



Pre-meeting Advisory Board

September 9, 2008

Presentation

12:15 pm

Youth in Action

By: Tamara Johnson

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 3, 2008
TO: NSMHA Advisory Board
FROM: Chuck Benjamin, Executive Director
RE: September 11, 2008 Board of Director's Agenda

Please find for your review and comment the following that will go before the Board of Directors at the September 11, 2008, NSMHA Board of Directors Meeting.

Action Items for Board of Directors meeting September 11, 2008

To approve DSHS-MHD-NSMHA-MHBG-08-09 for the provision of Federal Block Grant services throughout the region. The term of this Agreement is October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009 for a maximum consideration of \$980,670.

CC: Charles R. Benjamin
County Coordinators
NSRSN Management Team

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

**North Sound Mental Health Administration
117 North First St., Suite 8
Mt. Vernon, WA 98273
August 5, 2008
1:00 PM**

Agenda

1. Call to Order - Introductions, Chair – 5 minutes
2. Revisions to the Agenda, Chair – 5 minutes
3. Approval of the August 2008 Meeting Minutes, Chair – 5 minutes
4. County Coordinator Report
5. Ombuds Report
6. Comments from the Public –5 minutes
7. Correspondence and Comments from the Chair – 5 minutes
8. New Business:
9. Monthly Committee Reports
 - a. Executive Director's Report – Chuck Benjamin – 5 minutes
 - b. Finance Committee – Mary Good – 5 minutes
 - c. Executive Committee/Agenda Committee – Charles Albertson – 5 minutes
 - d. QMOC Report – Mary Good – 5 minutes
10. Items To Be Brought Forward To The Board of Directors – Chuck Benjamin, Executive Director
 - a. Consent Agenda
 - b. Action Items
 - c. Introduction Items
11. Comments from County Advisory Board Representatives – 15 minutes
 - a. Island
 - b. San Juan
 - c. Skagit
 - d. Snohomish
 - e. Whatcom
12. Comments from Public – 5 minutes
13. Other Business
 - a. NSMHA Snapshot
 - b. Corrective Action
 - c. Exhibit N
14. Adjournment

NOTE: The next Advisory Board meeting will be October 7, 2008, in the NSMHA Conference Room.

North Sound Mental Health Administration (NSMHA)
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
August 5, 2008
1:00 to 3:00

Present:	Mary Good, Arthur Jackson, James Mead, Andrew Davis, Marie Jubie, Charles Albertson, Russ Sapienza, Darcy Hocker, Joan Lubbe and TerryAnn Gallagher
Excused Absence	Candace Trautman and Catherine Ellis
Absent:	Tom Richardson
Staff:	Margaret Rojas and Rebecca Pate
Guests:	Jackie Henderson, Mark Gallagher, Otis Gulley, Chuck Davis and Susan Lange

MINUTES

<i>TOPIC</i>	DISCUSSION	<i>ACTION</i>
CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS		
Chair Mead	The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:11 pm. Introductions were made. A pre-meeting presentation was given for Cocoon House and all the various entities that fall under Cocoon House.	Informational
REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA		
Chair Mead	Chair Mead asked if there were any revisions to the agenda. Marie requested some time to discuss an issue.	Informational
APPROVAL OF MINUTES		
Chair Mead	The July minutes were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes as amended, seconded and motion carried.	Informational Motion carried
COUNTY COORDINATOR REPORT		
Jackie Henderson	Snohomish County has new Human Services Director, Ken Stark. They are finalizing their proposal for the sales tax initiative. San Juan is working on their plan for the sales tax initiative. Skagit has utilized some of their initiative monies to provide Mental Health Professionals (MHP) in school districts, which includes all seven school districts provided by Catholic Community Services. Whatcom passed their initiative. Island began implementing their programs July 1 st . Island got a grant from CTED to develop transitional housing for people transitioning from jail, Western State Hospital, inpatient chemical dependency treatment and prison.	Informational
COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC		
	None mentioned.	Informational
COMMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE CHAIR		
Chair Mead	The Chair had no comments but he extended his appreciation to all the members for their good work.	Informational
NEW BUSINESS		

Chair Mead	<p>Marie said she has been investigating Serenity Club in Snohomish County. Compass receives with \$367,229 for the Clubhouse and \$337,501 for the Drop-In Center per year. She said the clubhouse and Drop-In Center are supposed to be housed in separate locations. She attended the Open House and it is difficult the gain entrance due to a steep incline, which is not ADA accessible. She said the clubhouse does not appear to be a true clubhouse. She said the internal entrance goes through treatment areas. She said the stairs make it difficult for some consumers. She said she has checked about the address they are using and was told it is not a registered address. Marie said staff works in both the clubhouse and Drop-In Center.</p> <p>Andrew said it takes a long time and a lot of money to develop ICCD clubhouse standards but while this project is still developing it may make more sense to stay where they are. Marie disagreed. Andrew said in three to five years it should be addressed more.</p> <p>James said a copy of the RCW and WAC regarding clubhouses should be present at the next meeting so this can be discussed further. James mentioned that even though a bill is passed by the House or Senate a lot of things can be dropped from the bill before the final draft is approved. Marie said HB1217 states a separate location is required. James said what a bill says and what the RCW and WAC say may be different.</p>	Informational
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MONTHLY COMMITTEE REPORTS

	Executive Director's Report	
Margaret Rojas	<p>Margaret brought the news article by Chuck in the Skagit Valley Herald to the attention of the Board. She said ongoing issues are being addressed. There was some discussion regarding the article.</p> <p>She mentioned the 08-09 Federal Block Grant (FBG) contracts will be going to the Board of Directors (BOD) and said deliverables were added so there will be more accountability and some scope of work was changed per requests. The Wellness Recovery Action Program (WRAP) training is not being renewed and the partial FTE at Rainbow was not renewed; however, Rainbow applied for something new. The new contracts start October 1st and run through September 30, 2009. These were approved by the Planning Committee and will go before the BOD August 14th.</p> <p>Arthur made a motion to approve the FBG contracts to go to the BOD, seconded and motion carried.</p>	<p>Informational</p> <p>Motion carried</p>
	Finance Committee	

	<p>Director.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Chuck Davis introduced the new Ombuds, Susan Lange c. Chuck Benjamin briefed the committee on the Whatcom County Council meeting regarding the sales tax initiative. <p>4. Reports given at the meeting (refer to draft minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Compass Health Trauma Project Presentation b. Policy Subcommittee c. Children’s Hospitalization Alternative Program (CHAP) Audit Tool d. Critical Incident Semi-Annual Report e. Exhibit N and Clinical Practice Guidelines were postponed to next meeting due to time constraints. <p>5. Floor was opened for discussion.</p> <p>6. The next meeting will be August 27, 2008, in the NSMHA Conference Room South from 12:30 to 2:30 pm.</p>	
	Ombuds/QRT Report	
<p>Chuck Davis Susan Lange</p>	<p>Chuck and Susan presented the Ombuds snapshot. He mentioned that grievances are currently at 48, which are up from normal. Chuck said they wanted to be here in person because of some issues they wanted to make the Board aware. Chuck said they are extremely busy with more and more cases.</p> <p>Ombuds have requested volunteers from Skagit Valley College going into mental health to assist but have had no responses. He said they may seek other volunteers soon and if anyone knows someone who can handle crises involving other people without a problem let them know.</p> <p>Susan said the NSMHA Policy 1704.00 - Crisis Services General Policy, which allows the urgent follow up for crisis services for clients in crisis does not allow for med management upon discharge. Susan said terminology language appears to be a problem in obtaining appointments. Chuck said next day appointments are no longer available for meds management. He said if a person is discharged from the hospital without a provider it is extremely difficult to obtain med management.</p> <p>Chuck said they are also receiving complaints regarding Designated Crisis Responder (DCR). The Ombuds concern is legal assistance is not being properly obtained/given for an Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA) consumer. He said there are two concerns: 1)</p>	<p>Informational</p>

consumers are not being read their rights and informed they have access to a lawyer and DCRs are writing on the forms consumers did not request a lawyer and 2) when an ITA consumer is met by a DCR and requests a lawyer is he/she given the opportunity to talk with a lawyer then or is the Public Defender's office called and advised the consumer is requesting a lawyer. He said indications are calls are being made to the Public Defenders office leaving a voice message. He said the DCR should be informing the consumer how the process works and explain a lawyer will not be readily available.

Susan said Western State Hospital (WSH) problems are occurring through complaints. One case is where a consumer was transferred from a regular ward to a forensic unit and there does not appear to be a reason for the transfer. The consumer suffered trauma and this will be addressed at a meeting between NSMHA and WSH liaisons. Susan said another violation is where consumers are on a waiting list for WSH and being housed in the Evaluation and Treatment (E&T) facilities. Others are being passed over because WSH does not accept certain consumers (i.e., Developmentally Disabled, Dementia/Geriatric, or consumers with aggressive behavior). A third category is sanitation conditions at WSH. The meeting with WSH will occur August 21st and these issues will be addressed at this meeting. Rebecca said she would get the date and time correct and pass the word to Advisory Board members. She said WSH is closing a total of three wards. One by September and the other two within the next year and a half. Susan said they have written a complaint letter and spoken with the WSH liaison who is firm she is not an Ombuds and WSH has no problems.

Chuck said they receive calls from the Child Protective Services (CPS) individuals asking for help because CPS Ombuds will not assist them. He said they are limited as to the help they can provide but do what they can.

Susan said they have two open cases on consumers being sued by hospital staff personnel that were assaulted during a crisis situation. Susan said they are supposed to receive 30 days notice and this is not happening. Some discussion followed.

Chuck said NSMHA has been instructed to issue open period of treatment authorization letters to consumers Chuck mentioned they are being misinterpreted and throwing consumers into a state of panic thinking this is in regards to their DSHS funding. Chuck said they are concerning about these letters and said perhaps wording of these letters could be re-worded so it does not upset the consumers.

	<p>Chuck said grievances range from provider losing consumer records, loss of housing and withdrawal from medications, etc.</p> <p>There was some discussion regarding how a DCR is to present himself or herself upon contact with a consumer.</p> <p>James requested Ombuds report be moved on the agenda after County Coordinator report for future meetings.</p>	
ITEMS BROUGHT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS		
	Introduction and Action Items	
Margaret Rojas	Please see memorandum/ revised memorandum for details regarding items going before the Board of Directors.	Informational
COMMENTS FROM COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS		
Island	<p>TerryAnn said Jackie made mention of most issues but there was one thing not mentioned. TerryAnn said a serious problem exists in Island County with the jails overflowing with people with mental health problems. TerryAnn said there was an official trained to go to the jails to work with these individuals and she burned out in six months and moved on. Since then a new person has been hired and is working on the difficult job. TerryAnn said she has suggested educating law enforcement and jail personnel on how to work with mental health individuals. She said this was on the original list for initiative money but has since been dropped off the priority list. She mentioned she spoke to Jackie about this and was told there are other priorities, which is true but TerryAnn said this issue is important. She emphasized anytime educating law enforcement is mentioned nothing is being done. She has volunteered to help but nothing appears to be being done. She asked if any other counties have had this problem and how they have dealt with it.</p> <p>Russ said one way to deal with it would be crisis prevention training and TerryAnn said nothing is being done.</p> <p>James asked her to see if Crisis Intervention Training was on the initiative money usage and TerryAnn said it was originally but has since been taken off. James said federal funds are available for this and her local Advisory Board would need to address this. James said the Board could not do anything officially but members could think about it and provide some input. James suggested she write the Chief of Police for Clark County and request information about their CIT program.</p>	Informational
San Juan	No representative present.	Informational
Skagit	Not meeting again until September.	Informational

Snohomish	No report.	Informational
Whatcom	<p>No report; however, Russ did inform the members that Whatcom County passed their sales tax initiative. Andrew said it was difficult to get it passed in Whatcom and the showing of public support at the Council meeting was extremely helpful.</p> <p>Russ said the tentative opening date for the new clubhouse is September 1st. Russ said the clubhouse will be located where the old House of Orient restaurant used to be across from the Wild Buffalo Nightclub. It will be affiliated with the Rainbow Center but will operate under a different name from Rainbow Center.</p>	Informational
COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC		
Otis Gulley	<p>Otis suggested once TerryAnn writes the letter to Clark County and receives information about their program that she ask Jackie for a personal appointment to discuss this issue. James suggested having the other two people who support this issue sign the letter as private citizens.</p> <p>Margaret said it is difficult to conduct the training with law enforcement and this may be the real issue. She said she was surprised that Jackie does not want CIT. Andrew suggested approaching law enforcement with the notion that we know there are people incarcerated that have mental illness and perhaps should not be incarcerated. CIT would be an asset for law enforcement to help prevent these types of incarcerations because law enforcement would be better trained on how to deal with mentally ill people who might be in crisis.</p>	Informational
OTHER BUSINESS		
	None mentioned.	Informational
ADJOURNMENT		
Chair Mead	<p>Andrew made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Darcy seconded and motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 pm.</p> <p>PLEASE note the date change for the next meeting. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 9, 2008, in the NSMHA Conference Room South.</p>	Informational Motion carried