



Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare

Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Roles and Responsibilities

HISTORY:

The Nebraska Behavioral Health Regions were first established in 1974 through the Nebraska Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services Act (LB 302) and then modified in 1977 through LB 204 which added substance abuse services to the responsibility of the Regions. In 2004, responsibilities were again revised under LB 1083, the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act.

- **REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES:** Nebraska Statute Section 71-807 – 809 established six Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (Region 6 serves the counties of Cass, Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington). Each of the six regional behavioral health authorities established and utilize a:
 - **REGIONAL GOVERNING BOARD**, consisting of one county board member from each county in the region
 - **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BHAC)** consisting of consumers, providers and other interested parties. The Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (BHAC) was established by action of the Region 6 Governing Board pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute Sec 71-808(2), as its official advisory body on behavioral health, which includes mental health, alcoholism, and drug abuse.

PURPOSE:

The BHAC provides recommendation and advice to the Region 6 Governing Board on matters relating to the planning, organization, contracting, provision, evaluation, and fiscal analysis of the mental health and substance abuse services of the Region. These services include treatment, rehabilitation and prevention for adults and children/youth.

MEMBERSHIP:

The BHAC is made up of a minimum of twelve members representing a variety of demographic and advocacy groups in the Region and whenever possible is culturally representative of the region including consumers, providers and other interested parties. Any person employed by an agency that receives funding through Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare is not eligible for membership due to a potential conflict of interest. All nominations must be approved by the Governing Board.

Behavioral Health Advisory Committee members include:

- Two (2) members from each of the five counties in Region 6: members serve 3 year terms with a maximum of 2 terms and shall continue to serve until their successor is appointed.
- One (1) member who is also a member of the Governing Board: this person is appointed every January by the Governing Board.
- One (1) member of the Region 6 Consumer Advisory Team (CAT): this person is appointed every January by the Governing Board based upon nominations received by CAT.

MEETINGS:

BHAC members are responsible for attending all regular and special meetings of the BHAC; attendance is important and members are required to attend at least two-thirds of the regular and special meetings held by the BHAC during any twelve month period. Meetings are currently held the 1st Wednesday of every month, 9:00 a.m. at Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare, 4715 South 132ndSt., Omaha, NE 68137. The

duration of meetings is usually about 2 hours. Members are reimbursed for their mileage expenses to and from meetings.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Each regional behavioral health authority in collaboration with the BHAC shall be responsible for the development and coordination of publicly funded behavioral health services within the behavioral health region, including but not limited to, review and recommendation on:

- (a) integration and coordination of the public behavioral health system within the behavioral health region,
- (b)) comprehensive planning for the provision of an appropriate array of community-based behavioral health services and continuum of care for the region,
- (c) an annual budget and a proposed plan for the funding and administration of publicly funded behavioral health services within the region.

CURRENT OPEN POSITIONS:

Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare is currently seeking individuals to fill open positions for the following counties:

- Cass County

APPLICATIONS:

If you are interested in applying to be a member of the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee please complete the attached application form and submit it to Julie Matthews at Region 6 one of two ways:

- Email: jmatthews@regionsix.com
- U.S.P.S.:

Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare
Attn: Julie Matthews
4715 South 132nd St.
Omaha, NE 68137

Please call Julie Matthews at (402) 505-4604 if you need assistance with or have questions about the membership application process.