



Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2022

Advisory Members Present:

Jeff Leach

Chris Kelly

Medjine Desgraves

John Sheehan

Amy Zimmer

Michealle Vega-Hernandez

Advisory Members Absent:

Happy Aldana

Rob Hillabrand

Region 6 Staff Present

Patti Jurjevich

Taren Petersen

Lorie Thomas

Miles Glasgow

Crystal Fuller

Curt Vincentini

Recorder:

Bev Jackson

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Jeff Leach, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00AM.

Jeff welcomed new BHAC member Amy Zimmer, and asked her to share a little bit about herself.

Roll call of the members determined that there was a quorum.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 4, 2022 BHAC Meeting

John Sheehan made a motion to approve the May 4, 2022 meeting minutes.

Michealle Vega-Hernandez seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously upon voice vote.

3. Approval of Agenda

John made a motion to approve the June 1, 2022 agenda.

Amy Zimmer seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously upon voice vote.

4. Administrator's Report – Patti Jurjevich

Patti Jurjevich shared that the FY22 additional 15% revenue will be paid out beginning July 1, 2022, however, it won't be added to the contracts until September or October, when the contracts will be amended to include this additional revenue. Additional payments will also be made to providers in the next couple of months for workforce vacancies and extra

employee benefits to hire and retain employees. Documentation from providers was required for these extra payments, with the deadline of May 31, 2002 for submission to Region 6. There were no questions or comments.

5. Update on Network Services – Lorie Thomas

Lorie Thomas introduced a consumer of the Plans for One services. This gentleman, “D” is a success story, and Lorie had invited him to tell of his journey. D was admitted to the Lincoln Regional Center (LRC) and remained in patient treatment there for 13 years. He was discharged from LRC and transitioned to DASH, which is an individual group home. After a few years at DASH, he transitioned to HOPE Cooperative and Assisted Living Facility, but this was a challenge for him, so he moved in with his sister. He continued to live with his sister until he was admitted to Psychiatric Residential Rehabilitation (PRR) at Community Alliance. His Medicaid Managed Organization (MCO) denied him continued authorization for services which resulted in him being discharged from PRR. He then transitioned to another Assisted Living, Bridging Hands, which is where he is still currently at, he also attends Day Rehab at Community Alliance.

Medjine Desgraves asked what type of support is needed long-term? Lorie stated that he will need support for making and attending appointments, assistance, medication management, etc. LFS will not be able to stay with D long-term. D has made so much progress in the last 2 years, and it would be unfortunate to regress. This just brings to light that there is a missing level of care. Chris Kelly then asked what can the BHAC do to support it and Lorie said, please just keep supporting Plans for One. While it is expensive, it is worth it, as was shown today with this consumer’s journey.

Everyone thanked D for sharing his story, the consumer then left the meeting.

Lorie gave an overview of her role at Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare, and Transition Services. There was a printout included in everyone’s packets for review.

Transition Services is focused on helping consumers transition from one level of care to another within our behavioral health system. Lorie then listed the 5 key activities, which are as follows:

- Review referrals for consumers referred to the Lincoln Regional Center (LRC).
- Collaborate with LRC social workers in the development of safe and appropriate discharge plans.
- Development and oversight of Plans for One (PF1).
- Facilitate the Clinical Review Team (CRT).
- Liaison and champion for behavioral health services for older adults within Region 6 and Nebraska.
- Facilitate the Nebraska Mental Health and Aging Coalition (NeMHAC).

Lorie asked if anyone had any questions and Medjine asked if a long-term care services program could be developed, and what would it take to put in place. Lorie answered that the DBH would need to be on board with it, and it is a challenge because behavioral health comes from a recovery orientation. Unfortunately, there are consumers that need maintenance and ongoing assistance. Lorie stated that it is being worked on continually. John asked about the 16 beds at Telecare. Lorie answered that this is a secure residential facility and consumers are moved on within 90 days. Michaelle then asked who has been paying for the consumer that shared his story today and Lorie answered that his SSI is used to pay rent because Medicaid doesn’t pay for Assisted Living. She also stated that when Medicaid is “turned off” the Region pays until Medicaid and/or Social Security is “turned on”. John then thanked Lorie for inviting D to share his story with everyone, as it is always great to hear a success story. Everyone agreed and again thanked Lorie.

There were no further questions or comments.

6. SAMHSA Emergency Grant (SEG) Recap – Miles Glasgow

Miles gave a PowerPoint presentation recapping the grant and activities. A print out of this was also included in everyone's packets for review.

In June 2020, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) – Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) received a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Emergency Grant for COVID-19 to address the additional need for mental health and substance use treatment for individuals seeking behavioral health services in relation to COVID-19. Statewide funding from the original grant was \$2 million, beginning on June 1, 2020 and ending August 19, 2021. Region 6 received an allocation of \$518,537 from DHHS-DBH. In June 2021, DHHS-DBH received a no-cost grant extension which extended the grant through an end date of May 21, 2022.

The target population for the grant is adults in Region 6 who met DHHS-DBH financial eligibility requirements and reported having been impacted in some way by the pandemic. Region 6 utilized the funding to contract with network providers to provide direct treatment and recovery activities for adults impacted by COVID-19.

The successes were as follows:

- Community Alliance began an online peer support group during the pandemic which has been successful.
- The grant provided increased capacity for agencies to serve consumers presenting with Covid-related issues. One agency noted that they would have otherwise had to turn away consumers due to not having enough capacity without the grant.

The challenges were:

- Providers identified completing the federal assessment paperwork at intake, discharge, and post discharge (6 months) and the related staff time as a challenge.
- Providers also noted that staff training on the grant requirements and implementation issues (such as changes to intake paperwork and electronic health records) were barriers.

Patti added that Region 6 advocated for adjustments on the billing dollars but met with resistance. John asked what happened with the remaining, unused dollars and Patti answered that they went back to the state.

There were no further questions or comments.

7. Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) – Crystal Fuller

a. Review of Funding and Budget Narrative

Crystal gave a PowerPoint presentation and a print out of this was also included in everyone's packets for review. Crystal gave an overview of MHFA, explaining that the target populations included, but were not limited to: schools, universities/colleges, law enforcement, Veteran Affairs, and local public health districts. In the period between July 2021 and May 2022, there were 36 adult courses and 8 youth courses, for a total of 685 participants.

The FY23 Training Plan will be as follows:

- Continue virtual open community courses.
- Full in person trainings.
- Targeted trainings will be held in Cass, Dodge and Washington Counties.
- Increase Spanish MHFA trainings with new trainer capacity.

The Region 6 budget is \$36,259.00. This is a deliverables-based contract and Crystal outlined the budget for the BHAC members.

There were no questions or comments.

b. BHAC Recommendation to the Regional Governing Board

John recommended that this is sent to the Regional Governing Board for their review and approval. A motion was made by Amy to recommend this to the Regional Governing

Board, with Michaëlle seconding the motion. Before the voice vote was made, Medjine asked is the curriculum only in Spanish and English? Crystal answered that it is a copyrighted program, and at this time, those are the only 2 languages available. The motion then passed unanimously upon voice vote. Taren then shared that Crystal was awarded Trainer of the Year. She had facilitated 40 MHFA trainings in 2021. Congratulations were given to Crystal.

8. United Way Collaboration – Crystal Fuller

A printout of the Increased Access to Mental Health First Aid Business Plan was included in everyone's packet for review. Crystal gave an overview of the plan in which United Way Midlands (UWM) has developed a partnership with Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare to expand Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training. The MHFA Coordinator will work for Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare in the Network Services Department-Prevention Services Program. Supervision will be provided by the Senior Manager of Prevention Services. This is a 3-year project which will encompass the following goals:

Year 1

- Coordinator to Facilitate 30 MHFA or YMHFA trainings, or 600 participants, in their first 12 months
- Onboard 5 new trainers, each facilitating at least 5 trainings in their first year as an instructor
- Prioritized focus on Youth MHFA promotion with schools, PTAs, Faith Communities, Youth Serving Organizations, Sporting Organizations, Scouts, etc.
- Engage with United Way corporate partners for promotion and facilitation of Adult Trainings
- Identify opportunities for referrals from 211 through additional website information and current training calendar. Inclusion of 211 resource information in all training courses.

Year 2

- Coordinator to Facilitate 50 MHFA or YMHFA trainings, or 1,000 participants
- Five United Way Trained Instructors to facilitate at least 7 trainings each
- Prioritization Goals to be developed based on year 1 progress and feedback from United Way

Year 3

- Coordinator to Facilitate 60 MHFA or YMHFA trainings, or 1,400 participants
- Five United Way Trained Instructors to facilitate at least 7 trainings each
- Prioritization Goals to be developed based on year 2 progress and feedback from United Way

There were no questions or comments.

9. Status Reports for Period Ending April 30, 2022 – Taren Petersen and Curt Vincentini

Reports were included in the packets for everyone's review.

a. Contract Service Report – Taren Petersen

Taren gave an update of the April 2022 Contract Status Reports. Taren stated that the expected draw down is 83.33% but that the Mental Health drawdown is at 52.56% and Substance Use Disorder is at 41.88%. This is again, largely due to multiple reasons, including Medicaid Expansion, COVID and workforce shortages. She then shared the Drawdown Report which charts a 3-year comparison. This report, it was agreed, is a great visual recap.

b. Emergency Services Report – Curt Vincentini

Curt gave his update of the April 2022 Emergency Services Dashboard Report. He stated that there are no significant trends, but that EPCs had increased 4%. There were no comments or questions.


10. Public Comments

There were no public comments or questions.

11. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by John and seconded by Chris. The motion passed unanimously upon voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 10:06AM.

Prepared By: *Beverly S. Jackson* Date: 9-7-22

Approved By:  Date: 9/7/22