MINNESOTA
HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
SERVICES PROGRAM

1360 Energy Park Drive, Suite 220
St. Paul, MN 55108
651-642-0487 | 651-797-1380 (Fax)
mn.gov/boards/hpsp

PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, November 10, 2026
Location: Virtual and In-Person at 335 Randolph in Big Stone Conference Room
Time: 10:00 AM CST

I. **Meeting called to begin at 10:00AM by Chair Mary Noble**

II. **Introductions:**

Board	Name	In Attendance?
Behavioral Health and Therapy	Bharati Acharya	Present
Chiropractic Examiners	Mary Noble	Present
Dentistry	Samuel Ankrah	Present
Dept of Health	Robert Dehler/Daphne Ponds/Debbie Thao	-
Dietetics & Nutrition	Susan Estes	Ruth Grendahl, ED
Long Term Services & Supports	Deb Stock	Present
Marriage & Family Therapy	Jennifer Mohlenhoff	Present
Medical Practice	Averi M. Turner	-
Nursing	Tracy Sonterre-Rieger	Kate Reimers
Occupational Therapy	Christine Hoepner	Present
Office of Emergency Medical Services	Amber Lage	Tanya Armstrong and Pattie Forsberg, OEMS staff
Optometry	Britt Heglund	-
Pharmacy	Ben Maisenbach	Present
Physical Therapy	Allen Rasmussen	Present
Podiatry	Cyndee Fields	-
Psychology	Michael Thompson	Present
Social Work	Linda Gustafson	Present
Veterinary Medicine	Jody Grote	-

Other Attendees: Kim Navarre (HPSP – Director), Kerry Gibbons (HPSP – Office Manager), Tracy Erfourth (HPSP – Case Manager), Nicky Williams (HPSP – Case Manager), Johanna Gangl (HPSP – Case Manager),

1360 Energy Park Drive, Suite 220
St. Paul, MN 55108
651-642-0487 | 651-797-1380 (Fax)
mn.gov/boards/hpsp

Pang Yang (HPSP – Case Manager), Valare Falkner (ED Board of Dentistry), Samuel Sands (ED Board of Psychology).

III. **Review: Minutes from meeting (Chair) –** Motion to approve minutes by **Allen Rasmussen.** Seconded by **Linda Gustafson.**

IV. **Review: Proposed agenda (Chair) –** Motion to approve agenda **by Ruth Grendahl.** Seconded by **Allen Rasmussen.**

V. **Public comments (Chair) – None**

VI. **HPSP Annual Report (Kim Navarre, Program Director)**
See Full PowerPoint here (https://mn.gov/boards/assets/FY26%20Report%20Presentation_tcm21-774155.pptx)
See Full Written Report here (https://mn.gov/boards/assets/FY26%20REPORT_tcm21-773377.pdf)

Executive Summary –

The Health Professionals Services Program (HPSP) continued to demonstrate growth, stability, and effectiveness during Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26). The program maintained a 10-member team, implemented several technology enhancements, and continued to support healthcare professionals through monitoring, case management, and recovery-focused services. Nearly 80% of participants now utilize the participant portal, improving communication and operational efficiency.

Program activity increased throughout FY26, with referrals rising across several professions and geographic regions. Third-party referrals increased, particularly from supervisors and colleagues, reflecting continued awareness of and confidence in the program. Enrollment remained strong among professions with the largest regulated populations, including nursing, medical practice, social work, and behavioral health disciplines.

HPSP continued to provide monitoring and support for participants with substance use disorders, mental health conditions, and other health-related concerns. Data showed growing recognition of co-occurring medical conditions, reinforcing the importance of a comprehensive approach to participant well-being and public protection.

The program discharged 562 participants during FY26, exceeding the previous year by 52 discharges. Approximately 60% of participants successfully completed their agreements, indicating strong outcomes while maintaining accountability standards. Participant survey feedback showed improved engagement, with response rates doubling from FY25 and providing valuable insight into participant experiences and opportunities for program improvement.

Financially, HPSP experienced increased operating expenditures as program demands continued to grow. In response, leadership developed a biennial budget proposal that includes additional staffing resources to address increasing caseloads, enhance participant support, and strengthen the program's public protection mission.

1360 Energy Park Drive, Suite 220
St. Paul, MN 55108
651-642-0487 | 651-797-1380 (Fax)
mn.gov/boards/hpsp

Looking ahead, FY27 priorities include expanding staff capacity, improving transparency and participant resources, strengthening committee operations, enhancing training opportunities, and ensuring the program remains responsive to the evolving needs of Minnesota's regulated health professionals and licensing boards.

VII. **New Chair and Vice Chair for February 2027**

I. **Linda Gustafson** was nominated by **Bharati Acharya**. **Linda Gustafson** declined nomination and nominated **Jody Grote**. **Jody Grote** voted for Vice Chair.

II. **Mary Noble** was nominated by **Bharati Acharya. Mary Noble** voted in for Chair.

VIII. **Adjourn: Chair, Mary Noble,** at **11:00AM.** Motion to adjourn approved by **Allen Rasmussen**, seconded by **Michael Thompson.**

Next Meetings:

February 09, 2027

PLEASE RSVP - Please call Kim 612-548-3126 or email her at kimberly.navarre@state.mn.us to verify whether you will need an accommodation to fully participate in the meeting.

May 11, 2027
August 10, 2027 (TBD with elections)
November 09, 2027(TBD with elections)