



Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare

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Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes April 1, 2009

Advisory Members Present:

Mary Angus
Ann Ebsen, Chair
Brian Paulsen
Mike Smith
Duane Wilcox

Advisory Members Absent:

Laura Linhart
Donna Mahlendorf

HHS Staff Present: None

Region 6 Staff Present: Patti Jurjevich, Taren Petersen

Recorder: Amy Lett

1. **Welcome, Roll Call, and Introductions**
Ann Ebsen called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes for February 4, 2009 and March 4, 2009**
Duane Wilcox made a motion to approve the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (BHAC) meeting minutes from 2/4/09; Brian Paulsen seconded the motion. Approval of the February 2009 minutes passed upon voice vote.
Mary Angus made a motion to approve the BHAC meeting minutes from 3/4/09. Duane Wilcox abstained since he was not at the March meeting. Approval of the March 2009 minutes passed upon voice vote.
3. **Approval of Agenda**
Mary Angus made a motion to approve the BHAC Agenda for 4/1/09. Approval of the agenda passed upon voice vote.
4. **Administrator's Report – Patti Jurjevich**
Ms. Jurjevich had 2 brief comments for this item:
 - See handout "Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare – Behavioral Health Advisory Committee." Region 6 would like to use this handout for BHAC member recruiting efforts. The handout was sent to members via email and we ask that

you provide comments or feedback on this so that we can move forward with recruiting new members. Members in attendance at today's meeting stated they saw no problems with the form and that it looked like a good tool to use for recruiting. Our next move would be to send this to the Governing Board to be approved and then out to the different newspapers in the Region 6 area. BHAC members are also welcome to distribute the form once it is finalized. Discussion was had about the importance of attending these meetings and that although it is a voluntary job, it is still a job. It was noted that comments about the importance of attendance will be included in the handout. Region 6 will also note what vacancies currently need to be filled. It was noted today we need vacancies filled for the following counties:

- Cass – 1 vacancy
 - Dodge – 2 vacancies
 - Douglas – 1 vacancy
 - Sarpy – 0
 - Washington – 0 (this could be 1 if Donna Mahlendorf decides to not remain on the committee. It was reported at the February 2009 meeting that Ms. Mahlendorf had resigned but she recently spoke with Ms. Jurjevich and said she was considering staying on as a committee member).
- Reform efforts in Children and Family services: We hope to hear later today which agencies have been chosen to be the lead agencies; this decision will impact our Integrated Coordination Care Unit (ICCU). The 3 agencies that have applied are:
 - Visinet, Inc.
 - BoysTown
 - KVC – this agency is based in Kansas
- Reform of the Children and Family services means that from now on, In-Home and Out-of-Home care will all be included in one contract.

5. Presentation on Secure Residential – Patrick Crouch, Ph.D., Telecare Corporation, Region Six Recovery Center

Included in the packets was a packet of information about the Secure Residential program at Telecare's Region Six Recovery Center. Patrick Crouch, Ph.D., showed a film to those in attendance at today's meeting that toured their facility and highlighted what it is they do for people.

This is a 16-bed facility; they are currently at full capacity with 10 males and 6 females. Most people came from the Regional Centers (mainly from Norfolk Regional Center) where they had been for anywhere in length from 1 year to 40 years.

Dr. Crouch noted that people are at various stages in their recovery and some have very serious issues in their past and it will be a challenge for them to move on; some are also challenged with delusions and/or hallucinations making it difficult for them to move on. That being said, Dr. Crouch did note that they are working with several people to help them assimilate back into society – they start out small, with short outings and hope to move people to where they are comfortable doing things like:

- crossing the street to go to a store

- taking a short bus ride in town and changing buses to come back to the facility
- those who are able go bowling on Thursday nights
- the facility also has a gym membership off campus so that people can have more interaction with others in our community if they are emotionally up to it.

Mary Angus noted that she likes the fact that people are offered choices as to what color of curtains and bedding they want. Ms. Angus added that Telecare might consider contacting Gail Birdsong – she is an expert in comfort rooms and could help Telecare out with some more ideas on how to accomplish a homier feel (as opposed to clinical).

Ms. Angus asked about restraints at the facility. Dr. Crouch said they do have restraints that are kept out of sight in a room but they have not had to use them.

Ms. Angus said that she appreciates the creativity that has gone into helping people transition from their experiences at the Regional Center into a different environment.

6. 2009 Legislation – Patti Jurjevich

Ms. Jurjevich stated there is a packet of 5 bills before the legislature; the 5 bills are basically a package and all of them need to be passed or none of them get passed. The bills are:

- LB 136 - Avery: Change provisions for eligibility for medical assistance.
- LB 346 – Gay: Adopt the Children and Family Behavioral Health Support Act Hotline (State would contract for the Hotline) and post-adoption services
- LB 356 – Dubas: Direct distribution of General Funds for Nebraska children in need of behavioral health services allocate funds to Regions for more Professional Partner and kid’s services
- LB 601 - Nordquist Provide for a medicaid waiver for community-based mental health services. This would require Medicaid to pay for Secure Residential and Subacute services (currently Region 6 pays 100% of the cost for these services; if this bill passes, the Region will only have to pay for 40% of the cost which could mean a potential savings of anywhere from \$1.7 - \$1.8 million BUT this money has now been tagged by the State to pay for other things in this 5-bill package...but we (the Regions) were hoping to use the funds for other purposes.
- LB 603 - Health and Human Services Committee Adopt the Behavioral Health Workforce Act and provide funding. Workforce development bill.

Ms. Jurjevich said the Regions are strongly advocating that both LB 346 and LB 356 are passed and implemented.

BHAC members expressed their willingness to send a letter to Senators showing their support for these bills if Ms. Jurjevich would like.

7. **RFQ for Capital Expenditures – Taren Petersen**
 See handout - Ms. Petersen said one of the projects identified for the One-Time dollars were the Capital Expenditures piece. Ms. Petersen asked for a couple of BHAC members to volunteer to participate on the review committee. Volunteers were:
- Mary Angus
 - Brian Paulsen
8. **Prevention Mini-Grants – Jeff Helaney**
 See handout - Mr. Helaney said Prevention expects to have about \$20,000 this year that they can put back into the community coalitions; they plan to do this in \$5,000 increments by issuing Prevention Mini-Grants. Applications will be reviewed on 4/28/09; Mr. Helaney asked for a couple of BHAC members to volunteer to sit on this review committee. The following volunteered:
- Mary Angus
 - Ann Ebsen
9. **Updates – Taren Petersen**
- a. **One-Time Funding**
 Ms. Petersen discussed the status of spending the One-Time funds. In particular she noted 3 projects that are currently being worked on:
1. Capital Expenditures (as noted in Item #7 on today's BHAC agenda)
 2. Training and Educational Projects: Katie Hruska, Region 6 Manager of Transition Services, is in charge of these trainings which will be done over the next 2 -3 years.
 3. Youth – Non-Sustainable funds: Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare is hosting a Planning Forum this Friday, April 3, 2009, from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. We have extended this invitation to a broad audience.
- b. **Continuation Funding Planning Process**
 See handout – Ms. Petersen review the handout on Preliminary Plan for Continuation Dollars.
 Mary Angus asked if we have Medicaid funding for Community Support. Ms. Petersen said we do have Medicaid funding for Community Support – Mental Health but is working on finding out if we have funding for Community Support – Homeless.
 Ms. Angus asked if any funds have been set aside to send consumers to the Alternatives Conference (this is a national conference being held here in Omaha this year). Ms. Petersen said yes, the conference fee is \$500/each and Region 6 has set aside \$8,000 to pay for consumers' conference fees.
 Someone asked what Katie's ideas are for trainings. Ms. Hruska said she plans to do trainings based on discussions held at the previous Community Planning Forums for Adult Services, they are as follows:
- Training for staff that will have to work with sex offenders
 - Trauma informed care
 - Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT)

- Developmental Disabilities (especially those people who have borderline symptoms and have a difficult time qualifying for services).

Ms. Petersen advised that Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare was awarded funding for the 2nd year of a 3-year Developmental Disabilities grant. Trainings with Dr. Fletcher of the National Association for the Dually Diagnosed (NADD) are planned for later in 2009 on the following topics:

- Train-the-Trainer
- Psycho-therapy 102

Ms. Petersen said the next step is to present this plan to the Governing Board if BHAC approves of it.

Brian Paulsen made a motion to approve the Preliminary Plan for Continuation Dollars; Mary Angus seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and approval of the motion passed unanimously.

c. Network System Coordination

BHAC members receive an advanced copy of the Network Services Update via email.

d. Metro Omaha Tobacco Action Coalition (MOTAC)

The Region 6 Prevention Department is again working in partnership with MOTAC to develop an application for the Douglas County Communities of Excellence Tobacco Free Nebraska (TFN) School/Community Outreach Projects funded through the Master Capital Settlement dollars. If approved, this proposal would continue efforts in 3 program goal areas: 1) Eliminating secondhand smoke (i.e. workplaces, campuses, apartments, homes, and public housing); 2) Keeping youth from starting by reducing retailer tobacco sales to minors; and 3) Reaching underserved populations, primarily African American, Latino, Lesbian and Gay community, and lower socio-economic populations.

The Douglas County TFN proposal would be implemented over a two year period, from fiscal year 2010 to 2011. Region 6 will be applying for the maximum amount of funds allowed in the application, which is \$1,319,131. Our office would continue to act as the fiscal agent for these funds.

10. Contract Status Report for the Period Ending February 28, 2009

Handouts were included in the packets for BHAC members.

BHAC members are welcome to contact Darren Weis or Taren Petersen with any questions that may come up.

Ms. Petersen did state the deadline for Region 6 to make any substantial shift in funding is April 30, 2009. Region 6 has a few concerns with some agencies not drawing down their funding but we will be contacting them about this very soon.

11. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

12. Adjourn

Mary Angus made a motion to adjourn. Duane Wilcox seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Prepared By:

Amy M Lett

Date:

5/6/09

Approved By:

A. E. [Signature]

Date:

5/6/2009