

**GOVERNOR'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES: January 31, 2006
SRS Learning Center, Topeka, KS
9-3**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Wes Cole, Jim Deister, Paul Turnbull, Scott Jackson, Linda Witten, Walt Hill, Jane Adams, Roy Menninger, Fran Seymour-Hunter, Mary Vilmer, Kimberly Roady, Norma Phillips, Steve Erikson, Tom Ward, Cherie Bledsoe, Gary Parker, Marlan Ratzlaff, Sarah Riley, Kevin Cherveney, Cecelia Meitnzer, Karen Beckerman

Ex-Officio: Valerie Merrow, Denise Baynham and Karen Ford Manza

MEMBERS ABSENT Excused: Jo Lowe, Roger Hayden

MEMBERS ABSENT Unexcused: Patricia Long, Bobby Rine

SRS STAFF PRESENT: Becky Rinehart, Kathy Mosher

Guests Present: See attached sheet

1. WELCOME/CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Wes Cole, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:10 am. The council and guests in attendance introduced themselves.

Wes Cole presented Rose Mary Mohr with a certificate of appreciate for all the dedication and years of hard work she has given to the council and to the field of mental health. Wes declared she was a "Kansas Treasure". She was also given a standing ovation.

2. LAST MEETING MINUTES: Minutes from December meeting were approved. Minutes are placed on the website after approval.

(www.srskansas.org/hcp/mhsip/index.html)

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a) Wes Cole told the council that the Suicide Prevention Group that has been meeting in Kansas has decided to join the council as a subcommittee. They are in the process of electing a chair.
- b) The council has received a copy of the meeting dates for 2006, but another meeting will need to be added in April.
- c) Mental Health Advocacy Day will be held on March 7, and the council will be a part of that at the capitol.

4. REVIEW OF AGENDA ITEMS

TOPIC:

Parity Task Force Update

The executive committee of the council determined that instead of the subcommittee of the council on Parity, a task force would be formed. Currently, the parity law only requires 45 days of inpatient and 45 days of outpatient be covered per year. NAMI was instrumental in getting the parity law in Kansas passed. This task force will be looking at the barriers experienced by Kansas citizens regarding the issue of parity. Ira Stamm and Steve Feinstein are co-chairing this task force.

ACTION TAKEN: Updates on progress of the task force will be shared with the council on an on-going basis.

RESPONSIBLE PERSON (S): Wes Cole

TARGET DATE: Next general meeting.

TOPIC:

Budget and Updates- Steve Erikson Director of Mental Health

Steve Erikson, Director of Mental Health for the state of Kansas, gave the council an update on the budget indicating that there are basically no changes to the mental health funds for fiscal year 2007. Supplements and enhancements were denied.

Steve then moved on to tell the council about the upcoming contracts in the area of mental health. Within the next 30 days or so, RFPs and grants/contracts will be going out. The amount that MH has to spend is about the same as last year- around \$55 million. He is still gathering information on where the dept. is with regard to last years grants. The dept. will be looking at outcomes, and expectation is for good outcomes that are measurable. There may be some changes in funding this year.

The state hospitals are not under mental health, they are under Ron Denny, Deputy Secretary of Health Care Policy (HCP). There were shortfalls in the area of the hospitals due to the expansion of the space at LSH and the apparently underestimated need for utility services and additional staffing.

The issue of sexual predators/sexual offenders came up. This population is growing at a fast pace and the need for housing them will outstrip the abilities of the state to do so in an extraordinarily short amount of time if we don't start to plan for them now. There are bills in the legislature that will put many of these types of perpetrators into jails for extended periods of time; in addition, these funds will often come from the mental health dollars meaning that mental health could run out of funding for other consumers because this population would use up all the dollars. One bill would put offenders in jail for 25 years for the first offense.

More concerns: If this will open the door to plea bargains that release these offenders back into the population at large; and whether or not any funding for these sentencing guidelines has been attached. It appears that this bills will likely pass the House (has already passed the Senate) because in an election year, no one wants to be seen as voting against it. Without a funding mechanism to support these stricter sentencing guidelines, a crisis will arrive very quickly.

A suggestion was made to form a task force to look at this problem, and to present their findings to the council so that they are being more proactive. This issue is a part of

several areas- DOC, JJA, MH, schools and court services- and all areas should be involved in the solution.

Updates on Levels Five and Six: Mental Health has been over these since July 1, 2005. There are several challenges currently being worked out with regard to the CMS requirements and past business practices. These are treatment facilities, not residential placements, but they have been being used as placements and this needs to change. There is still debate and discussion occurring over what needs to happen in order to come in compliance with the CMS rules, as well as how to handle the question of Level Fives and their status.

In addition CMS has suggested that Kansas open the medical card to all willing providers. This would be another huge change, and an expensive one. This nearly bankrupted Arkansas. One important item is that some centers need to do a better job of documenting what they are doing. Medicaid requires medical necessity before services are paid for, and centers need to be sure their documentation reflects this.

In addition to all of the above, another bill in the legislature makes it a felony to commit Medicaid fraud- which means any mistake- whether intentional or not- will be dealt with in the same manner. Medicaid and the budget are "spiraling out of control" and this is one way they hope to contain things.

The central office of HCP MH will be looking more closely at how funding is distributed this year. Outcomes will become much more important as the staff make sure that the best services for the most people are we obtain. In the future it may a bit more difficult for everyone to obtain grants or contracts, outcomes and ones that make sense and show the funding is being used effectively and efficiently are what will be most important.

ACTION TAKEN: A) Future updates on the budget and on level Five and Six will be shared with the council. Contracts and grants will also be shared after being finalized.

B) Wes Cole will prepare and send a letter to the Governors office stating the concern of the council regarding the expense and growing population of sexual predators/offenders; and that the funding for these programs needs to be attached so that mental health dollars are not used up by them. He will also begin forming a task force to review the whole issue and report back to the council (Valerie Merrow has already volunteered to be on this TF)

RESPONSIBLE PERSON (S): A) Steve Erikson B) Wes Cole

TARGET DATE: A) as needed/ as available B) prior to the next meeting

TOPIC:

New Transformation Subcommittee Update

Mike Hammond and Jane Adams are co-chairing the new subcommittee on transformation. The committee consists of the chairs of the other subcommittees of the council, people that worked on the summits, consumers, family members, SRS, Coalition representatives and advocacy organizations. So far they have met twice. They are currently looking at the reports for all the NFC summits, the aging summits, the Recovery Leadership summit, the council retreat and the reports from the subcommittees. They

would like to make the system more holistic by including more than just the CMHCs and the current hospitals and treatment facilities.

In addition, they have asked SRS for funding to include more consumers and family members in the process. They have submitted a budget request in the amount of \$139,000. Steve Erikson reminded everyone that there is no new money and that funding for this has to come from somewhere, so no one should be upset to learn that something will have to be cut in order for funding to be found.

Gary asked if they would consider placing a consumer in a co-chair position and Jane said she thought it was a marvelous idea. The suggestion was also made to go to the next meeting of the CRO network if they are serious about wanting to have consumer leaders involved in the process.

ACTION TAKEN: Updates as available; Contact Self-Help Network

RESPONSIBLE PERSON (S): Jane and Mike Hammond; Gary Parker will find out about the possibility of the S

TARGET DATE: as needed

TOPIC:

General subcommittee updates to council & Council Member reports/updates (general)

SDS-Scott Jackson: The subcommittee met yesterday and determined that they need to look at their report and revise some of their recommendations and prioritize things.

Ageing- Valerie Merrow: Subcommittee met last Friday. They would like to look at, and make recommendations regarding who and what an aging specialist truly is. They have asked someone from Assisted Living to join the group.

VR/SE- Jim Deister: Met earlier in January, are looking at the review of the report. and looking at Independent Living which is a service under the SED Waiver.

H&H- Gary Parker & Norma Phillips: Marie Williams, a guest from Tennessee, presented at the Summit. Tennessee has created a home initiative. They would like to see this implemented in Kansas. About three or four thousand dollars extra was received on the PATH grants this year. They have added corrections to the group because people coming out of prisons have difficulty with housing. Norma told the group that Missouri has a trust fund of \$6 million dollars for homelessness. In addition, there are several people on the SC that are consumers that do want to be identified as such.

Children's- Kimberly Roady: They are looking at the report again. They have three task force groups looking at three areas of priority: gaps in services and service location; a questionnaire for children returning from hospital stays to help in developing a toolkit for use in reintegration into school; and best practices.

Forensic's- Wes: They are reviewing their grid and adding things, and they are also thinking of trying to get another grant, perhaps in the Mental Health Court area. They are visiting LSH in the future and will be looking at the sexual predator question.

ACTION TAKEN: N/A

RESPONSIBLE PERSON (S): N/A

TARGET DATE: N/A

Public Comment:

NAMI is putting out the results of a national survey where NAMI has rated the states and given "grades". This comes out in March.

12- 1 Lunch

TOPIC:

Presentation: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services in Kansas

Rebecca Rosenthal: Executive Director, Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Suzanne Dennis: Coordinator of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services for Johnson County Mental Health in Olathe, KS

ACTION TAKEN: N/A

RESPONSIBLE PERSON (S): N/A

TARGET DATE: N/A

TOPIC:

Deemed Status: Ron Denny, SRS HCP Deputy Secretary

Ron Denny told the council that the deemed status issue will neither be supported nor opposed by SRS.

ACTION TAKEN: Council voted to support the bill

RESPONSIBLE PERSON (S): N/A

TARGET DATE: Completed

Additional Items:

1. Mental Health Advocacy Day at the Statehouse is March 7, 2006
2. Wes Cole told the council that it had come to his attention that the council needed to be more sensitive when making remarks about citizens that might be taken to mean that the council did not care about those people. In the earlier discussion on sexual offenders a remark was made that some members of the council found offensive and inappropriate.
3. Next council meeting will be on April 10, in Topeka.

NEXT GMHSPC MEETING:

March 6, Colby, KS

May 15, Topeka, KS- SRS Learning Center Room D

(The Executive Committee of the council will meet on Feb. 20, 2006 from 9-12 @ DSOB in Topeka)

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm

Attachment 1:

GUESTS PRESENT 1-31-06

NAME

Ira Stamm
Rick Cagan
Nancy Trout
Diane Todd
Bryce Miller
Mike Hammond
Chris Seago
Ron Pavelka
Jim Hohman
Cristine Diebler
Randy Johnson
Rose Mary Mohr
Marianne Turnbull
Sam Dennis

REPRESENTING

Self
NAMI Kansas
Aging SC
LSH
DBSA
Association of CMHC of KS
SRS MH Field Staff
"
"
Johnson CO Mental Health
MHA of the Heartland
MHA of South Central KS
Family member
Self