

**State Advisory Committee on Mental Health Services**  
**November 6, 2007 – 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.**  
**Country Inn & Suites – 5353 No. 27<sup>th</sup> St. Lincoln, NE**  
**MINUTES**

**Committee Members Present:**

Adria Bace, Beth Baxter, Pat Compton, Cheryl Crouse, Dwain Fowler, Joleine Hall, Clint Hawkins, Nancy Kratky, Susan Krome, Kathy Lewis, Frank Lloyd, Colleen Manthei, Jerry McCallum, Ron Sorensen, Pat Talbott

**Committee Members Absent:**

Jimmy Burke, Bev Ferguson, Chris Hanus, Scot Ford, Mary Wells

**DHHS Staff Present:**

Sue Adams, Alexandra Castillo, Renee Faber, Jim Harvey, Joel McCleary, Dan Powers, Lee Tyson, Scot Adams, Vicki Maca,

**Guests Present:**

Alan Green, J. Rock Johnson, Shinobu W. Galloway, Julie Hippen, Ingrid Gansebom, Chaplin David Smith

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Nancy Kratky, Vice Chairperson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roll call of members determined a quorum was met. **11 Members** of the 20 appointed members were present at the beginning of the meeting. Each member introduced themselves and gave a brief statement about themselves.

**II. APPROVAL of AUGUST 7, 2007 MINUTES**

Correction to the minutes was requested. Under the Mental Health Block Grant the words “page by page” should be changed to “section by section.”

√ Motion was made by Jo Hall and seconded by Kathy Lewis to approve the August 7, 2007 minutes with corrections as requested. Voice vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

√ Motion was made by Beth Baxter and seconded by Susan Krome to approve the November 6, 2007 agenda as submitted. Voice vote was in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**IV. MENTAL HEALTH BLOCK GRANT BUSINESS**

**FY 2008 Application Review – Jim Harvey**

Jim Harvey informed the committee that the review of the Block Grant on October 17, 2007 was approved/accepted as submitted without a request for modification.

**Mental Health Block Grant Implementation Report Review**

Jim Harvey reviewed Report with the committee. The Draft Implementation Report was mail to the Committee a week in advance of the meeting.

Shinobu Watanabe-Galloway from the University of Nebraska Medical Center reviewed the Uniform Reporting System (URS) Tables. She mentioned the presentation is the results of the analysts using the FY2007 data and explained the complexity of the data and program issues.

NOTE: The Nebraska Application and Implementation Report for the Federal Community Mental Health Services Block Grant are posted on the WEB: WEBBGAS portal Website is available to view the Block grant. <https://bgas.samhsa.gov/cmhs2008/> using the following: for Username (NE\_Council Member) and Password (Lincoln%496) The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Web site at: <http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/beh/mh/mh.htm>

Recorded comments by Committee Members:

- The URS tables are not impressive but the URS tables are a federal requirement.
- Why were Rural Equity Funds decreased? It was a Community Mental Health Block Grant cut. It had been a support fund in place to help serve Rural Areas.
- MH Block Grant covers only a part of the cost. The Committee requests the Division develop a pie chart to include the other “funding sources” and the percentage of each. The Nebraska MH System includes: Medicaid, County Funds, State General Funds, Federal MH Block, Cash/Tobacco, other.
- “Family and Cultural Competency” percentages are low – what’s the Division plan to correct this?
- Does the Division compare this data with where we were last year? Suggested that data collection needs to be decided on a few specific indicators.
- For Nebraska to be in the Top Five States, what needs to be done and what do the Top 5 states do?
- Region 3 does a small research type survey regarding 1) consumers access to medication 2) living independently 3) if consumers have the potential to work.
- Recovery is measured by if you can work or not.
- Access to Meds with Kids. Early intervention for children is needed, but early intervention includes medication and some are over medicated. Access to therapy is needed.
- “Consumer & Family” involvement is still not happening.

### **Children’s Service Administrator**

Scot Adams, Director of Behavioral Health introduced Vicki Maca, Behavioral Health’s Children’s Service Administrator.

Ms. Maca previously worked at Catholic Charities and Project Harmony in Omaha. She has experience working with mental health, addictions and directly, with children. She is very excited to be a part of the policies and hope her influence will help the decisions made that impact children.

### **DHHS - Division of Children and Family Services**

Todd Landry, Director of DHHS Children and Family Services. He previously was the CEO of Lutheran Family Services in Omaha. He reviewed the new DHHS structure of six Divisions and specifically The Division of Children and Family Services. He pointed out the services under Children and Family Services, such as; Protection and Safety, Office of Juvenile Services, Economic and Family Support, and Services. Children and Family Services, Medicaid and Behavioral Health will be working together to provide services needed. **Item #3**

## **V. BH DIVISION REPORTS**

### **Military Report**

Renee Faber, Behavioral Health Program Specialist and a National Guard member introduced LTC, Chaplain David Smith.

Renee explained the three main contributors providing assistance to our Veterans are: The US Department of Veteran Affairs, The Nebraska National Guard and The Department of Health and Human Services. We are working together in collaboration to provide services and support to our returning veterans and their family through a seamless transition of care.

Chaplin Smith explained that in terms of the War Veterans, he and Dr. Ahsan Naseem, VA Director of the PTSD Clinic in Lincoln are working statewide with returning soldiers and their families. Informational handouts were distributed giving information on services and resources offered in the 6 Regions. Information can also be accessed via the State website at <http://www.ptsd.ne.gov/ptsd-services.html> **Item # 4**

### **Response to Committee Recommendation**

Ron Sorensen gave a brief review of the written response to Committee recommendations. The list of recommendations and the responses are attached. **Item # 5**

### **Consumer Affairs Activity Report**

Joel McCleary mentioned he is involved in attending many meetings and briefly reviewed the list of activities and types of items that are involved/handled in the Office of Consumer Affairs for the months of August through October, 2007. **Item # 6**

### **Consumer Conferences (NAMI & Aurora)**

Dan Powers stated two consumers attended the San Diego NAMI Convention. They submitted written reports on the Convention and the reports were distributed to the committee members. The 14<sup>th</sup> annual Consumer Conference was attended by 69 consumers that have never attended a conference before. Larry Frick and Gale Bluebird were the main speakers. A summary of the conference was distributed. **Item # 7 & # 8**

## **VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Region 4 BH Authority**

Ingrid Gansebom briefly reviewed the services offered in Region 4 and distributed informational materials to the Committee Members. **Item # 9**

### **Children's MH/SA State Infrastructure Grant Report**

Beth Baxter distributed a summary of "Key Components of the Nebraska Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Substance Abuse State Infrastructure Grant." She reviewed the material with the committee and distributed the goals of the State Infrastructure Grant Steering Committee. The SIG process is a 5 year Federal Grant and there is 2 more years to finalize the recommendation process. The SIG work is connected to LB542 task force. **Item # 10**

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **Peer Provider Ad Hoc Committee**

Lee Tyson stated they are currently in the process in developing some subcommittees on Marketing, Information Gathering, Recovery Education, and planning the Annual Consumer Conference. The plan is to travel statewide and talk to consumers on what they want and what would meet their needs. Also talk with Providers about services and what they feel is needed. Peer Support has been identified in Regions and information will be gathered on what is working. Recommendations regarding Peer Support training will be addressed.

## **Governing Board Development Report**

Jerry McCallum is the Governing Board representative on the Committee. He briefly explained some of the functions of the Regional Governing Boards. Jerry was elected as Madison County Commissioner in 1999.

### **VIII. Public Comment**

#### **Alan Green.**

- Submitted a copy of his letter included in the MH Grant Application and a MHA letter to Senator Joel Johnson. **Item # 11**

#### **J. Rock Johnson**

- Public access to the WEBBGAS portal Website was good but suggests the website address be listed on the DHHS website.
- Invite the Chief Clinical Officer from Behavioral Health to address the research that mentally ill individuals are dying on the average of 25 years earlier than the general population and also report on the statewide EPC road show.
- She mentioned she did not see consumer involvement in the implementation report. Jim replied it was not required to be included.
- She mentioned she didn't see Day Support, which includes Peer Specialists in the service definitions.
- There is no statewide grievance process and something needs to be done.
- Asks that this Advisory Committee recommend the Division to request Governor Heineman for a resolution to rehire the six previous positions.
- She has a personal concern of the Consumer Conference being always "Conference 101."

### **IX. Mental Health Advisory Committee Recommendations to BH Division**

To recommend to the Behavioral Health Division at the request of the State Mental Health Advisory Committee to request Governor Heineman a resolution that the personnel vacancies existing prior to the adoption of LB296 or at least the six positions with expertise and specialized knowledge in areas of transformation and recovery of severe mental illnesses be hired.

√ Motion was made by Cheryl Crouse and seconded by Pat Talbott for a subcommittee (not to include DHHS staff) to fine tune the wording and get the letter sent. Roll call vote was taken, the following voted yes; Adria Bace, Beth Baxter, Pat Comptom, Cheryl Crouse, Dwaine Fowler, Joline Hall, Clint Hawkins, Nancy Kratky, Susan Krome, Frank Lloyd, Cody Manthei, Jerry McCallum and Pat Talbott. No negative votes voiced. Motion carried. Frank and Pat Talbott volunteered to work on the wording of the letter. Final Letter see **Item # 12**

Committee requested a current status report on medical disorders experienced by individuals with serious mental illness. The Division is aware of the problem and is now collecting and analyzing the Nebraska Data.

Committee requested a report regarding Tele-Medicine to address Mental Health. It is a critical aspect of the Behavioral Health workforce and the Infrastructure issues are being addressed by the DHHS Office of Rural Health.

### **X. Other Agenda Items**

- Pie Chart of funds used by Nebraska MH System
- Division's Response to LB542 recommendations
- Legislative bills – Scot Adams, Ron Sorensen & Bryson Bartels
- Region 2 BH report
- Division recommendation to increase consumer survey's low scores
- SIG Report – Beth Baxter
- Medical Advisory Meeting (under Medicaid) Mary Wells

**Plus**

- ◆ Committee members work well together
- ◆ Minutes are good review of the meeting

**Delta**

- ◆ Need morning & afternoon breaks
- ◆ Would like to have cookies in the afternoon

**XI. Next Meeting & Adjournment**

The next meeting date is Tuesday, February 5, 2008 at Country Inn and Suites.

√ Motion was made by Jo Hall and seconded by Pat Talbott to adjourn the meeting  
Vote was unanimous in favor of adjourning the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Prepared by: Alexandra Castillo, Staff Assistant

Approved by \_\_\_\_\_  
Quality Improvement Coordinator  
Division of Behavioral Health Services

Date 1/18/08