



Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare

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Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes May 6, 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 April 1, 2009

Duane Wilcox made a motion to approve the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (BHAC) meeting minutes from 4/1/09; Mike Smith seconded the motion. Approval of the April 1, 2009 minutes passed upon voice vote.

3. Approval of Agenda

Brian Paulsen made a motion to approve the BHAC Agenda for 5/6/09. Mike Smith seconded the motion. Approval of the agenda passed upon voice vote.

4. Administrator's Report – Patti Jurjevich

Ms. Jurjevich made the following statements:

- We received Laura Linhart's resignation from the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (BHAC); Ms. Linhart's work schedule did not allow her to continue on this committee. Ms. Linhart was a representative of Washington County.
- In regards to the progress on recruitment of new BHAC members, Ms. Jurjevich said we have received some phone calls from people showing interest but have not yet received any applications. Brian Paulsen said an ad was placed in Cass

County newspapers to try to recruit people. Duane Wilcox said he would like Region 6 to put in the papers in Washington County.

5. FY10 Proposed Regional Budget Plan

a. Review of Proposed Funding and Budget Narrative

Ms. Jurjevich noted the complexity of planning this year's budget due to the different pots of money we have had to work with such as the one-time funds and continuation funds.

Ms. Petersen stated this is a preliminary budget and is subject to change. Ms. Petersen then reviewed the narrative (a copy of which was found in members' packets as well as for others in attendance at today's meeting).

The following comments and questions regarding the budget were discussed:

- Lasting Hope Recovery Center (LHRC) – Question: Does Region 6 have the option not to contract with LHRC? Answer: A decision was made by the State at LHRC's inception that LHRC's contract would initially be directly with DHHS. It was always anticipated that Region 6 would take over the contract in FY11. DHHS is asking we take that over earlier than anticipated but there are payment issues that need to be resolved between the State and LHRC before Region 6 takes over the contract. Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare does have the option to say no to contracting early with LHRC while payment issues are being worked out.
- Mary Angus asked how LHRC reports their data and to whom. Ms. Petersen said LHRC sends their data to the State but the State does share that information with Region 6. Mary Angus requested we get the numbers on seclusions and restraints used at LHRC.
- Ann Ebsen said the Clinical Review Team (CRT) works amazingly well and asked if they are going to continue. Ms. Petersen said yes and added they are currently working on developing a Strategic Plan.
- Disproportionate Share Hospital Agreement (DSH); It was noted the qualifying hospital from our Region is Alegent – Douglas County Community Mental Health Center (DCCMHC) draws from a different DSH pool than these dollars mentioned today. It was noted this is a new source of matching funds. The federal government is losing some money but neither the State nor the Region will lose money. The Provider will benefit because Alegent will now be eligible for matching dollars from the Feds.
- Brian Paulsen asked if our loss has been identified as to where it will be used. Ms. Jurjevich said no, it is not specifically being targeted to be used in any one area.
- Someone asked how/why a decision is made to decrease funds. Ms. Petersen said we dialogue with the Provider about the utilization of the service so everyone is aware when there is a concern. In regards to the Dodge County Crisis Response Team; we studied the data and looked at the number of calls coming in and found that we could not justify continuing to fund the same dollar amount for that program due to the low utilization of the program.

- Youth Center? Ms. Petersen said this refers to the Douglas County Youth Center and a therapist who could possibly be assigned to go over there and help youths in that facility.
- Mary Angus said on page 1 there was some reference to “right-sizing;” what does that mean in the behavioral health system? Ms. Petersen explained that in the past we got some additional dollars for some services under the Reform movement and now is a chance to get more funds put into some of the services that generally pull all of their money down early but did not qualify originally for the extra Reform dollars.
- Ann Ebsen noted that she understands this is a preliminary agenda but asked if Region 6 will submit another final proposal. Ms. Petersen said this proposed budget will be presented to the Region 6 Governing Board and then onto DHHS for final approval.
- Ann Ebsen asked that a column be added to the chart to show the percentage amount of how funds were changed.

b. BHAC Recommendation to Regional Governing Board

Brian Paulsen made a motion that the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee recommends the proposed FY10 budget be approved and forwarded to the Region 6 Governing Board for review. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

6. Prevention Mini Grants

a. Review of RFQ Process and Funding Recommendation

A handout was included in packets reviewing the process and the funding recommendation.

b. BHAC Recommendation to the Regional Governing Board

Duane Wilcox made a motion to approve the funding recommendation as presented to the BHAC. Mary Angus seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by a voice vote.

7. 2009 Legislation – Patti Jurjevich

Ms. Jurjevich said that a 1-1/2% rate increase for the Regions is still in the budget for FY10.

Region 6 is still monitoring the following bills which have all been combined into one package known from here on out as LB603. Region 6 is optimistic this will go through:

- 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. There is \$500,000 budgeted for FY10 and \$1,000,000 for the second year.

- 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.

Mary Angus asked about the definition of community support; does the service definition continue to include peer support? Ms. Petersen said before answering she would have to look it up. Ms. Petersen did say that Region 6's definition will be broader than the State's – Region 6's view is that it would include a person that has gone through some peer support training.

8. Update on Network System Coordination – Taren Petersen

- Ms. Petersen noted that Joe Kenney has been hired as Manager of Emergency Services. Mr. Kenney is at a training this week but will come to a BHAC meeting soon to meet committee members in person. Mr. Kenney previously worked in Region 6's Professional Partner program.
- May 3 – 9 is Children's Mental Health Awareness week.
- May 7, 2009 is the Youth Conference,

9. Contract Status Report for the Period Ending March 31, 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 stated Providers should now be at 75% in regards to how much of their money they have drawn down this fiscal year.

- These reports do not yet show a shift in dollars.
- Ms. Jurjevich stated we are now being told that dollars not used in this fiscal year could be carried over to next fiscal year; probably will be available sometime in the fall. This is the first time this has occurred.
- Ann Ebsen asked about additional requirements as of June 1, 2009. Ms. Petersen said we are being trained this month on that and we will be able to answer that in more detail at the meeting next month; we can advise what all of the new stipulations are. This discussion is in regards to a survey the Feds are doing for a SAMHSA block grant. Ann Ebsen asked Ms. Petersen to give more information next month after the training.

10. Public Comment

- John Sheehan commented on voluntary patients and that as an advocate of patients' rights, it is considered best if a person seeks voluntary treatment; an EPC should only be used as a last result. However, Providers are getting hit because the State does not see that they are obligated to pay for voluntary clients. Ms. Petersen noted that one stipulation is that the State will pay for someone who is on a Board of Mental Health (BOMH) outpatient commitment and arrives at the hospital for acute care as voluntary. It was noted that Region 6 continues to dialogue with the State on this matter.

11. Adjourn

Brain Paulsen made a motion to adjourn. Mike Smith seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Prepared By: Amy M. Lett

Date: 9/2/2009

Approved By: A. E. Ebs

Date: 9/2/2009