

Nebraska Division of Behavioral Health

OCA People's Council

May 21, 2012 / 9:00am-11:00m

Cornhusker Hotel Arbor Room II

Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

Members Present: Kim Carpenter, Tammy Fiala, Lori Hack, Susan Hancock, Paige Hruza, Jennifer Ihle, Candy Kennedy-Geugene, Judie Moorehouse, Mary Thunker, Ken Timmerman, Patricia Vasquez, Carol Coussons de Reyes, Administrator of the OCA, Dan Powers, OCA Consumer Liaison

Members of the Public: Jim

Welcome/Agenda/ Approve Minutes:

It was noted there was no mention of the discussion on attendance in the minutes. The council reviewed what had been decided upon at the March 15, 2012 meeting and the determination was that a total of two unexcused absences could be missed by any member in one twelve month period. Each region has one Consumer Specialist vote and the other members are appointed by the Director of Behavioral Health. The meeting dates have been published and so really cannot be changed for this year. The next meeting is July 19, 2012 in the Shorr Suite at the Great Plains Art Museum – same as it was in March 2012.

Mary Thunker motioned and Lori Hack seconded a motion to approve the minutes as amended. All present voiced “aye” except Susan Hancock and Ken Timmerman who were not present at the March meeting. Motion carried.

Election of Chair Person:

Carol Coussons de Reyes described the duties of the chair as being in charge of developing the meeting agenda's with the OCA, taking charge of motions, and maybe writing occasional letters on behalf of the council. Nominations for the chairmanship were taken from the floor. Judie Moorehouse, Patricia Vasquez, and Kim Carpenter were nominations made. Kim Carpenter respectfully declined. Vote by ballot was taken and counted by Ken Timmerman and Jennifer Ihle. Judie Moorehouse became the elected chairperson.

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Update on Education Project:

Carol said that the OCA was charged with coming up with education materials on community resources for people to enhance their daily living. The OCA would like to be able to go to all of the pilot sites, in Regions 3, 4, and 6 where the curriculum would be used. The council purpose in the process would be to help pull together resources. The Consumer Specialists should be involved as they are a resource. A map was started with consumers at Town Hall meetings across the state. Those maps are on the Network of Care website. It was mentioned that maybe that website was just what we needed and it just needs to be updated regularly. Tammy Fiala had taken training on the NOC and thought there was a person to validate the usefulness of the website in her region and the map updating can be done as a group.

Statewide Consumer Inclusion: In the NDHHS Division of Behavioral Health strategic plan for 2011 – 2015, page 9, Item #3 under Leadership Initiatives states that a plan must be developed for consumer involvement at all levels. The OCA is responsible for this initiative.

Carol asked the council to define “consumer involvement”.

- Meaningful input and active voice from the beginning of a process

What is Meaningful input?

- More than a rubber stamp
- Affects decisions
- Is consumer driven

What does involvement mean?

- Shared leadership at all levels; system/policy/program/practice
- A voice and a choice

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We need to:

- practice more leadership in the workforce – people who self-identify in all positions
- address diversity – cultural competence
- recognize special population (vets, etc.)
- address barriers to consumer involvement (transportation, etc.); bring involvement to the consumer
- use proper verbiage (some don't know what a "consumer" is, etc.)

System: Define levels

- State
- Regional Authorities
- Universities
- Dept. of Transportation
- Advocacy Groups

Program:

- Provided in the Region – region as a program

Practice:

- Actual work with the consumer
 - Peer support, support groups
 - Nothing about us without us

How do we continue this conversation?

- This Statewide conference (Success, Hopes, Dreams)
- Other advocacy groups
- Regional Consumer Advisory groups
- Learn from other states
- National Office of Consumer Affairs

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Other Thoughts:

- We need an ongoing assessment – accountability plan
- Need a central place for knowledge/distribution
 - OCA Statewide Phone number, List serve
 - Kim Foundation website
- Develop a career ladder
 - Go to the consumer – supported education, change in recruitment

Council Sharing Time: Suggested this come under public comment in future meetings

- Last Stand-alone Detox closing in Region 1 – Judie Moorehouse
- Nami walk in Omaha on June 9th -Mary Thunker
- Peer Center will have 6 to 12 paid peer positions – Jennifer Ihle
- Youth “My Life” event June 9th – contact Lori Hack
- Social Media Seminar @ Lasting Hope – July 26th – ABComputer and Web Snoogie, LLC (Rod Atwater)
- Region 3 “One World Healing” –Tammy Fiala

Close of Meeting.

Minutes Submitted by: Judie Moorehouse, Council Chair