

**State Advisory Committee on Mental Health Services**  
**May 9, 2006 – 9 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.**  
**WICK Alumini – 1520 R Street, Lincoln, NE**  
**MINUTES**

**Committee Members Present:**

Adria Bace, Allen Bartels, Beth Baxter, Cec Brady, Jimmy Burke, James Deaver, Scot Ford, Dwain Fowler, Bev Ferguson, Chris Hanus, Clint Hawkins, Pat Compton, Nancy Kratky, Kathy Lewis, Frank Lloyd, Maria Prendes-Lintel, Darlene Richards, Ron Sorensen, Mary Wells

**Committee Members Absent:**

Richard Ellis, Susan Krome, Wesley Legan

**HHS Staff Present:**

Alexandra Castillo, Jim Harvey, Joel McCleary, Dan Powers, Kathleen Samuelson, Lee Tyson,

**Guests Present:**

Eve Blythe, Melia Cooke, Alan Green, J Rock Johnson

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Allen Bartels, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roll call of members determined that a quorum was met with **16 Members** present at the beginning of the meeting.

**II. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 7, 2006 MINUTES**

Allen asked for any additions or corrections to the February 7, 2006 meeting minutes. Correction needs to be made on page 2 under the section BH Division Reports – NAMI, the last sentence needs to read “NAMI is putting on a conference, July 2006 in Lincoln”.

**Motion:** James Deaver

**To approve the February 7, 2006 with correction listed above.**

**Second:** Scot Ford

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously by consensus and minutes were approved.

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Allen asked for any additions or corrections to the agenda. Ron Sorensen asked to have the order of the Agenda to be shifted to enable him to present the Division report. Mr. Sorensen was required to be at a meeting at 11 am. Division staff will present a summarize report at the original assigned order for the benefit of members and public that were not present at the beginning of the meeting.

**Motion:** Bev Ferguson

**To approve the agenda with the adjustment in scheduled presentations.**

**Second:** James Deaver

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously by consensus.

**IV. BH DIVISION REPORT**

- State Strategic Planning Initiative – Ron Sorensen  
Committee members received the handout  
“Behavioral Health Strategic Planning Process Design Work Group”  
Ron briefly explained the planning for HHS-Behavioral Health in the past has done planning through the regions (services planning and identification of budgets). LB1083 expanded that responsibility to have a statewide

comprehensive plan that will include other services from children services to Medicaid services. We started the planning process and the strategic plan should be done within a year. The first step was to bring a small group together to design the process. They will identify the stakeholders, identify how to reach the stakeholders, and identify where to go to collect input. (Attachment A)

## V. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

### **“Strategic Planning” TA sponsored by National Association of Mental Health Planning and Advisory Councils - John Hodgens & Judy Stange**

John Hodgen from the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and Judy Stange with The National Advisory Committee aided the committee members with a brainstorming session to aid in deciding and selecting what data to request and is needed to drive the planning council. Discussion included; what needs to change for the process to work, the Role of the advisory committee, getting information from other state advisory committees, wanting a method to evaluate themselves as a committee. Judy noted the comments. (Attachment B)

Chairperson, Allen Bartels briefly summarized the two main comments that the committee needs to focus on is setting one big goal and the power of the group to work collectively.

### **BH Division Reports Continued**

- **LB994 – Elimination of BH Council – Allen Bartels**  
Allen briefly explained that the BH Council was governed by legislature and has been eliminated. The actual recommendation to eliminate the council came from the council it self. Most of the past meeting related to the struggle of what the role and structure of the committees and the council did not feel it was beneficial to continue. ( Attachment C)
- **Tribal MH Services Report – Kathleen**  
Kathy is the contract officer for the Tribes. Mental health/substance abuse services and funding sheets were distributed to committee members. (Attachment D)  
Every year when the six regions received an increase the Tribes also receive an increase in funds. Tribes also receive IHS funding and get funding from the SICA Prevention Grant.
- **Office of Consumer Affairs Administrator, Joel McCleary**  
Joel distributed a copy of “National Consensus Statement on Mental Health Recovery” ( Attachment E) The pamphlet is what the Office of Consumer Affairs is going to be all about. It’s about giving people the opportunity to be responsible for the components of their own recovery. These are the major issues to be used to develop processes. Joel is helping with complaints that come in from Regions and working with the consumer liaisons. The consumer conference will be held in September in Aurora Nebraska. He asked the committee if they are a member of an organization where there are limited numbers of consumer, please let him know and he will see if he can help get more consumer involvement.
- **2006 MH Consumer Conference Report – Dan Powers**  
The Thirteen Annual Consumer Conference is set for September 19-21 in Aurora Nebraska. The speakers are: Karen Kangas, long time consumer and strong advocate is from the Office of Consumer Affairs in Connecticut, Lenora Kimball is with Stepping Stone ins New Hampshire and works primary with Peer Services, Joel McCleary is our third speaker.  
The BH budget is able to pay for 80 consumers to participate. Eve Blythe from NAMI-Nebraska secured a grant and will be covering the cost for 25 consumers to attend for a total of 105. Last year Alan Green from MHA funded 20 consumers to attend. Darlene Richards is actively working at obtaining prize donations for the conference.
- **State Supported Employment initiative – Jim Harvey**  
To accomplish implementation of Supported employment statewide in all regions, a meeting is set for September 28 in Lincoln, the title of the meeting is “Supported Employment Services Definition Input Meeting”. The service definition on the evidence based practice of supported employment

needs input from a wide variety of stakeholders. The goal is to have a final service definition to Ron Sorenson, BH Administrator by December 2006.

- **BH Services for NE National Guard – Jim Harvey**

The Division of BH was approached September 2005 regarding the needs of the Nebraska National Guard members deployed overseas to Iraq and Afghanistan. The Division of BH met with the 6 Regional Program Administrators in March and the regions have received the proper contact information. The plan is for signed cooperative agreement between NHHS, Nebraska National Guard and the US Dept. of Veteran Affairs – Omaha office.

- **NAMI Nebraska – Eve Bleyhl**

NAMI's mission is education, advocacy and support for anyone whose life has been impacted by mental illness which includes consumers, and family members. NAMI provides services statewide. NAMI has support programs and community based education that can be used by many. The NAMI programs "Hope for Support group" and Visions for Tomorrow in Region 3 have increased the ability to serve MH consumers and family members in the most rural areas. NAMI's education and support groups have augmented formal services. It's an excellent way to increase access to services. (Attachment F)

- **MHA Report – Alan Green**

MHA is a consumer run organization. Board members are either consumers or family members. (Attachment G). Their motto is "Nothing about us without us". Their ultimate goal is to have consumer involvement at all levels of planning, delivery and implementation. Individuals that are directly affected are brought in the front door.

## VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Election of Officers**

After discussion and a review of the By-Laws, the Chair clarified a motion to re-open nominations would be accepted.

**Motion:** Dwain Fowler

**To re-open the nomination process for the election of officers.**

**Second:** Jimmy Burke

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously by consensus.

**Nomination:** Jimmy Burke

**Nancy Kratky for Secretary.**

**Second:** Beth Baxter

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously by consensus

**Nomination:** Darlene Richards

**Bev Ferguson for Vice Chair.**

**Second:** Clint Hawkins

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously by consensus

**Nomination:** Beth Baxter

**Bev Ferguson for Vice Chair.**

**Second:** Nancy Kratky  
**Discussion:** None  
**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously by consensus

**Motion:** Scot Ford

**To close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot in favor of the slate of officers as proposed.**

**Second:** Jim Deaver  
**Discussion:** Clarification is this is a combination motion and vote.  
Allen Bartel will serve as Chair for the next year, Bev Ferguson for Vice Chair and Nancy Kratky for Secretary  
**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously by consensus.

- **Cultural Competency Proposal Update – Jim Harvey**

Several years ago during the review of the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant application, cultural competency was tagged as a GAP. It was strongly suggested that the GAP issue be addressed seriously. In February 2006 Maria Prendes-Lintel presented a training proposal to the committee. The committee reviewed and discussed the proposal. The cost of the training was a big issue. As recommended by the committee, a small group within HHSS system met to review the proposal and address the details, including funding. The small group consists of; Ray Drake- Office of Minority Health, John McVay- BHS, Robert Contreras-HHS Director's Office, Christina Staud-Refugees Immigration Issues, Jackie Miller-Regulation and Standards and Jim Harvey-BHS.

**Results:**

The Division of BHS will strongly encourage the community based providers thru the six Regional Program Administrators to use a certain web site called "Think Cultural Care.org" The web site provides training to health care providers on cultural competence services. The intent is to help the providers find the issues and identify strategies on how the strategies influence clinical care and to have each region self identify areas needing improvement based on working thru this web site.

Committee needs to be informed more about HHSS plans to address executive order #13-166 (unlimited English proficiency executive order coming out of the office of the President) Jackie Miller reported HHS is preparing a document titled "Limited English Proficiency Language Assistance Implementation Planning Guidance". This is an internal working draft.

Division of BH to ask the six Regional Program Administrators to report their findings of the self identified areas of needing improvement and that summary report would be forwarded to the Office of Minority Health.

The Office of Minority Health would develop a curriculum to address cultural competency issues as reported by the six regions as the areas needing help. Curriculum will be designed for internal HHS use as well as external for contract providers.

- **Mission, Vision, Values – Next Steps - Allen Bartels**

The discussion of issues with Judy Stange hit the goal we were working towards. Now the focus is selecting a few potential Mental Health goals.

MH Committee GOALS

- tie into data state collects – once a year report on the date relative to goals
- increased employment
- peer operated support services
- access to care
- Notes – Dept of ED. has data on youth w/Behavioral Disorder– their drop out rate
- Data Collection

- Access to Services
- Process
- Sub committees to flesh out the details
- Use the National Outcome measures as a way to organize
- Supported employment at state level
- Sub Committee to look at goal areas for MH committee – report at next committee meeting (volunteers are Frank Lloyd, Mary Wells, Beth Baxter & Maria Prendes-Lintel)
- Showing that symptom reductions are occurring?
- Use data that state normally collects. Get a report once a year on that data to determine if goals are being achieved.
- To have one big goal. To look at subject items that relate to the big goal and not look at many separate activities.
- Peer operated support services support
- access to care
- develop the capacity to measure
- use the National outcome measures
- to have a subcommittee to flush out details related to goals and to bring back recommendation to committee.

**Motion:** Frank Lloyd

**To form a sub-committee to look at goal areas that the committee wants to adopt and monitor over a long period of time and have the subcommittee bring the recommendations to the full group at the next meeting.**

**Second:** Scot Ford

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously by consensus.  
(Frank Lloyd, Beth Baxter, Maria Prendes-Lintel & Mary Wells volunteered)

## **VI NEW BUSINESS**

### **• CMHS Site Visit – July 2006 - Jim Harvey**

The Mental Health Representatives will be doing a monitoring review and will be meeting with this committee. Volunteers will meet on Wednesday, July 26, 2006 in the afternoon at the Nebraska State Office Building. Tele-Conference possibilities will be arranged if the monitoring team agrees. Jim asked the Executive Committee members: Allen Bartels, Bev Ferguson, Nancy Kratky, to be present. However every member is invited and welcomed to participate. It is very important for this committee to tell the federal site visitors how you feel BH is doing.

### **• FY06 MH Block Grant Allocation**

In March 2006 the Division received official notification that the block grant allocation was cut by \$50, 871 which is 2.4 percent reduction. (Attachment H)) The Division was required to submit a report by March 31, 2006 of modifications to funds of the FY 2006 mental health block grant and was required to include a statement from the Committee indicating that the committee was given the opportunity to review the modifications. Based on the deadline the division's modifications were presented to Allen Bartels as the chair of this committee with the agreement that this would be presented to the committee at this meeting. Jim explained that the areas chosen were because no funds had been allocated at the time of the cut. The goal was not to cut any services if possible. The committee was asked for their opinion of how the Division handled the modifications.

Committee comments:

- Not fair to cuts the rural services equity funds when people in the rural areas have to drive a 100 miles to access their medications.
- If the funds are reinstated, they should be restored to the Rural Service Equity funds.
- Why were funds not allocated to the Rural Service Equity Funds in the first place?  
Response: Those funds would have been used later.

**Motion:** Beth Baxter

**Recommend that when the Division gets the official guidance letter outlining the transformation requirements that the Division seek input from the Regions, NAMI, MHA and this committee.**

**Second:** Adria Bace  
**Discussion:** None  
**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously by consensus.

Allen explain that the meeting was set to end at 2 pm but asked for permissions to continue to complete the agenda.

**Motion:** Clint Hawkins

**To continue with the meeting pass 2 pm to cover agenda items.**

**Second:** Jimmy Burke  
**Discussion:** None  
**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously by consensus.

● **By-Laws Revisions**

Allen mention that the current By-Laws make reference to the BH Council which now has been eliminated. This is a good opportunity to review the By-Laws. The chair suggested that the exec committee review the by-law and bring their recommendation to this committee for the next meeting.

**Motion:** Dwain Fowler

**To have the executive committee which includes, Allen Bartels, Bev Ferguson and Nancy to review the By-Laws for possible changes and report their suggestions at the next committee meeting. Motion:**

**Second:** Darlene Richards  
**Discussion:** None  
**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously by consensus.

● **Next meetings.**

The Division has asked the meeting be changed to Friday, August 4, 2006. The time will be the same at 9 am and will be held at the Holiday Inn-downtown. Division also asked that all three committee continue to meet on the same day.

● **MH Committee Recommendations to BH Division**

MH Committee be represented on this committee  
\* Children's MH/SA SIG Steering Committee  
\* Medicaid – with a Memorandum of Understanding

Supported Employment  
\*Summary at the state level from the Regions of what's going on each region.

Committee to receive reports from each BH Region.

Cultural Competency  
\*Committee to receive Cultural Competency report on progress being made. What is being discussed and how is it being addressed

MH Committee wants flexibility on setting committee meeting dates. NOT needed to have meeting on same day, time or location as other committees.

Beth recommended that when Jim Harvey gets the letter outlining the transformation requirements that he would seek input from the Regions. To mold the requirements into what is happening in the Regions maybe reduce the potential cutting funds.

**Motion:** Dwain Fowler

**To add to the agenda a clarification of how the MH Block Grant is prepared, gets processed and the manner in which the committee gets and gives input into the block grant application.**

**Second:** Jimmy Burke

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously by consensus.

## VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Allen Green, MHA Rep. – mentioned he had concerns but they have been addressed and answered through out the meeting. He wanted to clarify Jimmy Burke’s concern regarding the MH Block Grant. Based on the training conducted in January by Judy Stange, concerns were voiced by members of this committee that they are given the application and are asked for approval. They stated there was no opportunity to give input in the development of the grant. Through that discussion, Judy recommended that it would not be a unique thing for Nebraska to have an Ad hoc committee set up for the sole purpose of working with the Division in the development of the application itself. Thus giving input into the process as opposed to the finished document. Election process was a concern but that the By-Laws are set to be reviewed so that should be addressed.

J. Rock Johnson

- What is exactly the budget for the Block Grant? Response; The MH Block Grant funds budget is in each application. The application is posted on the Division’s Web site. The final application from last year is the first draft for next year’s application.

- Where does money go when the Regions get it? Response; The implementation report lists a chart by region, the services that are actually funded and the actual dollar amounts. The chart is prepared using data reported by the six Regions referred to as “Actuals”. The Division receives the Actuals data in September of each year.

- Where does the 5% administrative set-a-side go? Response; the administrative set-a-side is used for Consumer orientated services basically for 15 years it’s been funding consumer liaison positions and the consumer conference.

-What is the specific break down of where the money goes? Response; In the Grant application there is a general description of fund allocation.

- What data systems are relevant and used for the Block Grant? Response; there are 2 basic data systems used to prepare the MH Block Grant. 1) the Magellan Behavioral Health systems captures the data at the time of admission & discharge 2) Regional Center data, AVATAR at LRC and AIMS at HRC/NRC are combined to report to the uniform tables.

- Suggests the Committee to review the By-Laws.

- Suggests the committee review the Supported Employment definition.

## IX. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Region report – outline of what information we want from the regions. small task group is; Nancy Kratky, Beth Baxter & Adria Bace
- Committee wants flexibility in meeting – date place and time
- Big Goals to be set (to aid in setting goals) Frank Lloyd will meet with Mary Wells & Beth Baxter and Jim to determine data needed and available to measure the goals.
- By-Laws revisions

- MH Block Grant process & funds allocation

**X. ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

**2006 MEETING DATES:**

Next Meeting date is Friday, August 4, 2006, 9 am to 2 pm at the Holiday Inn - Downtown.

Prepared by:

Alexandra Castillo

Staff Assistant I

Division of Behavioral Health Services

July 24, 2006.

Approved by Jim Harvey  
Quality Improvement Coordinator  
Division of Behavioral Health Services

Date July 24, 2006