

Request for Board Action Details

File #: 2021-622

Type: Administrative Item **Status:** Passed

In control: Board of Commissioners

On agenda: 11/16/2021 **Final action:** 11/16/2021

Title: Name Change of the Chemical Health Committee

Sponsors: Social Services

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: 1. Resolution

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
11/16/2021	1	Board of Commissioners	approved	Pass

Sponsor: Social Services

Title
Name Change of the Chemical Health Committee

Recommendation

Approve the name change of the Citizens Advisory Committee - Chemical Health Committee to Substance Use and Recovery Committee

Background and Rationale

For six months, the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Chemical Health Committee has engaged in name change conversations because the term “chemical health” is outdated and not seen as a strength-based name. Furthermore, chemical health can be a broad term that does not define the committee’s focus. As one of our residents described it, “referring to ‘recovery’ reflects a sense of a new well-being, hope, work yet to do, and a lifelong effort toward healing from a disease as well as all the wrap around considerations.”

The committee has therefore decided to change its name from Chemical Health Committee to Substance Use and Recovery Committee.

According to Section 2 of the Citizen Advisory Council Bylaws, a committee name change must be approved by the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners. A motion to accept the name change of the committee from “Chemical Health Committee” to Substance Use and Recovery Committee was passed unanimously by the Chemical Health Committee members on September 15, 2021.

County Goals (Check those advanced by Action)

Well-being Prosperity Opportunity Accountability

Racial Equity Impact

Although the name change does not inheritably promote racial equity, it does promote a more holistic view to substance use and the recovery community, which is often viewed with a negative lens. Furthermore, those most negatively affected in this community are those of color, predominately Black community members who

have been targeted and imprisoned by the so called "war on drugs" while Whites face more lenient sentencing and aids.

The Chemical Health Committee understands these complexities and continues to recruit residents from various communities, engage with diverse residents, and see opportunities where Social Services can better serve the Black and Brown communities.

Community Participation Level and Impact

Click or tap here to enter text.

Inform Consult Involve Collaborate Empower

Fiscal Impact

The name change will have no fiscal impact on the committee or Social Services. Funding for flyers or any other advertising media for the committee is available in the Social Services budget.

County Manager Comments

No additional comments.

Last Previous Action

None.

Attachments

1. None.