

**NORTH SOUND MENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION  
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**North Sound Mental Health Administration  
Conference Room  
117 North First St., Suite 8  
Mt. Vernon, WA 98273  
October 5, 2004  
1:00 PM**

**Agenda**

1. Call to Order - Introductions, Chair - 5 minutes
2. Revisions to the Agenda, Chair - 5 minutes
3. Approval of the September 2004 Minutes, Chair - 5 minutes - Tab 1
4. Comments from the Public -5 minutes
5. Correspondence and Comments from the Chair - 5 minutes
6. Unfinished Business
  - a. Executive Director's Report - Chuck Benjamin - 5 minutes
  - b. Finance Committee - Mary Good - 5 minutes
  - c. Agenda Committee - Tom Richardson - 5 minutes
  - d. QMOC Report - Mary Good - 5 minutes
  - e. Semi-Annual Ombuds Report - Chuck Davis - 15 minutes
7. Items To Be Brought Forward To The Board of Directors - Charles Benjamin, Executive Director  
Tab 2
8. New Business
9. Comments from County Advisory Board Representatives - 15 minutes
  - a. Island
  - b. San Juan
  - c. Skagit
  - d. Snohomish
  - e. Whatcom
10. County Coordinator Report
11. Comments from Public - 5 minutes
12. Other Business
  - a. Request for Agenda Items
13. Adjournment

**NOTE:** The next Advisory Board meeting will be November 2, 2004 in the NSMHA Conference Room, 117 N. First Street, Suite 8, Mount Vernon.

**North Sound Mental Health Administration  
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

August 3, 2004

**Present:** Jack Bilsborough, Tom Richardson, John Patchamatla, Marie Jubie, Mary Good, Dean Stupke, Joan Lubbe, Jim King, Patricia Little, Patricia Whitcomb, Charles Albertson  
**Absent:** James Vest, Julian Marsh, Bruce Radtke, Chris Walsh  
**Excused:**  
**Staff:** Sharri Dempsey, Chuck Benjamin, Deirdre Ridgway, Wendy Klamp, Chuck Davis, Greg Long, and Rebecca Pate  
**Guests:** Maile Acoba, Tom Sebastian

**MINUTES**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
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**CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Jubie	Chair Jubie convened the meeting at 1:05 p.m. and welcomed those present. Introductions were made. There was a pre-meeting presentation at 12:15 by Wendy Klamp.	Informational
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**REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Chair Jubie	None	None
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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Jubie	The August 2004 minutes of the Advisory Board meeting were reviewed. Motion made to approve as written, seconded and motion carried.	Motion carried
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**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None.	Informational
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**CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR**

Chair Jubie	Marie attended the Peer-to-Peer Education Course and felt it was an excellent endeavor. Marie attended the 29 <sup>th</sup> Annual Delta Rehabilitation Summer Festival on August 7 and said it was very enjoyable. Marie talked to Chris Walsh's father who would like to come do a presentation on Traumatic Brain Injury for one of the Advisory Board pre-meetings. Marie went before the Joint Legislative and Executive Taskforce and voiced	Informational
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concerns on behalf of the Region. The Taskforce talked about non-Medicaid clients, which was of interest to Marie, as she is a non-Medicaid client. Marie felt good that the Taskforce is at least listening to the concerns being expressed. Marie received a letter from Department of Social and Health Services concerning Washington Medicaid Integration Project saying it has been pushed back to January 1, 2005. Marie received a copy of the letter from the State auditor stating North Sound Mental Health Administration had passed their fiscal audit.

## MONTHLY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chuck Benjamin	<p><b>Executive Director's Report</b></p> <p>Chuck mentioned the Ombuds poster contest and who won first, second and third place. The winning presentations will be made on September 9 at the regular Board of Directors meeting.</p> <p>Chuck feels that Tim Yowell, who is a policy analyst for the legislature is doing a very fair and accurate portrayal of the problems with funding and that the State has been using Medicaid dollars much more creatively and innovatively than other states. Chuck feels the taskforce is hearing what needs to be heard but still has the concern that in the end there will be a Band-Aid approach for fixing the problem of our ability to serve non-Medicaid clients. Chuck gave accolades to Mike Shelton on doing a superb job of representing the Washington State Association of Counties on the taskforce. Mike is raising the questions that need to be raised by local elected officials to the state elected officials about taking ownership of their problem and not cost shifting it down to the local communities. Chuck stated that Mike had been invited to the Partners in Crisis Conference and will be presenting the North Sound Mental Health Administration's approach to the new Medicaid rules.</p> <p>North Sound Mental Health Administration is making arrangements to attend the Partners in Crisis Conference, September 27-29. If you are interested in this conference, contact Sharri Dempsey for more information.</p> <p>Chuck attended a Snohomish County Advisory Committee meeting of the Washington Medicaid Integration Project on September 2 and gave a</p>	Informational
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presentation on the potential degradation of services to the North Sound Mental Health Administration. This presentation was not done for the 6,000 lives that will be covered by the Integration Project but for the 116,000 lives that will be left as North Sound Mental Health Administration's responsibility and what resources would be lost due to regional infrastructures that have been developed (i.e., Care Crisis Line, Central Access to Care Team, Children's Crisis Center, the two Evaluation and Treatment Centers, etc.). New Medicaid rules are affecting North Sound Mental Health Administration's ability to provide services. Current State hospital bed capacity is at 87.

Department of Social and Health Services shared with local advisory committee in Snohomish County their proposed draft report to the legislature that the Department of Social and Health Services is required to provide. This report is earmarked to go to the House Appropriations Committee first. Chuck stated that in reviewing the document it appears to be a professional marketing paper, not a report, and a lot of the facts are misrepresented (i.e., they say they have worked with local communities to resolve issues and the issues have not been resolved). The Advisory Committee has decided they will submit their own report to the legislature giving its perspective of whether or not items have been resolved. This will be a collaborative effort between North Sound Mental Health Administration and Snohomish County. There will be one response and it has to be done by Thursday, September 9, at noon. Chuck has been in public government for 32 years and has never seen a state agency misrepresent the facts as has occurred with the Washington Medicaid Integration Project.

Chuck said North Sound Mental Health Administration did very well on the External Quality Review Organization audit and is looking forward to the report to see how well North Sound Mental Health Administration did overall in the state. The results may not be available until March or April of 2005. This is when the Mental Health Division has to submit a report to the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS).

The mental health issue on the Washington Medicaid Integration Project has been delayed but it

is unknown for how long. Department of Social and Health Services is saying mental health services will not be included until all local concerns have been addressed. What raises Chuck's concern is Department of Social and Health Services is determining whether or not the response is adequate and Chuck is not sure this is good news.

Chuck stated that the State audit went well with no findings but a couple of minor recommendations. This is the sixth year in a row that the State Auditor's Office has come and looked at North Sound Mental Health Administration's fiscal records and had no findings. A lot of gratitude is owed to Bill Whitlock for accomplishing this task.

Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services are coming back to Washington state for another audit and North Sound Mental Health Administration is one of the seven Regional Support Networks to be visited. The Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services will be at North Sound Mental Health Administration in November.

Chuck mentioned North Sound Mental Health Administration's "Vision of Hope" and announced that the North Sound Mental Health Administration is actively in discussions with the Department of Alcohol and Substance Abuse to do a joint Recovery Conference. There will be modules for co-occurring disorders at the conference. Monies are forth coming from Department of Alcohol and Substance Abuse and North Sound Mental Health Administration. The North Sound Mental Health Administration is also trying to obtain monies from all eight Tribes to help with this conference. It is exciting to have this collaboration in the North Sound Region. Sharri Dempsey is leading this project with the Department of Alcohol and Substance Abuse.

**Finance Committee Report**

Mary Good

Mary stated committee met and all expenditures passed. A copy was distributed for review. A discussion period followed. Motion made to approve the expenditures, seconded and motion carried.

Motion carried

**Executive Committee/Agenda Committee**

Tom Richardson

Tom stated the Executive/Agenda Committee had a long meeting to prepare for the Advisory Board

Informational

retreat on October 15, at the Skagit Resort. The issues of public safety, financing and community mobilization will be the focus of the meeting. The Committee hopes to have a meeting with Chuck Benjamin before his hospitalization to finalize the details. This meeting will look into the problems of mental health services and those individuals who need this service. It is the hope to come up with a broad community consensus with a common strategy on how to proceed in the future with the next to address the issues that are not met. This meeting will be a time to come up with solutions on how to address the problems with mental health services. Sharri Dempsey will provide final details.

Marie Jubie

There will be an "All Aboard" to attend Pathways to Employment, November 10, 2004, in Lynnwood at Embassy Suites.

Informational

October 1 the Domestic Violence Coalition and Prosecuting Attorney's Office will conduct a Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault summit. The cost is \$30 and will be held at the Everett Event Center. Marie stated the Advisory Board would probably pay for anyone who wishes to attend and she plans on going.

September 27-29 is an "All Aboard" to the Washington Partners in Crisis Conference in Yakima. If you wish to attend, please contact Sharri Dempsey.

Mary Good

#### QMOC Report

Mary stated she was not present but provided the following items of discussion:

Informational

- Gary Williams will be the new chair
- Terry McDonough gave the 1<sup>st</sup> Biennial Report for the Quality Management Department
- Wendy stated that North Sound Mental Health Administration went through the External Quality Review Organization (EQRO) audit and all went well
- Wendy gave a PowerPoint presentation on a recently completed caseload study
- Wendy provided the Critical Incident Report for April-June in Diana's absence and requested questions be



Benjamin stated that the Fiscal Officer and Information System Specialist were being reclassified with an increase in pay. A Quality Review Team position has been converted into a Data Analyst position and Gary Williams Quality Specialist position that was .527 was made full-time.

Maile Acoba                      Maile stated the County Coordinators are very concerned about the issues related to payee ships. The County Coordinators want to ensure that an equitable solution is reached for all parties involved. Chuck stated that this was discussed before the Board and will be discussed again.                      Informational

Chuck Benjamin                      Chuck stated that North Sound Mental Health Administration had a misunderstanding about Lake Whatcom Residential Treatment Center. It was thought they were asking for \$37/month and Lake Whatcom clarified their position that they sent in numbers that did not reflect everything they wanted to reflect and their charge would be \$10/month. Compass Health is currently charging \$29/month and is looking at the possibility of a sliding fee scale. The maximum charges can be no more than \$35/month by State law.                      Informational

**Board of Directors September Introduction Item**

Chuck Benjamin                      The Biennial Integrated Report for the Quality Management Department will be introduced for approval.                      Informational

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.                      None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chuck Benjamin                      North Sound Mental Health Administration has some issues with the new contract between the Mental Health Division and the Regional Support Networks. North Sound Mental Health Administration has some major concerns with the Mental Health Division's proposed contract, as do all the other Regional Support Networks. The main problem North Sound Mental Health Administration has is that the Mental Health Division wants to backdate the contract until August 1, 2003. Chuck said there are a lot of things that were not enforced in August 2003 that the Mental Health Division is not willing to give disclaimers on being held responsible for doing                      Informational

something before it was ever approved. The North Sound Mental Health Administration is being very cautious about this issue. This has the potential of a conference call between Regional Support Network attorneys so that collectively the Networks can offer the State some alternative language and the Networks can divert the potential of not being able to sign a contract. The Mental Health Division has known about the changes and has failed to do an amended contract prior to this time.

#### COMMENTS FROM COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Island	Patricia Whitcomb had no report, as they did not meet; however, everything from this meeting will be presented at Island County's next meeting. Patricia Little stated that NAMI of Island county had a two-page coverage in the media concerning the issues with Medicaid and how it is affecting the community.	Informational
San Juan	Dean stated this would be his last meeting and he will find a replacement as soon as possible. San Juan is continuing to make progress on the new facility. Dean has been working with Compass on a grant. A group is forming to generate interest for public donations towards the new facility.	Informational
Skagit	They did not meet in July or August but had a retreat at LaConner flats involving substance abuse and mental health. They will be focusing on the MICA program and the Behavioral Crisis Triage (social detox).	Informational
Snohomish	They had no meeting last month but Marie attended the NAMI picnic and visited with consumers in attendance. Most of the consumers Marie socialized with were registered to vote and encouraged others to register. The picnic was a huge success.	Informational
Whatcom	They had their retreat last month and it was Julian Marsh's last meeting. Chuck Albertson stated they had an invitation from the County to do a proposal. Gary Williams suggested Whatcom ask for \$100,000 but Mr. Brandland suggested we ask for \$200,000. Gary suggested we use consumers and peer counselors to perform some of the peer case management or case management services for some of the needs being identified in the hospitals, jail,	Informational

opportunity council, etc. Tom stated that Senator Brandland suggested that everyone write letters to their legislators. Tom said Julian Marsh has left for Alaska for some graduate schooling and suggested that the Advisory Board retire his nameplate for the future. Tom hopes Julian will eventually come back as the director of Rainbow Center.

#### COUNTY COORDINATOR REPORT

Maile Acoba	The County Coordinators discussed the new Medicaid rules. They have worked hard to identify and coordinate areas where they can help with Medicaid shortages.	Informational
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#### COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

Marie Jubie	Marie stated that next Tuesday is election day. Please vote.	Informational
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#### OTHER BUSINESS

John Patchamatla	John stated he met with Patti Murray and Congressman Rick Larsen. John said both stated they would love to receive letters from the public concerning the mental health issues.	Informational
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Chuck Benjamin	Chuck said one issue that needed to be addressed to our elected officials is the new strict enforcement by the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services on how funds can be used. More importantly is how our Medicaid savings can be used. Private HMOs are not held to the same regulations. They can spend their savings any way they desire. Chuck would like to ask the elected officials to give the same latitude and freedom between private HMOs and the government on how the Medicaid savings are spent.	Informational
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Marie Jubie	Marie suggested the Advisory Board write a letter and John Patchamatla said he would hand carry it to the senator and congressman to ensure they receive it. Tom Richardson moved that the chair write a letter, John Patchamatla seconded, Jim King suggested personal necessities request be added to the letter. The Chair called for the vote, all in favor, motion carried. Marie said she would present a draft to the Advisory Board before mailing.	Motion carried
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Tom Richardson	Tom attended a fundraiser for Representative Larsen hosted by the Tribes of Whatcom and	Informational
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Upper Skagit. Unsolicited, the Congressman mentioned the mental health parody and mental health concerns. Tom suggested that each of us take the opportunity to encourage and support all our elected officials that express awareness and concerns about the same issues of public policy.

John Patchamatla	John suggested we have a county commissioner come to a meeting to see how the advisory board functions.	Informational
Chuck Albertson	Chuck suggested we have someone come discuss children's issues. Tom Richardson suggested we invite Betty Scott come discuss teen screening.	Informational
Patricia Whitcomb	Patricia Whitcomb suggested a Community Team come present at a pre-meeting. Contact Jim Teverbaugh or Marty Bishop to make arrangements.	Informational
Marie Jubie	Marie asked when the six-bed children's facility in Everett would be expanded to 12-bed. Marie asked for a report to the Advisory Board about this issue.	Informational

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Jubie                      Chair Jubie adjourned the meeting at 2:30 pm.

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 23, 2004  
TO: NSMHA Advisory Board  
FROM: Chuck Benjamin, Executive Director  
RE: October 14, 2004 Board of Director's Agenda

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Please find for your review and comment the following that will be discussed with the Board of Directors and brought forth at the October 14, 2004 NSMHA Board of Directors Meeting.

All items referred to below are accessible on the NSMHA website by visiting:  
<http://www.nsrnsn.org/Boards/A Board Packet.htm>

### Consent Agenda

#### Board of Directors October Action Items

(Copies of supporting documentation will be available upon request)

1. **Motion # 04-048** – To approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Biennial Quarter 2004 Integrated Quality Management Report.
  - a. This integrated report provides North Sound Mental Health Administration's Quality Management activities performed during the first six (6) months of 2004. It also addresses follow up issues identified in the previous Integrated Report.
  - b. Strengths, areas for further review and accomplishments of note
  - c. All of North Sound Mental Health Administration's Quality Management activities are presented and reviewed monthly at North Sound Mental Health Administration's Coordinated Quality Improvement Program (CQIP)Recommendations from the Coordinated Quality Improvement Program (CQIP) Committee regarding Quality Management activities conducted during the 1<sup>st</sup> Biennial Quarter 2004 are detailed in the Integrated Report.
1. **Motion # 04-049** – To approve the North Sound Mental Health Administration – Mental Health Division contract #0369-23150, Amendment 1. This Amendment replaces the Statement of Work, Special Terms and Conditions and Exhibits in their entirety, retroactive to 8/1/03.
2. **Motion #04-050** – To approve the Interlocal Agreement #0469-56334 Transition From Homelessness (PATH) contract between North Sound Mental Health Administration and Department of Social and Health Services.
3. **Motion #04-051** – To approve the Interlocal Agreement #0469-59965 Mental Health Block Grant Services contract between North Sound Mental Health Administration and Department of Social and Health Services.

4. **Motion #04-052** – To approve the North Sound Mental Health Administrations contract # NSMHA-APN-ECS-GMU-03, amendment 3. This amendment will replace the current Exhibits A and B with the new Exhibits A and B. The purpose of the amendment is to transfer two GMU beds from Whatcom to Snohomish County.

**Introduction Items**

1. **Motion # IN-024** – To introduce the North Sound Mental Health Administration’s budget for 2005. (This will be available after the Board of Directors meeting 10/14/04.)

cc: Charles R. Benjamin  
County Coordinators  
NSRSN Management Team