

STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

May 16, 2007 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Holiday Inn Downtown

141 North 9th

Lincoln, Nebraska

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

Committee Members Absent: Dr. Mercer, Wehnona St. Cyr.

HHS/Behavioral Health Staff Present: Bob Bussard, Kathleen Samuelson, Faith Mills, Betty Alm.

Presentors: Kris Chiles - HHS Regulations & Licensure; Rick McNeese - Dept. of Corrections; Christine Salvatore - Supreme Court; Leslie Buhl, Julie Anderson, Lincoln Medical Education Partnership.

Guests Present: Linda Wittmuss, Judie Moorehouse, Lisa Sullivan.

I. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Chairperson, Ann Ebsen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Those present introduced themselves.

II. ATTENDANCE – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

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

III. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 21, 2007 MINUTES

MOTION: Dr. Bhatia
To approve the February 21, 2007 minutes.

SECOND: Jane Morgan

Discussion: None

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Topher Hansen
To approve today's agenda.

SECOND: Laura Richards

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

V. BH DIVISION RESPONSE TO FEBRUARY 21, 2007 SUBSTANCE ABUSE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(HANDOUT: Memorandum dated May 3, 2007 to Ann Ebsen, Chairperson from Ron Sorensen, Administrator RE: February 21, 2007 Recommendations from Committee)

Recommendation #1

Referring to LB296, the Committee would like clarification of our role, representation and participation in the processes involved in the strategic planning.

Discussion:

Lee Tyson announced HHS is going to do strategic planning across the board for each Division. However, we have been asked to hold off for now.

A: They want HHS strategic planning - when July 1 comes we will have more information – looking at more legislation – budget bills, etc. – hope a systemwide process is done.

Recommendations from this committee are very valuable.

Jerome mentioned a suggestion – SAAC special session.

The SAAC recommends Recommendation #1 remain.

Recommendation #2

We continue to recommend that the Division support and encourage the development of continuing education programs that address issues of gender and cultural competency and provide us with information of such programs.

Kathy mentioned the survey will be done in 2007.

Q: Ann Ebsen asked if this is regional information?

Kathy Seacrest objects to the MHSIP surveys – consumers do not like this – not good data.

Lee Tyson added another issue is the population targeted – only those who are engaged in services.

The Division should require cultural competency and gender issues be a part of any training sponsored by Behavioral Health.

Kathy Seacrest mentioned the importance at a provider level – a way to measure.

Jerome mentioned providers have to take the Multicultural Core class.

Dr. Bhatia mentioned SAMHSA has good information on the Website.

Recommendation #2 will be re-written.

Recommendation #3

We recommend that substance issues be highlighted and that CPC/detox programs and services be viewed as necessary components as a part of the Behavioral Health Reform Plan.

Ann Ebsen explained we cannot get an answer until the strategic plan is done. CPC is an important step.

Kathy Seacrest said look at key components that are missing. Some things the definitions do not fit.

Dr. Bhatia mentioned provider education - have to educate ER in the community. These patients show up everywhere.

Kathy Seacrest said best in all services – if we could get the expertise to train the ER. This has been a previous recommendation from this committee. Kathy Seacrest mentioned working with Hospital Association, Public Health, Public Safety.

Lee Tyson mentioned this cuts across public health – if access services – detox better.

Linda Krutz mentioned first responders may be an issue.

Ann Ebsen mentioned some do not know where the resources are – each region is a little bit different – law enforcement in each.

Bob Bussard mentioned information is available at the National Clearinghouse Alcohol Drug Information - ncadi.samhsa.gov

Jerome Barry mentioned that at the last Committee meeting it was suggested looking at this Committee's recommendations for the last five years.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

REPORTS

I. BH DIVISION UPDATES/REPORTS

Prevention Activities – Office of Public Health – Faith Mills

(HANDOUTS: 2005 Nebraska Risk and Protective Factor Student Survey Participants map, School District Profile Report; Frequently Asked Questions - A Fact Sheet for the

2007 Nebraska Risk and Protective Factor Student Survey and School Participation Form)

- Faith Mills reported for Dave Palm and Jeff Armitage who were unavailable to attend today's meeting.
- Faith reported she works with the SICA grants and Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPFSIG).
- Third meeting of the Nebraska Substance Abuse Epidemiology Workgroup is to be held next week. NePip Advisory Council meets next week.
- Training contract with Karen Abrams – training for the SPFSIG – trains regional level staff and communities. Karen will be working with the regions.
- The Nebraska Risk and Protective Factor Student survey packets have been sent to all schools.
- The Nebraska Department of Education and the Nebraska Health and Human Services System began co-administering this survey in October 2003. Also sent advance packets to regional stakeholders including the region. The surveys are sent to 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grade students – some flexibility.
- Ann Ebsen mentioned the larger school districts were reluctant to participate because of the time it takes from teaching time.
- Faith explained the focus is on providing local level data to schools regardless of size. They continue to work with urban schools to facilitate participation in the survey.
- Kathy Seacrest mentioned if some participants could share the data done over the six years and we could target prevention – maybe a superintendents meeting.
- Regional prevention staff should also receive all the information. Faith mentioned this had already been done.
- Faith mentioned the initial guideline deadline for the survey is May 31, however registration will be accepted throughout the summer.

II. SA SERVICES IN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM UPDATES

Community Corrections Council – Linda Krutz

Budget to go to the Governor on Monday.

Big issue with the Council is sentencing guidelines. Some opposed this.

Supreme Court was there.
Senator Brashear testified.
Federal representatives opposed this.
Hope to hear something soon.
Good opportunity – they have a lot of concerns.
Some confusion regarding Federal sentencing guidelines.
Need to do intense education campaign.

Will reconvene judicial advisory group. May need to do education with the courts – not just the judicial branch.

Ann mentioned enhanced DUI.

Q: In conjunction with review of drug courts?

A: Linda said some is funded through the Council. Drug Courts may be doing something internally – start up will do this again.

Linda added this is a controversial issue – if guidelines are adopted, are they doing what we want?

Topher Hansen mentioned have to get “outside the box” of our old system.

Linda added Probation is working hard to create a paradigm shift – resources/internal issues.

Topher mentioned sentencing guidelines – judges not seeing it like taking their jobs away.

Kathy Seacrest said need new words for sentencing guidelines.

Linda – have to have the resources – will be a long road.

Linda said a judge from Sidney has been appointed to the Council.

Mental Health position not yet named.

Scot Adams will represent Health & Human Services.

The Council will be involved in merging Probation and Parole – next meeting is in June.

Justice Behavioral Health Committee – Jerome Barry

- The next meeting is June 13th – Committee reports to Community Corrections. All are welcome to attend.
- Guidelines and membership were approved.

- Provider Subcommittee: charge is evidence-based practice on how to deal with criminal justice – met last week. Subcommittee decided need to educate ourselves on criminogenic needs – research is being done.
- Kathy Seacrest mentioned need to take into account cultural based.
- Jerome added criminal justice has a population who have specific different needs – this Committee is charged with this issue.
- At the last Justice Behavioral Health Committee meeting – discussion involved the new draft of the ASI/CASI survey – new draft is ready.
- Q: What was asked to change?
A: Jerome explained – it is Supreme Court rule that have to use ASI/CASI. Survey is moving forward.
- Jerome said substance abuse and criminal justice are working closer together – drug/alcohol evals. have improved.
- Topher added their goal is to set goals of excellence –this is info. driven – if info. says it is not working out – seeking information and evaluation and re-evaluation.
- Jerome said reminder – groundwork change to Behavioral Health Committee – mental health and dual diagnosis will be future focus.

III. HHS/R&L ALCOHOL DRUG COUNSELING LICENSING PROGRAM

Kris Chiles

(HANDOUTS: Highlights of Proposed Changes to the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Licensure Regulations, Number of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors per County in Nebraska 373)

- HHS/R&L is holding a Public Hearing to accept comments on the proposed changes to regulations for licensure of alcohol/drug counselors - Chapter 15 will replace Title 209.
The date of the hearing: May 17, 2007 1:30pm
Nebraska State Office Bldg. Conference Room LLF
301 Centennial Mall So., Lincoln
- The Board of Alcohol Drug Counselors will have a conference call following the hearing. On Monday, the Board of Health will review comments from the hearing; then to the Attorney General, Governor and then to Secretary of State. Written comments and E-Mails will be accepted.
- Legislation – in process - LB463 is the Uniform Credentialing Act -
-renewal
-discipline process will be effective December 1, 2008

-only one renewal is allowed – have until Sept. 1 for renewal.
-to reactivate – have to complete the form – there is a higher renewal fee and require 40 hours CEUs – fee is \$75 if you wait longer than a year.
-LB463 – changes to the proposed Provisional License:
Renewal will be six years - effective December 1, 2008.

- Kris reported on the Handout: Number of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors per County in Nebraska – 373 – some counties were not represented.
- The Oral Exam is being held this week, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday – 22 candidates.
- Seven written exams were done in March.
- Jerome Barry reported on the ICRC meeting held in April in Orlando - which is held biannually . Last year the issue was the oral process – task force recommends doing away with the oral process – they are proposing a written exam – two parts: measure competency – it passed with no deadline – goal is to do the two-part exam. Nebraska applicants still have to take the oral exam. ICRC wasn't regulating how states did orals.
- Kathy Seacrest added this will be more cost effective.
- Applicants will not have to go through emotional distress.
- Q: Will the test measures work?
- Topher added do not get any sense of interpersonal skills – probably a better system.
- Jerome added – 12 core functions will be weeding some out.
- Kris said in place – scenario client/patient relationships.

Discussion:

- Some states – some people not trained but not competent.
- Kris added that because of liability, some states have eliminated tests.
- Jerome suggested keep preparing for the oral exam.
- Kris mentioned the burden on those who are supervising.
- On the Website – shows the supervisor name?

Q: If someone now is a supervisor, can they continue?

A: Kris says yes.

- Kris said there are 300 Provisionals – 19 additional registered in the last three months. One Provisional license will be on probation for five years.
- Kris mentioned separate facility complaints. Kris will send Betty information regarding the process in dealing with facility complaints and this info. will be forwarded to Committee members.

IV. ASI/CASI – Kathy Samuelson reporting for Kate Speck

Kathy Samuelson said there have been 654 trained in ASI; 329 trained in CASI. Bob Bussard said the names are on the Website.

V. LMEP DRUG COUNSELOR TRAINING REPORT UPDATE - Leslie Buhl

(HANDOUTS: Lincoln Medical Education Partnership Training For Addiction Professionals; Core Education, Continuing Education, ASI/CASI training schedules; TAP Program Policies)

Leslie mentioned to contact her with any suggestions for providing training in criminal justice.

End of the contract year - we are currently negotiating July – December contract schedule – will be done by first week of June and classes will be approved and posted on the Website.

Also in the last year trained trainers in Core Education.

Also added a policy link to the Website (handout: TAP Program Policies - added Harassment; Drug and Alcohol Policy)
Are using evaluation checklist that Probation uses.

Also, upcoming Core Education trainings are listed in the handout.

School Community Intervention Program (SCIP)– Julie Anderson

(HANDOUT: SCIP brochure, SCIP schools by County/Region)

The SCIP program is part of the LMEP contract – helping schools who are experiencing behavioral health, drug abuse issues – SCIP provides support to 132 schools (23 counties, mostly in Region 5). Nineteen agencies available for kids. The funding ends June 30. Kathy Seacrest clarified that North Platte is in Region 2, not Region 1.

BREAK

VI. TRIBAL SA SERVICES REPORT – Kathy Samuelson

The Methamphetamine Conference was held May 7-8, 2007 at the Embassy Suites. The Conference was sponsored by Minority Health, Public Health, Behavioral Health, and was well attended – particular emphasis on the Native American population. Will be doing more collaboration with other divisions.

Tribal Management meeting is scheduled for May 30. They will receive increase in current year. Teen suicide is a big issue.

Q: Does the Tribes funding remain the same for next year?

A: Yes, with rate increase.

Tribes and state authority have law enforcement – North Dakota presenter – very impressed; Federal representative from Denver, Colorado attended the Minority Conference. Kathy Samuelson talked to Epidemiology Specialist from South Dakota.

Kathy Seacrest asked about Tribes attending RPA meeting. Kathy Samuelson will take this back to the Tribal Directors.

VII. VOUCHER PROGRAM – Christine Salvatore

(HANDOUT: May 2007 Standardized Model Voucher Program; Registered Providers by County)

Service Definition gets lost.

Christine said she has traveled across the state and met with registered providers – providers have been confused if they do not attend trainings. Have done phone training. One of the largest complaints – whose responsibility – SSI, SRARF – getting from officers to providers – they clarified this - took information back to the Chiefs.

Also provides training on how to work with offenders.

All criminal justice evaluations have to meet Standardized Model.

Treatment – only registered providers will be referred to for evaluation and treatment services – Standardized Model and Specialized Substance Abuse Supervision (SSAS).

Plan is to do audits.

Looks at Standardized Model compliance and voucher compliance.

More providers in compliance than are not.

Christine is willing to go out to the agencies for on-site training.

Q: How are you handling the confidentiality in the audits?

A: Christine said one of the requirements is signed release of information.

Topher Hansen added that steps can be done regarding confidentiality.

Brenda mentioned CFR 42 doesn't cover this.
Release has to state everything.

Kathy Seacrest said if the office gets the release it will not be a problem.

Christine mentioned – registered providers – also provide E-Mail addresses - have sent out 30-40 more apps.
Christine said 480 people have registered for the May 21-23, 2007 Community Corrections conference at the Marriott Hotel. Good thing is the level of agencies who are willing to work together.

Christine mentioned Probation Officers are required to use registered providers – if registered provider not complying with Standardized Model, reports to Chief if updates are not in compliance.

The voucher and the Standardized Model are two separate programs.

Specialized supervision – So. Sioux City, Lincoln, Omaha, Sarpy Co., Kearney, Lexington - 13 specialized officers – highly trained. Expanded eligible population for vouchers as of January 1.

Probation determines eligibility before providers.

Christine added have been very flexible regarding vouchers and sliding fee issues.

Kathy Seacrest mentioned would be helpful if the information that goes to the providers also goes to the regions. Christine explained they are in the process of putting info. to the regions – helpful to go to regional level and agency directors.

Q: Population expand in the Drug Court?

A: Christine said they do not know yet.

Voucher Type Use Summary – 2-1-06—4-30-07

-Evaluations

-Treatment

Expected Changes in the Next Biennium - Looking toward the future

-Electronic Vouchers – now online

-On-line Provider registration

-Standardized Model Provider Audits – Summer 2007

-Drug Court Connection within data base – Fall 2007

Provider Survey

-Provided training when visited programs

-Urban and rural

-Looked at waiting list and level of care

-Christine mentioned she read all the surveys – good recommendations; most positive.

Christine will send Betty more voucher information to be sent to Substance Abuse Committee members.

SSAS/Day Reporting Centers Update

-All five SSAS/Day Reporting Centers are up and running – services offered include: drug testing, good will, life skills, help offenders apply for jobs, extended drug testing hours.

Lincoln reporting center is Trabert Hall
Kearney, Lexington are fully operational
Dakota City is located at So. Sioux City

Handout – Registered Providers By County and Services by County
Brenda Miner said people are utilizing vouchers outside of county.
Christine said voucher follows offender.

Linda Krutz said providers utilize space – sometimes they do not have place to meet.
Christine said some have expanded services within day reporting centers.

VIII. EARLY RELEASE OF PRISONERS – Rick McNeese

- A lot of things going on in Corrections.
- Capacity – the more programs we can get is better – 95% in Corrections – turnover in getting out of prison.
- Growth in treating substance abuse, mental health problems.
- Training going on – sex offenders develop dual disorders.
- Ethics Program in McCook is serving inmates as well.
- Will now have STR program in McCook July 1 – will take six months to a year to go to full capacity.
- We anticipate more females will be affected by this and we will provide services – still working on this – do not know who will volunteer to go to McCook.

Q: STR meet state requirements?

A: Rick explained number of staff is weak – Corrections has nice training program but in remote sites – providers for the community are needed; hours of structured program – yes.

In looking at guidelines – there isn't what they have. STR provided in Corrections.

Kathy Seacrest said STR is based on need – may look at increase in capacity.

Rick added haven't been able to get Work Ethic Camp filled – hope to help Probation and Corrections side. Rick said their STR is more long term. Criteria – staff is different.

Q: Can treatment professions connect with Corrections?

A: Rick said – not really – case workers job, not the substance abuse. Case workers job is to make connections with folks.

Q: Why don't they contact treatment staff?

Q: Could Probation Officers coordinate with regions, etc.?

Ann Ebsen mentioned jamming out people will be a problem – no discharge plan.

Kathy Seacrest noted one of the Substance Abuse Committee recommendations is to work with Corrections to eliminate the problem.

Q: How many slots at Work Ethic Camp?

A: Rick said 120 – most are STR – some do not need STR – 85-90% are STR. Inmates on the inside – getting ways to get around the 10-month program – inmates say they are on the waiting list.

Brenda Wiseman added they need recommendation from Corrections.

Jerome Barry said – professional to professional to make contact.

Linda Krutz said letters received at the Division from inmates should come from professionals – this is a staffing issue.

Rick said they are working on developing other slots.

Federal \$\$\$s are funding positions for 40 months.

Rick mentioned – in Corrections – approved by Appropriations – increase in residential beds will be adding 180 beds – they are trying – when capacity is increased in residential – can be paroled earlier. Goal is next three years – get them out more quickly – are increasing capacity inside.

Topher Hansen added these are good steps forward and encourages this move.

Rick said 750 people go through IOP a year – they are challenged because of level of treatment.

Rick announced in the new budget there is \$175,000 – will be used first time at Corrections to go out in the community for treatment – still have to work out the mechanism for this.

Ann Ebsen recommended Rick McNeese be invited to give an update at all the Substance Abuse Committee meetings.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

I. STRATEGIC PLAN – Lee Tyson

Information on the Strategic Plan will be provided later.

II. TODAY’S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BH DIVISION

It was recommended to continue Recommendation #1 and this Committee’s role.

Recommendation #1:

Referring to LB296, the Commttee would like clarification of our role, representation and participation in the processes involved in the strategic planning.

Recommendation #2:

We continue to recommend that the Division support and encourage the development of continuing education programs that address issues of gender and cultural competency and provide us with information of such programs.

Discussion:

Include in every class taught – include gender issues and cultural competency.
Substance Abuse Committee would like to see the Consumer Surveys to be conducted July 1-December 30, 2007 by the Office of Consumer Affairs.

Recommendation #3

We recommend that substance use issues be highlighted and that CPC/detox programs and services be viewed as necessary components as a part of the Behavioral Health Reform Plan.

Discussion:

- Need more information.
- Current payment levels of detox – what are the SAMHSA recommendations?
- CPC – where in the state is it being used?
- Medicaid says it has to be in a hospital – medical detox.
- Nebraska Medical Association.
- Recommend increase screening with hospital and physicians.

Recommendation #3 will remain.

Recommendation #4 (from today’s meeting)

Discussion:

It was recommended the Division and Dept. of Corrections hold regular meetings.

MOTION: Kathy Seacrest

To approve today's Committee recommendations.

SECOND: Brenda Miner
Discussion: None
VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

III. SAAC SUBCOMMITTEE LEADERSHIP GROUP - Lee Tyson

This will be discussed in a future meeting.

IV. NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

MOTION: Kathy Seacrest
To nominate Ann Ebsen to continue as Committee Chair.

SECOND: Topher Hansen
Discussion: None
VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Linda Krutz
To nominate Dr. Mercer to continue as Committee Co-Chair.

SECOND: Ann Ebsen
Discussion: None
VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Ann Ebsen
To nominate Brenda Miner to continue as Secretary.

SECOND: Kathy Seacrest
Discussion: None
VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

V. 2007 MEETING SCHEDULE

August 15, 2007; November 28, 2007

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING - August 15, 2007

-Early Release of Prisoners - Rick McNeese

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Minutes prepared by:

Betty Alm
Staff Assistant
Division of Behavioral Health Services

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Kathleen Samuelson
Program Specialist
Division of Behavioral Health Services