

Continuum of Student Health and Wellness Services
Status Report – March 1, 2017

(From the September 20, 2106 report (<https://provost.msu.edu/documents/Strategy-and-Recommendations-Student-Health.pdf>): In May 2016, the President of MSU issued a mandate to develop and implement a new model of delivery and continuum of care in the University’s counseling and psychiatric services for students that will integrate the services currently offered by Psychiatry Services in Student Health Services and the Counseling Center. The University’s most important and critical priority is to more effectively and sustainably meet the mental and behavioral health needs of current and future students, including, but not limited to, by furthering its commitment to engaging diverse student populations and promoting a culture of health and wellness across campus.

Progress to Date:

During Summer 2016, the Provost and Vice President for Student Affairs and Services identified an action committee, comprised of leadership and staff from MSU’s health, psychiatry, and counseling services, to develop and design a strategy for integrating services. The principal recommendation of the committee was to establish a new multi-disciplinary, inter-professional model of care and services that integrates not only Psychiatry Services and the Counseling Center, but also Student Health Services, including primary care and health promotion.

In November 2016, David Weismantel, MD, was appointed interim Executive Director of Student Health and Wellness to oversee the implementation of the new service model, in partnership with a core steering committee.

As a first step toward comprehensive integration of services, Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS) was administratively formed on February 1, 2017. CAPS is a new unit, within the MSU HealthTeam, that includes all clinical and associated personnel and their salary budget lines from the Counseling Center, including the MSU Testing Office and the Sexual Assault Program, as well as all providers with their salary budget lines from Psychiatry Services.

Dr. Weismantel was appointed interim director of CAPS on February 1, 2017; he and the steering committee have drafted a position description for the permanent CAPS director in preparation for a national search. A search firm will be hired.

Dr. Weismantel and the steering committee prepared a “scope of services” document for Provost Youatt, VP Maybank, and President Simon. This document recommends the type and duration of services under the integrated model in order to ensure effective care and more timely access for students. Various financial models for clinical services will be developed. Discussion is underway.

Design teams/work groups are being formed to address the following aspects of the integration of services:

Electronic Health Records Implementation

(This group was established a year ago. Athena (EHR provider) is addressing current concerns related to confidentiality)

Communications

Clinical Services Model

Fostering Multicultural Competency

Online and other Technology-Based Services

Training

Space and Facilities

Accreditation

Student input will be actively sought regarding these strategies. Interested students should volunteer and/or will be invited to participate on the design teams and work groups.

Members of the steering committee have drafted and are discussing an assessment of and a report on off-campus resources for counseling and psychiatric services, to help develop a strategy for connecting MSU students to local providers and clinics when appropriate for longer-term services and specialty care.

The steering committee has engaged in initial discussions of the process, goals, and timelines for integration of services with student leaders (ASMSU and COGS). A general student town hall will follow shortly after spring break.

In partnership with Vennie Gore (Vice President, Auxiliary Enterprises), two Masters Level Clinicians will be hired by CAPS as a pilot project in the Neighborhoods.

Negotiations are underway with Morneau-Shapell (<http://www.morneaushepell.com/us-en/international-student-support-program>) to provide 24/7 phone and online support across languages and cultures for international students and their parents.

Discussions are well underway to provide co-location space for counselors, psychiatrists, and care managers. Barbara Kranz (Office of Planning and Budgets, Director for Facilities Planning and Space Management) and TMP Architecture are working with the steering committee and affected units on space requirements.

The steering committee is beginning to work with the Human Resources Organizational Development Team to best plan and execute strategic further organizational change, from both people and systems perspectives.

As the semester proceeds and further steps toward integration are implemented, additional student health and wellness-related units will be merged within the integrated entity, including health promotion/wellness, primary care, Neighborhoods clinics, and business and administrative units. Communications and updates to the website will be prepared to reflect the creation of the fully integrated entity.

Monthly progress reports will be provided to the University community.

March Tasks:

Develop FAQs to address common questions from the MSU community.

Move forward with the CAPS position search. Keeling & Associates will provide assistance as search consultants.

Financial models for the clinical services options in the Scope of Services draft will be developed.

Space considerations will be ongoing for co-location of clinical staff.

Design teams/work groups will continue drafting documents.

Two student town hall meetings, organized by COGS and ASMSU, will be held in March.

Contract negotiations will continue regarding Morneau-Shapell (see page 2).

Discussions regarding the Neighborhood positions will continue—position descriptions drafted, search process defined.

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