

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 20, 2004  
TO: NSMHA Advisory Board  
FROM: Chuck Benjamin, Executive Director  
RE: January 6, 2005 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 January 6, 2005, 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](http://www.nsrnsn.org/Boards/A_Board_Packet.htm)

### **Consent Agenda**

#### **Action Items**

**Motion #05-001** – To approve the NSMHA-COMPASS-PATH contract, Amendment 1.

#### **Action Items Not Yet Reviewed by the Advisory Board**

#### **Introduction Items**

cc: Charles R. Benjamin  
County Coordinators  
NSRSN Management Team

**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  
January 4, 2005  
1:00 PM**

**Agenda**

7. Call to Order - Introductions, Chair – 5 minutes
8. Revisions to the Agenda, Chair – 5 minutes
9. Approval of the December 2004 Minutes, Chair – 5 minutes
10. Comments from the Public –5 minutes
11. Correspondence and Comments from the Chair – 5 minutes
12. Monthly Committee Reports
  - 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
13. Items To Be Brought Forward To The Board of Directors – Charles Benjamin, Executive Director
  - a. Consent Agenda
14. New Business
15. Comments from County Advisory Board Representatives – 15 minutes
  - a. Island
  - b. San Juan
  - c. Skagit
  - d. Snohomish
  - e. Whatcom
16. County Coordinator Report
17. Comments from Public – 5 minutes
18. Other Business
  - a. Request for Agenda Items
19. Adjournment

**NOTE:** The next Advisory Board meeting will be February 1, 2005 in the NSMHA Conference Room, 117 N. First Street, Suite 8, Mount Vernon.

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

December 7, 2004

DRAFT

**Present:** Joan Lubbe, Tom Richardson, Patricia Whitcomb, Jackie Abell, Anne Gresham, Chuck Benjamin, Marie Jubie, James Mead, John Patchamatla, Chris Walsh, and Jim King  
**Absent:** Patricia Little, Debbie Hollo, Charles Albertson, Bruce Radtke  
**Excused:** Jack Bilsborough, Mary Good  
**Staff:** Wendy Klamp, Deirdre Ridgway, Sharri Dempsey, Bill Whitlock, Greg Long, Chuck Davis, Shirley Conger and Rebecca Pate  
**Guests:** Laurel Britt, Barbara LaBrash, Tom Sebastian and AnnCollen Fuge

**MINUTES**

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

Chair Jubie	Chair Jubie convened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. and welcomed those present. Introductions were made.	Informational
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**REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Chair Jubie	Marie had a revision of agenda and stated that she had some difficulty conducting the meeting last month. There was some negative feedback on this and Marie said the Board would not tolerate abuse of anyone attending/serving at the Advisory Board Meeting.	Informational
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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Jubie	The November 2004 minutes of the Advisory Board meeting were reviewed. A motion was made to approve, seconded, and <b>motion carried</b> . One abstention.	Motion carried
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**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Chris Walsh	Chris mentioned care in nursing homes. He stated that nursing homes are so frustrated that they will no longer call Compass Health. He will provide Chuck Benjamin with specific information. Chuck Davis stated that North Sound Mental Health Administration Ombuds would help any way possible.	Informational
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AnnColleen Fuge	Ann of Skagit County asked that activity cuts be addressed within residential facilities. She had grave concerns for those who will loose services due to budget cuts. She encouraged everyone to speak up and	Informational
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let our voices be heard concerning mental health issues. She said that some jail facilities fail to provide medication to mental health consumers.

James Mead

He stated that they had the same problem in the jail system in Clarke County and it appears to be a statewide problem. He had Ombuds talk to the sheriff and a couple of other people from mental health advisory board talk to the sheriff. He said that medications are taken away because state law says they have to be taken away. He said at one time it was requested to have mental health counselors visit consumers in jail and that was denied due to lack of room. Medical personnel that can issue drugs do not man the jails.

Informational

He said that no mental health treatment in nursing homes is a definite problem that also needs to be addressed. He said when he left Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) three (3) years ago mental health patients in nursing homes were not getting the treatment they needed. He attended a statewide meeting of residential care and quality assurance nurses and one person in charge of that workshop told him that mental health consumers did not belong in nursing homes but in mental health institutions and he does not believe this to be true. He fought this when he worked for DSHS. He asked that this be addressed with the Taskforce.

Chuck Benjamin

Chuck stated that these issues and others would be addressed at the Taskforce meeting tomorrow. He said there are some jails that do provide medications and they are bringing the enormous cost of the medications to the attention of the taskforce.

Informational

Tom Richardson

Tom stated that Whatcom County jail prescribes medicines and Chuck Davis said they have individuals in Skagit County that also provide medications when the need is presented.

Informational

Tom mentioned the jail initiative that passed in Whatcom County that will include meeting rooms and a triage center.

## **CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR**

Marie Jubie

Marie did not attend the Snohomish County Advisory Board meeting due to hospitalization. She asked everyone to think about pre-meetings and "All Aboard" trips to be accomplished next year. Marie mentioned having Chris Walsh's father come and talk about traumatic brain injury.

Informational

## MONTHLY COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Executive Director's Report

Chuck Benjamin

Chuck discussed the fiscal issue the Region is facing beginning in January. Information has been sent to all concerned for feedback. The proposals were received and a meeting was held yesterday to discuss options. Chuck stated the proposals needed to be decided prior to January. Chuck mentioned that we are looking at a \$1.5M reduction in six months, which is very hard to accomplish and very hard for everyone to agree on the reductions necessary. There was no consensus on any of the proposals submitted. Greg Long is in contact with Dave Gossett to try and have a planning meeting prior to the January Board of Directors meeting. The real issue for us is the longer we delay making a decision where the reductions will occur the greater the reduction. We had hoped to have something to present to the Board of Directors Thursday but that is not possible; however, it cannot be delayed beyond January. Marie Jubie asked how the crisis line would be affected? Chuck said it would have to be considered. The Planning Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 7 at either 1:00 or 3:00 and Chuck encouraged everyone to attend to let their voices be heard. As soon as the time and date are known, word will be put out to everyone concerned. The issue that has raised the highest level of concern is the integration of crisis services in San Juan and Island Counties. Chuck stated that anything NSMHA does will have an impact but the Region is striving for the proposal with the least impact on everyone concerned. Chuck stated that he was pleased to have a bus going down to the mental health taskforce. The taskforce will be presenting its recommendations for the full legislature. Chuck asked everyone to have their ears and minds open and listen to the recommendations that will be made by the taskforce. This is an extremely important meeting.

Informational

Chuck stated when he attended the meeting in Snohomish County concerning the Washington Medicaid Integration Project (WMIP), that Pat McDonald from DSHS announced they will be seeking legislative action to include mental health in WMIP. NSMHA was considering taking the DSHS to court and getting an injunction. NSMHA met with the attorney general using the RCW 70.24 for the basis of our claim. Chuck's main concern is what legislative action DSHS will seek.

Chuck Benjamin, Jim King, Greg Long, Wendy Klamp, Tom Sebastian, John Patchamatla

Chuck addressed the issue of employment that was brought up at last month's meeting. He provided handouts with information addressing these concerns. There was some lengthy discussion. Chuck said NSMHA's consumer information system is adequate but there is a lot more the region needs to do in collecting information around employment so a more meaningful report can be provided. The Region has 169 consumers working full-time, 552 working part-time, 65 supported employment, 9 employed sheltered workshops, 231 volunteer workers (1 or more hours/week), 102 retired, 10,631 unemployed and 2,111 unknowns. What bothers Chuck is the high number of unknowns. Chuck said the unknowns were worked on during January through June 2004 with a decrease in the unknowns and he would like to see the unknowns continue to decrease. The Region also increased number of consumers by 1,300. Chuck said this report should be used as a benchmark within the guidelines of the Board of Directors and federal standards and the Advisory Board should decide the different areas to address and where to go with this data.

Informational

Jim King acknowledged the public response to his previous requests.

Greg said that the Telesage Instrument would become an important program.

Chuck said that if there is any good news, it's that NSMHA has continued to increase the employment within the Region; however, improvement is always possible. See Attachment A for more details.

Wendy Klamp said the employment issue is audited within the clinical reviews conducted on consumer charts.

Tom Sebastian said that coding and quality improvement within the consumer charts is not fully addressed but will be in the future.

Wendy said the Quality Management Department would look into this area for clarification and report back to the Board. Greg said that if the Board wants employment to become an issue then it needed to be addressed as such and employment is a planning issue. It will be decided whether to go before the Planning Committee or Quality Management or both.

Chuck said the data available is inadequate and there is more work to be accomplished.

John Patchamatla thanked Chuck for the in depth

report.

### **Finance Committee Report**

Marie Jubie, John  
Patchamatla

The expenditures for the Advisory Board were distributed for review. A motion was made to the Board for approval, motion was seconded and **motion carried** with one abstention.

John asked how the Board stood on the budget? Marie said that the Advisory Board will be over budget but that was due to more activities that were not originally budgeted, actual costs being more than estimated and more consumer participation.

Motion carried

### **Executive Committee/Agenda Committee**

Tom Richardson

Tom said that a motion was made for the Board to fund a Hasselgrave bus for the five-county participation in Martin Luther King Day in Olympia to educate and inform legislators on mental health issues. This would include NAMI members, consumers, advocates and mental health professionals from all five counties. NAMI Whatcom is organizing the event. The motion was presented to the Board for approval and the motion carried.

Motion carried

The second recommendation was nominations for service on the Advisory Board as Chair and Vice Chair. It was recommended that Marie Jubie continue as Chair and John Patchamatla as Vice Chair, if willing. John was not sure he could fulfill the obligation due to his position with Snohomish County. Sharri Dempsey will check and see if John is eligible. John said he would have to think about it and let the Board know. Tom said that other nominations could be made from the floor next month. He also said two at-large members would be appointed by the Chair and Vice Chair.

Informational

### **QMOC Report**

Wendy Klamp

Wendy stated that Tom Sebastian provided the “in agency” presentation. A new segment added to the Quality Management Oversight Committee is a training session. Deirdre Ridgway gave the APN audit report. The Compass Health re-review was given with a 97% overall score. A case review study was conducted due to concerns raised for abrupt release of consumers. The External Quality Review Organization report was distributed with a summary. NSMHA had 87 areas of reporting with only 6 areas of non-compliance. See Attachment B.

**ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Consent Agenda**

None.

**Board of Directors December Action Items  
Previously Reviewed by the Advisory Board**

Chuck Benjamin	The NSMHA 2005 proposed budget. Chris made a motion for budget to be approved, seconded and <b>motion carried.</b>	Motion carried
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**Board of Directors December Action Items Not  
Yet Reviewed by the Advisory Board**

Chuck Benjamin	<b>Motion #04-058</b> – The Code of Conduct required by the Balanced Budget Act was presented for review and is required by Contractors.	Informational
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	<b>Motion #04-057</b> – To increase the capitalization amount for assets from \$1,000 to \$7,500, effective December 2003.	Informational
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	<b>Motion #04-059</b> – To review and approve the Second Lease Addendum, NSMHA, Carnation Building for five (5) year term starting 2/1/05, 5,100 sq. ft. at 14.75 per sq. ft. with 3% annual increase, plus initial \$18,000 for refurbishment.	Informational
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	<b>Motion #04-060</b> – To review and approve Policy #2001, Business Ethics and Regulatory Compliance Program as amended.	Informational
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	<b>Motion #04-061</b> – To review and approve North Sound Mental Health Administration – Mental Health Division contract #0369-23150, Amendment 2.	Informational
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Chuck Benjamin said State would have the new amended contract to the Region by Friday but it is not in our possession. Motion #04-061 was withdrawn.

**Board of Directors December Introduction Item**

Chuck Benjamin	<b>Motion #IN-025</b> – To introduce Interlocal Agreement #0469-56334 Transition From Homelessness (PATH) contract, Amendment 1, between North Sound Mental Health Administration and the Department of Social and Health Services.	
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	<b>Motion #IN-026</b> – To introduce the NSMHA-COMPASS-PATH contract, contract #NSMHA-CH-PATH 04-05.	
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Tom Richardson, John Patchamatla, Jim King, Marie Jubie	Made a motion that the Board adopts Motions #04-057, #04-058, #04-059, #04-060, IN 025, and 026. Some discussion followed.	
	Marie asked that Motion #04-059 be from original motion by Tom and the Board vote to adopt Motions #04-057, #04-058, #04-060, IN 025 and 026, seconded, <b>motion carried</b> .	Motion carried
Tom Richardson	Made a motion that the Board adopt Motion #04-059, seconded and <b>motion carried</b> , with one abstention.	Motion carried

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chuck Benjamin, John Patchamatla	Presented special award certificates and token of appreciation to Advisory Board members Marie Jubie, Jim King, Jack Bilsborough, Chris Walsh, Chuck Benjamin, James Mead, Tom Richardson, Mary Good, Joan Lubbe, Chuck Albertson, Bruce Radtke, Patricia Whitcomb, Patricia Little, Anne Gresham and Jackie Abell for their volunteer services on the Board.
	Chuck stated that he hears accolades from areas throughout the state and feels that our success is due to outstanding services by our volunteers.
	John recognized the efforts of Chuck Benjamin as Executive Director for North Sound Mental Health Administration stating the Advisory Board runs so smoothly due in part to Chuck's outstanding work.

**COMMENTS FROM COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS**

Island	Patricia Whitcomb missed the meeting and had nothing to report.	Informational
San Juan	Anne Gresham missed the meeting but said there are concerns about the budget cuts. One of the proposals was to cut mental health professionals in San Juan County and have consumers become the responsibility of Island County, which is a great concern. The sheriff's department will probably be handling mental health consumers, which could delay assistance necessary for consumers.	Informational
Skagit	Jim King said they met and learned that a proposal has been made with significant changes. The Mental Health Court has seen one individual and is progressing.	Informational

Snohomish Marie missed the meeting so she had nothing to report. Informational  
John Patchamatla said that Becky Olson-Hernandez came and did a presentation on children in crisis.

Whatcom Tom Richardson said that Whatcom discussed the Informational  
building that housed Rainbow Center has been sold to new owners with Rainbow Center continuing as a tenant. Tom stated that Dan Bilson had a major heart attack and underwent triple bypass with valve replacement. Sharri said that a get-well card was sent on behalf of the Advisory Board. The initiative on the new jail passed and will have a triage facility, which will deal with co-occurring and mental health.

### COUNTY COORDINATOR REPORT

Barbara LaBrash, Barbara, San Juan County Coordinator, thanked the Informational  
Chuck Benjamin, Jim Board for the lovely food and refreshment. She  
King, Greg Long, thanked Anne Gresham and Jackie Abell for  
Tom Sebastian volunteering to serve on behalf of San Juan County.  
She said this is a trying time with all the cuts and changes coming forward. San Juan is experiencing significant changes that will have grave impact. San Juan County does not have an infrastructure for support. Due to the possible change from San Juan to Island County, a response time for a CDMHP will be longer. With the crisis services being cut consumers would be held in jail while awaiting help. Barbara requested that the letter from the sheriff be posted along with anything else on the website. The proposal of transferring CDMHP care to Island County would have an impact by way of CDMHP costs and travel expense. Chuck said the proposals would be presented to the planning committee with decisions/recommendations. Tom Richardson said he had a concern with providers being given control over budget cuts. Chuck said everyone receiving monies were asked to submit a proposal for cuts and that is the reason the planning committee is convening to discuss submitted proposals. Chuck said that NSMHA would probably attend the planning committee meeting and take the priorities that were submitted earlier this year. Chuck does not want administrative staff to go to the Planning Committee stating that this is what we should do without some sort of process. The difficulty that NSMHA is running into is the “wait to do” process, which could wind up being March with a fiscal impact even more devastating. Greg said the Planning Committee would make a report to be submitted to the Board of Directors. Tom Sebastian said that a meeting was held to identify areas of concern due to cuts. Barbara asked that San Juan concerns be addressed at the Planning Committee meeting. San Juan did

complete the Federal Block Grant for new facilities and the move has been made.

**COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC**

None.

Informational

**OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

Informational

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Jubie

Chair Jubie adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm.