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\*\*\* MEETING MINUTES \*\*\*

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*Minutes of the April 27, 2026, Virtual Program Committee Meeting*

Trustee	Web meeting
Rob Poirier, Chair	Absent
Marcia Hayes-Harris	Zoom
Julia López	Zoom
Evanna Burkett	Absent

**Others Attending:**

Cassandra Kaufman, Executive Director  
 Serena Muhammad, Deputy Director  
 Alicia Lee, Executive Assistant

**Welcome and Call to Order** – The meeting of the MHB Program Committee was called to order at 11:08 a.m. by Deputy Director Serena Muhammad.

**Approval of February 23, 2026, Meeting Minutes** – Marcia Hayes-Harris moved, and Julia Lopez seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 23, 2026. The motion passed.

**Discussion on setting funding caps (length of funding commitments, amount of funding per project)** – Deputy Director Serena Muhammad opened the discussion asking Trustees their opinions on funding limits or caps per project. The Trustees mentioned possibly taking the funding caps on a case-by-case basis. There was concern that organizations can become stagnant and that MHB needs to add stipulations when returning applicants reapply. This would allow them to show their growth and explain challenges they overcame.

**Overview of recommendations on how to support a local behavioral health care team** – MHB worked with Alana C. Green, Founder and Principal of Community Development Matters, to establish a framework for a behavioral health care team. This framework identifies five pillars that establish a clear structure for behavioral health readiness and activation in St. Louis. Each pillar addresses a fundamental question. Together, they move behavioral health from an informal, relationship-based response to a defined, predictable system embedded within the existing emergency structure.

**Preview of Committee Agenda items for upcoming meetings** – Deputy Director Serena Muhammad gave a preview of tentative upcoming topics for the Program Committee including the Community Building Fund, Systems Change Implementation Plan Review, and Early Childhood Fund.

**Other Business** – There was no other business to discuss.

**Adjourn** – There being no other business before the committee, Julia Lopez made a motion to adjourn and Marcia Hayes-Harris seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. The meeting of the Program Committee adjourned at 11:55 a.m.