



Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare

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Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes September 7, 2016

Advisory Members Present:

Dean Loftus, Chair
Brenda Carlisle
Mary Jane Karabatsos
Michele Missel
John Sheehan

Advisory Members Absent:

Jerry Kruse
Chandra Petersen
Donald Rashid, Vice Chair
Shawn Shanahan
Michael Touzin

Region 6 Staff Present:

Patti Jurjevich
Taren Petersen

Recorder: Amy Lett

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Dean Loftus, Chair, called the meeting to order. Roll call of members determined there was a quorum.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 3, 2016

John Sheehan made a motion to approve the minutes from August 3, 2016. Brenda Carlisle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously upon voice vote.

3. Approval of Agenda

John Sheehan made a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting. Brenda Carlisle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously upon voice vote.

4. Administrator's Report – Patti Jurjevich

Ms. Jurjevich said she would save her comments for later on in the agenda.

5. Spotlight on Levels of Care – Brett Matthies, Manager of Emergency Services

- **Mobile Crisis Response – Jenny Stewart, Heartland Family Service’s Director of Crisis Response Services and Lindsey Kroll, Lutheran Family Services’ Crisis Response Supervisor**

See handout.

- i. Heartland Family Service’s Mobile Crisis Response (MCR) team serves the counties of Cass and Sarpy and has 15 staff; 5 of the 15 are on call at all times.
- ii. Lutheran Family Services’ Mobile Crisis Response (MCR) team serves the counties of Dodge, Douglas and Washington and has 13 staff; 2 – 3 of the 13 are on call at all times.

Members of the teams are licensed behavioral health professionals and are dispatched at the request of a law enforcement officer by either a 911 operator or directly from the officer. Homeless Shelters and people working at the Nebraska Family Helpline also have the ability to call and request an MCR team member be dispatched. There is one phone number to request Mobile Crisis Response; the person answering that phone then patches the line through to the therapist on call.

MCR teams work with both adults and children; the program has served people aged 2 years – 91 years. There really is not an average age of consumer in this service and no ‘typical’ calls; the needs really vary.

This service goes anywhere it is needed; therapists help people in homeless shelters, on bridges, in bedrooms, schools, at parks and on highways, just to name a few. The only place they do not serve people is in a hospital because there are other treatment options available. Officers must remain with MCR team members throughout these calls; the only exception to this is at homeless shelters – law enforcement does not have to be there.

The average response time is 20 minutes but can take up to 60 minutes when trying to reach any of the 5 counties in our Region. Once there, calls last an average of 50 minutes; this is from arrival to when the therapist departs.

MCR therapists give a brief mini-mental health status exam to determine if there are any safety risks (such as suicide). They screen for any signs of trauma, current and past substance use and they work to help the person set up a safety plan.

The future goal is to grow the programs to be utilized more often. Telehealth is also an emerging trend that could be utilized by this type of service in the future.

BHAC members asked if the number of people placed in Emergency Protective Custody (EPC) has been reduced. Brett Matthies said that Region 6 is working on educating officers to utilize this program more in an attempt to help reduce EPCs.

The Sarpy program started in 2008 and call volume has continued to increase year by year. The EPC diversion rates have maintained at 90%. Jenny Stewart stated in 2015, Sarpy had 397 calls with 90-91% of those being diverted.

BHAC members expressed there is a great need for this service. They also expressed concern about the length of the response times to the counties further outside of the immediate Omaha metro area. It was noted that the Dodge County Sheriff's department and Fremont police are able to use this service and that MCR members get there as soon as they can and although there may be a wait time initially, this service may help to prevent future call backs for the same person which could save law enforcement time in the long run.

Law enforcement officers do still attend Crisis Intervention Training (CIT). Right now this training is offered twice a year and it may expand to 3 times a year. Sarpy and Cass have every new officer trained in mental health crisis as soon as they leave the academy.

6. Timeline for Request for Proposals (RFP) for Multiple Substance Use Services – Taren Petersen

See handout. Catholic Charities intends to terminate their FY17 Region 6 behavioral health contract by Dec. 31, 2016. The handout in packets is the timeline related to the Request for Proposals (RFP) process for multiple substance use services.

Region 6 issued an RFP for two packages of substance use services, they are as follows:

- 1) Civil Protective Custody, Emergency Protective Custody, Social Detox, Mental Health Crisis Assessments
- 2) Short-term Residential, Dual Diagnosis Residential, Peer Support and Substance Use Community Support

As noted in the timeline, a Bidder's Conference was held on 9/1/16 and Letters of Intent are due tomorrow, 9/8/16.

A review committee will meet 9/26/16 – 10/4/16 to discuss proposals. Ms. Petersen said that copies of each proposal and a scoring sheet will be sent to each review committee member in advance of the meeting on 9/26/16. Region 6 wants review committee members to fill out the scoring sheets before the group meets however, scores can be changed after discussion if the reviewer feels the need to do so. There will be a lot of reading involved as there will be a proposal for each service and each proposal can be a maximum of 10 pages.

Region 6 understands this is a very aggressive time frame that Providers have to get these services up and running by Jan. 1, 2017.

The following BHAC members said they are interested in participating in the RFP review process:

- John Sheehan
- Mary Jane Karabotsos
- Dean Loftus

Ms. Petersen noted another RFP or Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for other services will be announced in a few weeks.

7. Budget Reduction Exercise for FY18 & FY19 – Patti Jurjevich

See handouts. Ms. Jurjevich first spoke about this budget reduction exercise at last month's BHAC meeting where items 7a and 7b were distributed. At that time, the Region was told to work on the assumption of a \$1.8 million reduction or 9.25% cut to the Region's budget. The Region submitted item 7c to the Governing Board on 8/10/16.

After Region 6 submitted this document to the Division of Behavioral Health (DBH), DBH then asked we reduce the budget by only 3% instead of 9.25% or \$600,000.00. Regional Administrators met with DBH representatives in North Platte recently and learned that the Governor has given no directive to reduce budgets.

Ms. Petersen has made Region 6 Network Providers aware of the potential impact to their budgets but no cuts have actually been decided upon or implemented.

Ms. Jurjevich will continue to keep BHAC members updated as she learns more.

8. Network System Coordination Update – Taren Petersen

See handout. BHAC members can contact Ms. Petersen any time with questions or comments regarding the Network System Coordination Update. There were no questions at this time.

9. Status Reports for the Period Ending July 31, 2016

Handouts are in the packets for each of the items listed below:

a. Contract Status Reports

This document was not available for today's meeting. It is being finalized and will be sent out once it is completed.

b. Mobile Crisis Response

This data relates to today's Spotlight discussion. There were 49 total calls in July 2016. There were no questions or comments at this time.

c. Emergency Protective Custody (EPC)

The number of total EPCs increased from 177 in July 2015 to 197 in July 2016; an increase of 20. There were no questions or other comments at this time.

d. Comparison of Acute and Subacute Occupancy Rates

There were no questions.

10. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

11. Adjourn

Michele Missel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. John Sheehan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously upon voice vote. Meeting adjourned.

Prepared By: Amy M Lett

Date: 10/5/2016

Approved By: Dean Loftus

Date: 10/5/2016

