

STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

November 7, 2006 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Country Inn/Suites

5353 North 27th

Lincoln, NE

Committee Members Present: Jerome Barry, Dr. Bhatia, Topher Hansen, Linda Krutz, Dr. Mercer, Brenda Miner, Jane Morgan, Laura Richards, Kathy Seacrest.

Committee Members Absent: Ann Ebsen, Wehnona St. Cyr.

HHS/Behavioral Health Staff Present: Kathleen Samuelson, Laurie Sutter, Bob Bussard, Joel McCleary, Betty Alm.

HHS/Regulations & Licensure Staff Present: Nancy Herdman.

Guests Present: Kate Speck, Ron Namuth, Melva Denholm.

I. WELCOME

Co-Chairperson, Dr. DeLinda Mercer called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

II. ATTENDANCE – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Roll call was taken and a quorum was determined with nine members present.

III. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 8, 2006 MINUTES

MOTION: Kathy Seacrest
To approve the August 8, 2006 minutes.

SECOND: Laura Richards
Discussion: None

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Kathy Seacrest
To approve today's agenda.

SECOND: Topher Hansen
Discussion: None

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

V. BH RESPONSE TO AUGUST 8, 2006 SUBSTANCE ABUSE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS (attached to the August 8, 2006 Minutes)

Recommendation #1 response discussion:

Q: Who is the Division representative to this Committee?

A: Kathleen Samuelson

Handout: MOA No. HHSBH-07-BH/MEDICAID-01 Memorandum of Agreement for Mental Health Rehab Option and Substance Abuse Waiver Services (DRAFT 7-1-06). The Agreement has not been signed.

Discussion:

Q: Any information as to why two-page document has taken so long to get signed?

A: This is a directive of the Legislature in 1995 and LB1083 that Departments merge services.

Q: Should we get clarification before it is signed?

Kathy Samuelson will ask Ron Sorensen for more information on what the issues are which have delayed the signing.

Dr. Bhatia suggested Committee members E-Mail any comments to Betty Alm. Would be helpful prior to the Legislative Session.

Topher mentioned we would like issues from both before it changes HHS restructure and invite Medicaid staff to attend this next Committee meeting.

MOTION: Kathy Seacrest

That Recommendation #1 remains on the Recommendation list. The Committee will review the Memorandum of Agreement prior to the next meeting. Comments are to be E-Mailed to Betty Alm at the Division.

SECOND: Topher Hansen

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Recommendation #2 response discussion:

Discussion: Kathleen Samuelson explained the Division is in the process planning and implementation.

Q: Where is it in the process? Is there a deadline regarding the statute?

A: Kathy Samuelson said this is not formally put together.

MOTION: Dr. Bhatia

To retain Recommendation #2 on the Committee recommendation list and ask for clarification of where we are in the process and the Committee’s role:

- 1)check the statute regarding length of time;
- 2)recommend setting a time limit

SECOND: Jerome Barry

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Recommendation #3 response discussion:

Kathy Samuelson mentioned the Deputy Administrator vacancy would not be filled until after the election. The Division is supportive of filling the position.

MOTION: Kathy Seacrest

The Substance Abuse Committee recommends that the Division Administrator pass along this recommendation that the Deputy Administrator position be filled.

SECOND: Topher Hansen

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Recommendation #4 response discussion:

Comments:

Kathy Seacrest suggested it may be helpful if a time limit for the R&L presentation with specific time on the agenda for R&L.

Would be helpful to ask in advance what information this Committee would like – this would save R&L a lot of time.

Q: Jerome Barry – could help identify the gaps throughout the state – would be good to have data for each region and provide information from the Licensing Board.

Topher Hansen mentioned people that are Provisional or licensed in both alcohol/drug and mental health - need to understand how LMHPs also cross over and the number of licensed people we have distributed throughout the state that do co-occurring services so we know the capacities. The map received at the last Committee meeting was helpful part of the picture.

MOTION: Kathy Seacrest

To send a letter to Kris Chiles (R&L) from this Committee requesting representative from R&L attend the Substance Abuse Committee meeting and provide a report at each meeting.

SECOND:: Dr. Bhatia

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Recommendation #5 response discussion:

Kathy Samuelson explained that Lee Tyson and Ron Sorensen attend weekly meetings with Corrections.

Q: What’s the agenda?

A: Kathy Samuelson explained the financial picture of how the funding follows these people and if the funding is available for those services in the community.

Linda Krutz mentioned Parole Board meetings have been held. A study was done by Thomas White – revamping the system, identifying population.

Parole Board will release to allow lower level offenders to attend programming in the community. This is a great thing to focus on for the behavioral health population and offenders who need attention.

Topher agrees they need to have a paradigm shift – offenders are not getting therapy – these are people who go through pre-release program. Topher said he visits 4-6 times a year and none of the pre-release guys have had treatment – 68% have substance abuse issues; 40-60% have mental health issues.

Linda mentioned this is something to monitor.

Linda said the Department’s focus is to get some resources and services – big shift on both. If it works like it’s suppose to there will be more resources in the community.

Linda encourages reading the Thomas White report.

Linda said the Board is doing shorter paroles – a lot of three-month paroles.

Would like more information from the Division.

MOTION: Dr. Bhatia

Substance Abuse Committee requests an update on the meetings with Corrections and the status of the joint grant and what are the plans?

SECOND: Kathy Seacrest

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Recommendation #6 response discussion:

The Division encourages CEU classes for gender specific treatment – requires change in the regulations. Final draft has been approved by the Board. Nancy Herdman stated gender specific has been included.

Dr. Bhatia mentioned culturally competent counselors. Jerome said in the core courses this is included but needs to be in the CEU classes.

MOTION: Kathy Seacrest
Recommend doing more to explore CEUs and develop classes – gender specific and culturally competent.

SECOND: Dr. Bhatia

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Recommendation #7 response discussion:

Division staff is working on reappointments to the Substance Abuse Committee. The Committee wants to continue representing all regions. Kathy Samuelson said the regional representative information was passed on to the Governor’s Office. The Division hopes to have the announcement from the Governor’s Office by next week.

MOTION: Dr. Bhatia
Request the outcomes of Governor’s appointments.

SECOND: Topher Hansen

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Discussion: At the last meeting agenda, Public Comment was listed two times during the meeting.

MOTION: Topher Hansen
Public comment be allowed until the end of the meeting.

SECOND: Kathy Seacrest

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

BREAK

REPORTS

I. BH Division Updates/Reports

Prevention – Laurie Sutter

“FINAL – APPROVED AS OF 2-21-07”

- The State Cooperative Agreement is entering its last year funding and ends September '07.
- We received notice of \$2.1 million per year for the next five years for a Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant. NePIP is the council that will provide leadership with the Division of Behavioral Health Services administering this. The bulk of the money goes to communities who have completed strategic prevention plans – priority is life span – not just youth. We will use the foundation we have developed. Looking forward to this support to bring the state and communities to higher levels of sophistication. Hiring for grant staff has been postponed.
- We are hiring a State Epidemiologist for substance abuse – has been put on hold until after the elections.
- We continue to see significant outcomes – 20% drop in substance abuse in kids in some communities in just two years.
- Community Partners in Prevention is a newly forming group that is providing advocacy for community-based problem solving. This is a good resource in support of our work.
- One of our goals has been to increase amount of Federal funding. New funding of \$3.5 million per year for five years has been received by Nebraska communities through the Drug Free Communities program.
- Nebraska Department of Education developed a “Call to Action” that school and community activities involving youth be held in venues that are alcohol free. 800+ resolutions have been signed.
- The Block Grant in 2008 will require significant new reporting and accountability including the National Outcome Measures. This is a transition year – moving Block Grant funding into community-based funding. We do not have much of a data reporting system at this time but we are working on developing integrated system monitoring.

Topher Hansen mentioned would be good to know the groundlevel stuff they are doing and what we are doing right – number of reductions. Laurie mentioned the environmental focus has been critical. Have changed the culture of the community environment, policy enforcement practices. Substance abuse is an intensely local issue.

Q: What are the plans to help other counties?

A: Laurie explained we will be working with new communities and existing coalitions and we have additional help in that the communities we have funded to date have begun peer mentoring other communities.

Brenda Miner added help depends on local officials. Kathy Seacrest said it helps to pull community coalitions together.

Topher Hansen said the conceptual model, it takes leadership, grass roots issues, person to person. The nuances are different depending on where you are. Kathy Seacrest said still an issue – statewide prevention can help.

National Outcomes Measures – Bob Bussard

(handouts: Block Grant Awards to Nebraska: 25 Years – FFY1982 through FFY2006 Mental Health & Substance Abuse; Substance Abuse Block Grant Goals and Attachments; National Outcome Measures (NOMS), Substance Abuse Block Grant Quick Facts; Substance Abuse Block Grant Performance Measures; Percent Distribution of All Admissions Aged 19 to 64, by Employment Status; 75,446 Record for FY2006, 67,168 Record for FY2005, 61,006 Record for FY2004 Mental Health and Substance Abuse Population; Admissions by State of Jurisdiction TEDS 2004; Nebraska Program Description; Nebraska State Indicators; State of Nebraska Admission Summary 7-1-05—6-30-06; Discharge Summary 7-1-05—6-30-06)

Bob provided a number of handouts which detailed National Outcome Measures (NOMS) to the Committee. The sixteen Substance Abuse Block Grant Goals and Attachment pages provide to the Committee the reporting framework required of the Federal Government from states. This will be undergoing great change in both the prevention and treatment areas.

The new Outcome Measures are presented in the colored page along with a Quick Fact Sheet. Bob noted on the Quick Fact Sheet that SYNAR Tobacco sales was up from 10.9% in FY2005 to 14.7% in '06. He noted that the number of 14 year olds cooperating individuals ws down significantly and this age group will not be conducting inspections any longer.

Kathy Seacrest mentioned that responsible tobacco sales training similar to liquor responsible sales training is needed.

Bob Bussard indicated the state is in the process of working with Magellan to capture treatment outcome measures. A revised set of drop down menus for programs to complete should be available soon. Agencies can view demographic reports on the Magellan Website although the numbers reported on Magellan and by the State may differ.

Magellan contract is up in 2008. The Department has been doing research to maybe putting the Behavioral Health system under N-Focus.

Percent Distribution of All Admissions Aged 19 to 64, By Employment Status provides to the Committee a sample of data the state can generate in response to NOMS.

Bob briefly went over the charts showing the numbers of records for each of the last three years. There has been an increase in the number of folks entering treatment centers reporting to the Division. Also, there continues to be an increasing number of people seen for both substance abuse and mental health.

The next series of pages are information to the Committee members of some of the data items being reported by the Federal government about states and Nebraska in particular. These were reprinted from the Websites identified at the bottom of the page.

Integration of Funding

(included in Bob’s handouts and Committee recommendations discussion)

II. SA Services in the Justice System Updates

Community Corrections Council – Linda Krutz

- The Council and Ellen Brokofsky have met with new Chief Justice, Mike Heavican.
- The Governor has not finalized the budget – not signaling an increase.
- Focus on the Council will be to set some guidelines.
- Voucher \$\$ issue remains on the table for discussion.
- One judge would like to see access to Drug Court.
- This biennium the \$\$ will last and then new appropriation.
- Fees that go for treatment - \$2.5 million – some controversy with fees, felony population are the ones benefiting – fees are critical.
- 5 pilot sites – three phases – not sure if this will expand – won’t know until next year.

Justice Behavioral Health Committee (JBHC) – Jerome Barry

- The name was changed in wanting to focus on mental health as well as substance abuse.
- Have to get a replacement for John Dacey who has resigned.
- Working on getting treatment providers to integrate criminal justice population; change alcohol/drug evaluation format; added CASI; important that treatment providers get some input.

Q: Topher asked how can we offer support?

MOTION: Topher Hansen

This committee supports sending out a survey instrument to assess the utility of the ASI/CASI and Standardized Model format consistent with original intent which was to assess how it is going after a period of time.

SECOND: Brenda Miner

Discussion: Kate Speck added people will utilize their own information and put it in standard format – must follow whole model.

Jerome said no one is collecting the data.

Jerome has made a commitment to re-evaluate.

Brenda said the system is having a hard time getting providers for treatment.

Kate Speck said ASI/CASI is built on DSM4.

Jerome – outcome data collection and what to work on when they are in treatment. Providers are trying to make their voice heard; counselors say these instruments are of no value on making recommendations for treatment.

VOTE: Motion carried by voice vote.

ABSTAIN: Jerome Barry

III. HHS/R&L Alcohol Drug Counselor Licensing Program – Nancy Herdman
(handout: Nebraska Health & Human Services Regulations & Licensure, Credentialing Division Compliance Listing Report; Counts by County/Profession/License Type)

-One of the handouts includes # of active licenses with Nebraska addresses as of Oct. 18, 2006:

Alcohol/Drug License:	355
Provisional Alcohol/Drug License	260

The alcohol/drug testing information on this list has nothing to do with alcohol/drug licensing.

Q: Jerome asked is there information for two years prior in 2004. Nancy responded do not know if the computer system can go back and access numbers licensed at a past point in time. It was mentioned if we cannot go back, we can go forward.

Kathy Seacrest requested dual credential information. Nancy suggested this Committee let R&L know what information they are requesting.

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It was also suggested checking on what R&L reports were provided to this Committee in the past.

Nancy mentioned the Disciplinary Action on the Compliance Listing Report is the final outcome. Jerome mentioned the Board may have recommended revocation but the final outcome may be different. The Director makes the final decision. It also depends upon what the Attorney General feels can be defended. Nancy added disciplinary action is provided on the Website.

Q: Dr. Bhatia asked if there is a program in place for rehab?

A: Jerome said LAP.

When someone is put on Probation, the Board can set conditions. Some issues could be ethics, confidentiality violations, etc.

September 1, 2006 was the renewal date for alcohol/drug licenses up for renewal. This went smoothly except for original notices not being received – do not know what happened. Thank you to this Committee and Kate Speck for assisting in getting the word out. This was very helpful.

Regarding approved CEUs – R&L will tell counselors to check the Website regarding approved hours – sometimes the certificate says one thing and the Website says something else. Bob mentioned some do not have the capability of checking the Website. Nancy mentioned some counselors took training which wasn't Division approved or approved for less hours than the certificate said.

Q: Dr. Mercer asked if you specify when you agree to give credit for a program, how does it happen that organizations put down the wrong #? Can R&L intervene?

A: Nancy indicated the approved form lists the approved hours.

The pluses of this renewal – the fees were lowered:

LADC \$102 or \$52 (one year license)

PLADC \$100 or \$50 (one year license)

13 LADCs - did not renew license – have been revoked – non-disciplinary action.
39 PLADCs did not renew – license also revoked as non-disciplinary action. This doesn't count the ones who had the 30-day grace period and renewed during that time period.

Technically, licenses expire September 1, 2006 – there is a 30-day grace period until October 1, 2006 to get CEU hours and renew with a late fee – cannot be practicing. This grace period applies to all licenses issued by the Department under the Uniform Licensing Law.

There were seven PLADCs who have no renewals remaining – license expired on September 1, 2006 as they had held it for the maximum of six years. Provisional is

issued one time and if licensee chooses not to renew it, they are out. Jerome said they need to know that.

Nancy mentioned they are looking at changing Provisional to be issued five years with no renewals every two years. This will require a statute change.

Regulations are proposing PLADC can take written exam at any time. When they pass, they can take the oral exam.

Regarding the written exam – eleven were tested Sept. 9, 2006 – ten passed, one failed. Nebraska’s pass rate is 91% - national pass rate is 72%; ten will take the written exam Dec. 9. Oral exam is scheduled Nov. 15,16 and 17 – 27 individuals are scheduled. R&L is looking at training additional oral evaluators. On the national level, elimination of the oral examination is being discussed.

- Licensing Board – Jerome Barry

The Licensing Board will be meeting January 11 – the rewrite of 209 Regulations still waiting to go to public hearing.

IV. LMEP Drug Counselor Training Report

Leslie Buhl did not attend.

Kate Speck mentioned she is working with LMEP regarding physicians training.

V. Prairielands ATTC – Kate Speck

(handout: PATTC 2006 Activities Roster)

- The 2nd Annual Leadership Institute was held in Minneapolis – great success, two mentors were from Nebraska.
- 4th Annual Educators Conference – October 5-6, 2006 and October 18-20, 2006. PATTC Annual Meeting and Regional Symposium-Nicotine Dependence – both were postponed because of low registration. The Symposium will be rescheduled and are retooling the Educators Conference and will be changed to Educators Institute.
- Motivational Interviewing Training done – introduction for Probation Officers in South Sioux, Nebraska. Two-day training to be held in December – in depth training for Probation Officers. Working with Houses of Hope, CenterPointe, St. Monica’s, Alegent Health and providing technical assistance.
- Western NE Rural & Frontier Initiative was well received – six CEU courses in western Nebraska – 36 hrs. CEUs. Training for North Platte and Sidney planned for February, March, April 2007 – then to Scottsbluff.

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- Screening & Brief Intervention Project – October 27, 2006 TOT – four people who were trained – now be utilized in Lancaster Co. to go to medical officers to train nurses – will be doing this training out in the regions.
- Also developing treatment planning and the ASI; also developing working with Corrections regarding training series – sexual offenders.
- Also working with Homelessness Coalition in Omaha – putting together a training institute.
- Doane and TAP program working on college credits for TAP classes – opportunity for college credit.

VI. Tribe SA Services Report – Kathy Samuelson

This year the Division increased funding to the Tribes for mental health and substance abuse services. Their contract year goes from October 1 to September 30. We have reviewed their program plans for the coming year and have offered technical assistance to two of the tribal programs--continue to coordinate Tribal Management meetings in Norfolk every other month to meet with mental health and substance abuse directors of the Tribes. Most Tribes have moved to a holistic approach to treatment and blended funding. In the last couple years, two Tribes have incorporated Native language into their treatment approach. Tribes have requested culturally competent training.

VII. Region BH Reform SA Service Report

- Region 3 – Brenda Miner

Mid-Plains will open medical detox.

Kathy Samuelson mentioned adherence to service definitions.

Bob added there is nothing in the Service Definitions for medically supported detox.

Sheri Dawson and Kathy Samuelson are working with Region 3.

Brenda Miner said Richard Young has 16 subacute beds to take the place of regional center beds.

Region 2, 3 and 4 contracts have subacute beds at Richard Young.

Issue with St. Francis – commitments not appropriate.

Bellevue University has accelerated program for LMHPs and LADCS.

- Region 4 – Kathy Samuelson

Kathy is the Field Rep. for Region 4.

Region 4 and Region 3 share dual diagnosis program with Catholic Charities. Region 4 also through Catholic Charities has Psych. Rehab. and Crisis Respite program and Res. Rehab. Program in Wayne and Norfolk – Region 4 had added eight beds to existing 20 beds - have expanded community support and are now heavily involved in WRAP services for consumers. Also working with Richard Young in finalizing the contract for acute/subacute beds.

Faith Regional is under construction and target date for subacute beds is April 2007.

VIII. NE Recovery Network – Ron Namuth

(handout: Nebraska Recovery Network Addiction Recovery & Medications Dec. 1, 2006; A Gift For Your Child Supportive Education for Children from Addicted Families)

Ron Namuth asked about medically assisted detox – how does that differ from social setting.

A: Staffing/nursing issues.

Ron Namuth mentioned problems with waiting list is to get someone into detox. Because of regs. unless police or physician admits them. Ron will be meeting with Jim Baird.

In discussions with persons in recovery, their needs are immediate; family care programs are lacking, family needs training – chemical dependency. Jane Morgan added that sometimes the family won't sign.

SAMHSA provided a training session in Lincoln for children of alcoholics – 65 attended to be trainers and now down to three. We need volunteers to take some training. We have kids group on Saturday nights at Antlers Center – five kids come on a regular basis.

Crystal Meth. Anonymous Children's group in Lincoln and Omaha are starting a children's group – one of the needs is what are we doing for children. Not much done for children. They do have the children's group the same time the parent is in the other program.

Addiction Recovery Medications to be held December 1, 2006. Presentors – Jeffrey Baldwin is a registered pharmacist and Todd Stull is Medical Director for NE Medical Center.

One of the biggest problems for those in recovery is proper use of medication – a stigma around proper use of medication.

During Recovery Month, a Recovery Walk was held at the Capitol – 300/400 attended.

The two biggest things they find that are keeping people from treatment: 1) stigma, 2) resources. Stigma is very strong among professionals; meth. has a strong stigma.

Kathy Seacrest suggested consumers in substance abuse or gambling apply for those positions.

Website: NebraskaRecoveryNetwork.org

Working with Kate Speck – Rural Frontier Initiative Art Show, Gordon, Nebraska.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

I. Update on Member Reappointments.

Committee membership was discussed earlier in today’s meeting.

II. ByLaws Approved August 8, 2006

The approved ByLaws were distributed to Committee members today.

NEW BUSINESS

I. Meeting Schedule

February 21, 2007; May 16, 2007; August 15, 2007; November 28, 2007.

II. Today’s Recommendations for BH Division:

1. Request the recommendation regarding Affiliation Agreement between BH Division and HHS Finance & Support remain on the list – requests more information – issues with Medicaid and how this Committee can be helpful in this process.
2. Committee requests clarification regarding integration all behavioral health funding within NE HHSS and allocate funding to support the consumer.
3. Committee recommends that the Deputy Administrator position be filled and that person attend these meetings.
4. Committee requests an update on weekly meetings held with Dept. of Corrections BH and Corrections compliment each other and intersect – also the status of the grant.
5. Committee recommends more be done to explore CEUs – gender specific and culturally competent.

Joel McCleary mentioned an update regarding the BH Strategic Plan. The preplanning process is complete and passed on to Ron Sorensen and Chris Peterson for funding decision. Once funded, the project is scheduled for a final completion of July 2007.

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The work of the Substance Abuse Committee will be included as a part of the final BH Strategic Plan. This Committee’s work is not in vain – will not be wasted, but incorporated in the plan.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING – February 21, 2007

ASI/CASI

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm.

Minutes prepared by:

Betty Alm
Staff Assistant
Division of Behavioral Health Services

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Kathleen Samuelson
Program Specialist
Division of Behavioral Health Specialist