have a significant impact on adult and child mental health, particularly for people with pre-existing mental illness and Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and for communities of color; and

WHEREAS, many residents are struggling with the long-term impacts of illness, loss of loved ones, social isolation, job loss, changes in routines, racism or other forms of discrimination, and community trauma, resulting in many who are experiencing unprecedented levels of fear, anxiety, and stress;

and

WHEREAS, Dakota County has maintained a focus on connecting people to community mental health and SUD services, promoting mental health messaging and initiatives, addressing service needs and gaps through community partnerships, training, and engaging the perspective and voice of people with lived experience; and

WHEREAS, this includes providing community members with practical tools they can use to improve their mental health and increase resiliency; and

WHEREAS, prevention is an effective strategy to reduce the impact of mental health conditions and, with effective treatment, those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County has a network of mental health services and initiatives that provide mental health support and promote mental health awareness and education; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County staff, in partnership with other organizations, are committed to building public awareness and addressing stigma as important steps in supporting people to access treatment and support; and

WHEREAS, promoting mental health and awareness of resources and support is especially important given the impacts of the pandemic and community trauma on mental health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends that the Dakota County Board of Commissioners proclaim May as Mental Health Month in Dakota County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims May 2025 as Mental Health Month in Dakota County and supports efforts to promote mental health awareness, training, education, and access to information, services, and supports to serve the mental health needs of the citizens of Dakota County.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION

None.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment: Community Health Profile - Mental Health

Attachment: Presentation Slides

BOARD GOALS

- ☒ Thriving People ☐ A Healthy Environment with Quality Natural Resources
- ☐ A Successful Place for Business and Jobs ☐ Excellence in Public Service

CONTACTS

Department Head: Gina Pistulka

Author: Alex Groten

Community Health Profile

MENTAL HEALTH

Twenty-three percent of adults in the U.S. lives with a mental illness in any given year, with 5.5 percent experiencing a severe mental illness. Major depressive disorder is the leading cause of disability in the U.S. for 15-44 year olds. According to the U.S. Surgeon General, a range of effective treatments exist for most mental illnesses, yet more than half of all Americans who have a mental illness fail to seek treatment. Good mental health is essential to leading a healthy life.

KEY FACTS

The rate for suicide in adults has decreased.

Forty-four percent of 5th grade students have experienced anxiety.

Autism spectrum disorders have increased.

The majority of students (81 percent) can talk to their parent or guardian about the problems they have.

Mental health disorders have been on the rise since the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mental illness in Dakota County

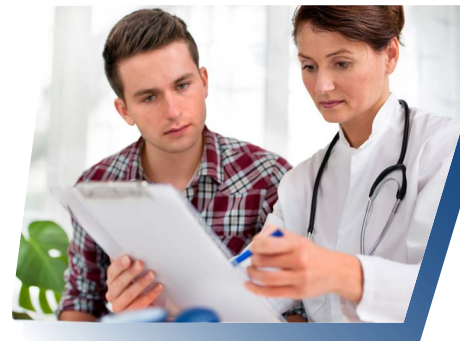
- The rate of hospitalizations of Dakota County residents for depressive disorder and suicidal ideation/attempts decreased from 2016 to 2020.
- Fourteen percent of Dakota County 8th graders, 16 percent of 9th graders, and 21 percent of 11th graders were treated for a mental illness in the previous year (2022). More females than males reported treatment for a mental illness.

Depression

- In 2023, an estimated 24 percent of Dakota County adults (25 and older) reported having ever been told they have depression, an increase from 20 percent in 2014.
- In 2022, 46 percent of Dakota County 8th graders, 48 percent of 9th graders and 58 percent of 11th graders said they were bothered by feeling down, depressed and hopeless in the last two weeks. The percents were slightly above the state for 8th graders, similar to the state for 9th graders, and above the state for 11th graders.

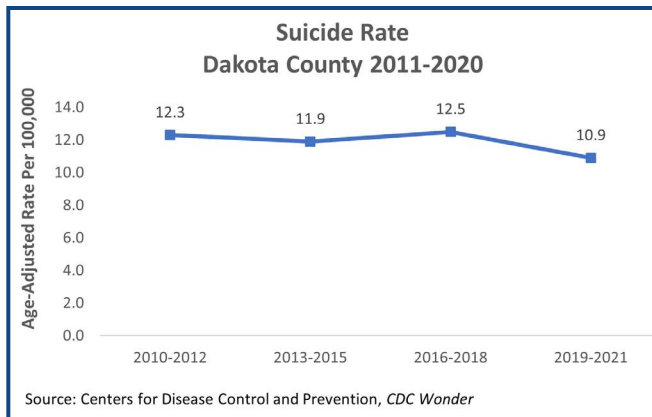
Anxiety and stress

- Thirty percent of Dakota County adults (25 and older) reported having ever been told they have anxiety in 2023, an increase from 19 percent in 2014.
- In 2022, 44 percent of Dakota County 5th graders agreed that they worry a lot, slightly above the state.



Suicide

- There were 40 suicides in Dakota County residents in 2021.



- The suicide rate is higher for males than females. The rate decreased from 2011 to 2020. The Dakota County rate was below the state for the period 2019-2021.
- In 2022, 15 percent of Dakota County 8th graders, 13 percent of 9th graders, and 16 percent of 11th graders said they seriously considered attempting suicide during the past year. These percents are similar to the state for 8th graders, slightly below the state for 9th graders, and slightly above the state for 11th graders.
- In 2022, four percent of Dakota County 8th, 9th and 11th graders reported they had actually attempted suicide during the past year. These percents are similar to the state for 8th and 9th graders and slightly above the state for 11th graders.

Self-injury

- The rate of non-fatal, self-inflicted injuries requiring emergency room or inpatient care decreased in Dakota County from 2018 to 2020.
- In 2022, 24.5 percent of Dakota County 8th graders, 23 percent of 9th and 11th graders reported hurting themselves on purpose during the last year. These percents are similar to the state for 8th graders, slightly below the state for 9th graders, and slightly above the state for 11th graders.

Family connections

- 81 percent of Dakota County students reported that they can talk to their parent or guardian about the problems they are having (2022).

Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)

- ADHD is one of the most common neuro-behavioral disorders in children. It can persist into adolescence and adulthood. About half of those with ADHD also have other behavioral disorders.
- Ten percent of U.S. children ages 3-17 were ever diagnosed with ADHD (2022).

Eating disorders

- During their lifetime, an estimated 0.6 percent of adults suffer from anorexia, one percent from bulimia, and three percent from binge eating disorders.

Autism spectrum disorders (ASD)

- An estimated three percent of Minnesota 8-year olds are affected by an ASD. The rate per 1,000 children is below other U.S. communities.
- More children than ever before are being classified with ASDs. This increase may be due to improved diagnosis.
- Children with autism enrolled in special education in Dakota County public schools increased by 50 percent from school years 2013-2014 to 2022-2023.

For more information:

- Mental Health Association of Minnesota www.mentalhealthmn.org
- NAMI Minnesota www.namimn.org
- Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) www.health.state.mn.us
- National Institutes of Mental Health <https://www.nimh.nih.gov>
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) www.cdc.gov
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) www.samhsa.gov

The Dakota County Public Health Department is accredited by the national Public Health Accreditation Board.

For more information about the Dakota County community health assessment, email public.health@co.dakota.mn.us or call 651.554.6100.





Mental Health Awareness Month May 2025

Kassy Podvin, Health Promotion Specialist
Natalie Vasilj, Public Health Program Coordinator
Alex Groten, Public Health Supervisor

1

Mental Health is Public Health



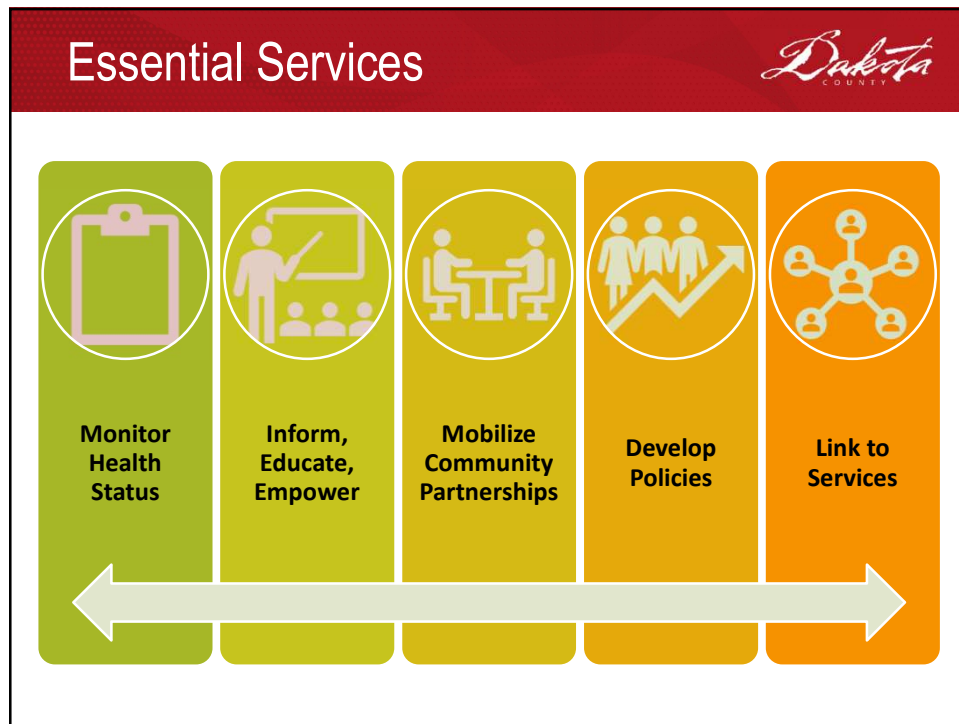
Shapes every aspect of well-being—physical, emotional, social, and economic

Linked to chronic disease, substance use, housing, employment, and education

Stigma, access barriers, and provider shortages create inequities

Suicide is a leading cause of death among young people

2



3

Mental Health in Dakota County

- Mental health ranked number 2 for community concerns.
- In 2023, 13% of residents reported that they rarely or never got the social and emotional support they needed.
- In 2023, 31% of Dakota County adults said they needed mental health care during the past 12 months. Over half of those who needed mental health care were delayed or did not get needed mental health care.

Sources: Dakota County Public Health, *Dakota Adult Health Survey*, 2023; Minnesota Student Survey Interagency Team, *Minnesota Student Survey*

4

Mental Health in Dakota County

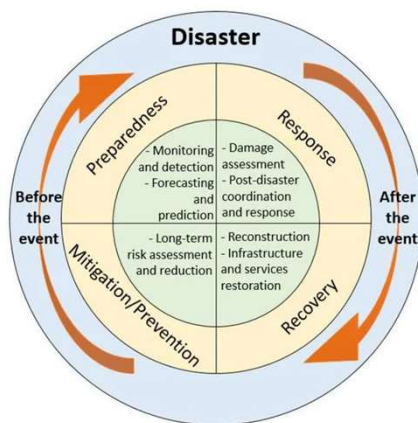


- In 2022, nearly half of Dakota County 9th graders felt down, depressed or hopeless in the past 2 weeks, an increase of 7 percent from 2016.
- Mental Health has been a designated priority in each CHA process since its inception in 2013.
- A deeper dive into data can be found in our [community health profile](#).

Sources: Dakota County Public Health, *Dakota Adult Health Survey*, 2023; Minnesota Student Survey Interagency Team, *Minnesota Student Survey*

5

COVID-19: Community Trauma



When emotional well-being is ignored, it slows down economic, educational, and physical health recovery post-disaster.

Dakota County's response aligns with FEMA best practices.

6

Our Response Through CHIP/SHIP

Assessment:

- Young Adult Health Survey
- Minnesota Student Survey
- Place To Go evaluation

Public Awareness Campaigns:

- Little Moments Count
- Mental Health Month
- Suicide Prevention Month

Trauma Responsive Department

- Greenleaf partnership

7

Our Response-Partnerships

Crisis Response Services

School Districts

Worksites, Parks, Libraries

Interdepartmental Collaboration

Community Partnerships

8

CredibleMind



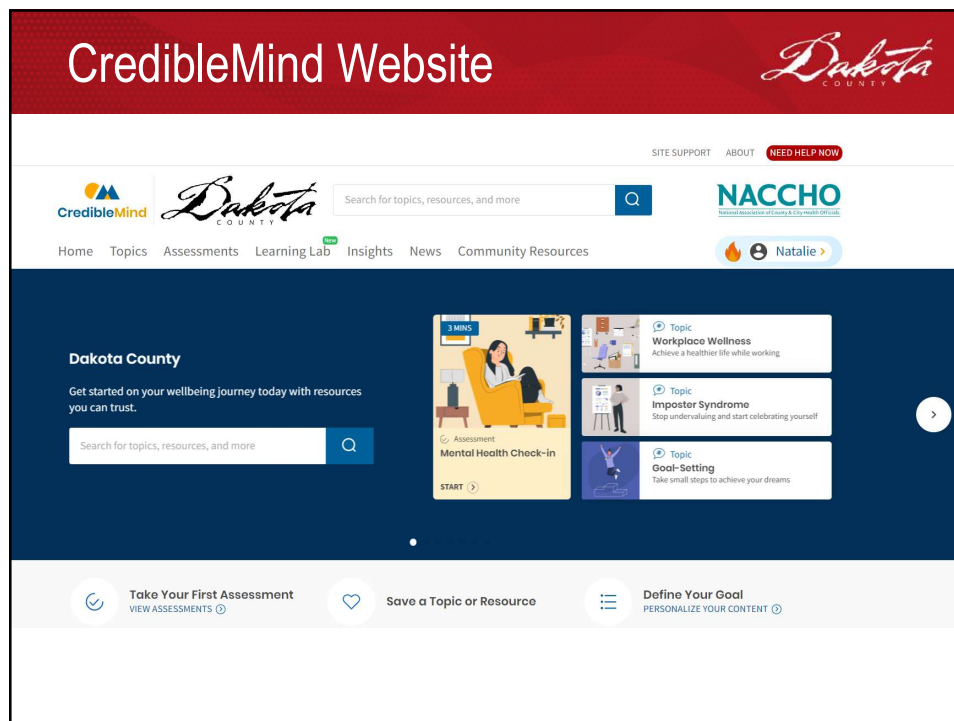
One-stop shop for personalized mental wellbeing resources.

- Scientifically validated assessments on topics like anxiety, depression, meditation, burnout, and substance use
- Expert-reviewed apps, podcasts and books, articles and videos across mental health topics
- Tools that help you focus on building skills to thrive mentally and emotionally



9

CredibleMind Website



10

Recommendation



Staff recommends that the Dakota County Board of Commissioners proclaim May as Mental Health Month in Dakota County and support efforts to promote mental health awareness, trauma-informed training, education, and access to services and supports to serve the mental health needs of the residents of Dakota County.

11



Questions and Discussion

Thank you!

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Community Services Committee of the Whole

Request for Board Action

Item Number: DC-4552

Agenda #: 5.2

Meeting Date: 5/13/2025

DEPARTMENT: Employment and Economic Assistance

FILE TYPE: Regular Information

TITLE

Update On Medical Assistance And MnCHOICES

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Receive an update on the Medical Assistance (MA) eligibility and MnCHOICES assessment processes.

SUMMARY

Staff from Employment and Economic Assistance and Social Services will provide an update on Medical Assistance (MA) and MnCHOICES, including an overview of the services covered and authorized through MA and MnCHOICES, volume of requests, wait times and their impact, efforts to address back-logs, and underlying policy and systems issues.

RECOMMENDATION

Information only; no action requested.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

None.

- | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> Current budget | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> New FTE(s) requested | |

RESOLUTION

Information only; no action requested.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION

None.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment: None.

BOARD GOALS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thriving People | <input type="checkbox"/> A Healthy Environment with Quality Natural Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A Successful Place for Business and Jobs | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellence in Public Service |

CONTACTS

Department Head: Nadir Abdi

Author: Nadir Abdi



Community Services Committee of the Whole

Request for Board Action

Item Number: DC-4494

Agenda #: 8.1

Meeting Date: 5/13/2025

Adjournment