

Fairfield County ADAMH Board

Minutes of the May 22, 2007, Board meeting held at 6:30 p.m. at the Board office pursuant to notice mailed to all Board members.

Board Chair Heath called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. with a quorum being present.

ROLL CALL PRESENT

Dave Alexinas, Ed Banville, Ph.D., Sheila Heath, John Murphy, Marian Reitano, Eric Walker, Bill Weimer, Kevin West, Jerry Woodgeard.

ABSENT

Larry Miller, Ph.D., Danalee Ogg, Ray Robinson, Carol Sullivan.

STAFF

Orman Hall, Don Mohler, Rhonda Myers, Nadine Carroll.

GUESTS

Molly Swisher, Tessie Swain, Becky Edwards, Tony Motta, Lynn Porter, John McNamara, Ph.D., Suzanne Pelletier-Walker, Marc Grodner.

Chairman Heath asked if there were any questions or comments from the audience. Suzanne introduced Dr. John McNamara who measured the clinical effectiveness of services at the Lighthouse. This is a follow-up to a 1996 study. Dr. McNamara explained that he used a point of contact design and that surveys were administered pre and post counseling sessions up through the fourth session. There is a high attrition rate after the fourth session. The drop off was from 119 to 40. He used OQ45.2 as a screening questionnaire to measure "clinically" meaningful change. Dr. McNamara also discussed the Life Coping Inventory that was used pre and post only. This inventory shows a statistically significant change and a clinically meaningful change also. He added that they could only do follow up with 39 of the 40 because it can be risky contacting survivors. This survey found a number of depressive symptoms but there was significant improvement in life coping skills. Clients were satisfied with their services and stated that Lighthouse made a significant difference for them. This was perceived as follow-up and was on average about 35 days after the end of services.

Becky Edwards introduced Tessie Swain and told the Board that Tessie and Toni Ashton had just finished the first series of the Parent Project. They had 14 people that completed the training. Tessie stated that it was a very positive experience. The next series will have 17 participants and be facilitated by three people from JFS. The program is for parents of teens 11-18 that were out of control. Cost was \$5 which covered the workbook. Actual cost of the program per person is \$22 and there is no income criterion. The ADA MH Board covers the difference. They started off accepting court referrals and now there is a waiting list for the September class. Chairman Heath added that the Parent Project was one of the Board's initiatives. Becky stated that Tessie and Toni will be attending a training to learn the teen model in July. J. Murphy stated that it was exciting that

people were willing to come every week to learn. Becky said that this is a multi- agency effort and people come from all over the county.

Tessie distributed a thank you letter to the board and told them that the Family Festival committee wanted to say thank you to the board for funding them. She also showed a short PowerPoint presentation that highlighted some of the events during the month of April and with a big Thank You to the Board at the end.

Molly and Becky updated the Board on the status of the crisis line. Molly explained that United Way agreed to fund them at 2006 funding levels. Other community organizations are also helping with funding. Becky, Molly and Tony Motta have met to work out issues. They have agreed that a priority is making sure that I&R staff are trained properly. It might be October 1st before they are ready because of the training and dealing with the accreditation and certification because I&R will be subcontracting with New Horizons. Tony stated that I&R staff will take calls 24/7. M. Reitano stated that they could speed up and do September 1st. Becky added that they also have funding and staffing issues to work out to have two people available. Director Hall noted that six full-time staff are needed 24/7 and 365 days a year and we don't want people to depend on this service until we know they can handle it. Becky commented that I&R's services need to be restructured to accommodate this. J. Murphy stated that it is the nature of the beast that you are never going to have enough people. J. Woodgeard suggested approving a range of funding so I&R can move ahead and not have to come back to the board for exact funding. It needs to be funded so it can be done properly. Director Hall stated that this is a very important service but we have to balance with other priorities that the principles committee is addressing. E. Walker added that we need to see what other principles are because there is just one pot of money. Dr. Banville stated that J. Woodgeard was correct that it needs to be funded adequately so it can be done right but we need to involve the Principles committee because that is a critical component of the process. Tony indicated that a couple months will be needed to work on this so they can move ahead and the Board can vote in August. Marc stated that there are a lot of agencies competing for that one pot of money and he has a couple of concerns that 1) drug and alcohol training is needed for the people answering the telephones and 2) referrals need to be looked at as to where they are made and some accountability needs to be in place. Becky stated that the accreditation process assures that people are given choices of resources.

RESOLUTION NO. 5-22-07-1

Be it resolved upon motion by J. Woodgeard and second by M. Reitano that if the crisis line comes out of the Principles Committee as a number one priority, that it can be funded for up to \$40,000. Motion was unanimously approved.

Chairman Heath asked if there were any additions or corrections to the April minutes.

RESOLUTION NO. 5-22-07-2

Be it resolved upon motion by E. Walker and second by Dr. Banville that the April Board minutes be approved. Motion was unanimously approved.

He said that he and B. Weimer met and listened to the concerns of the agency directors. He stated that there has been a 56% percent increase in services needed in Lancaster and 9 percent in Pickerington at the PACS office. New Horizons has asked for help because of such a large increase. Brad had concerns over the econometrics of money – how we are going to determine what is best to fund, how to track funding and how to get the most bang for our buck. E. Walker noted that salaries were also discussed and how that affects retention of their staff. Marc added that

not all issues were fully developed and not everyone was there. E. Walker suggested having the Director's put their concerns in writing and have Director Hall put them in order for the committee. J. Woodgeard noted that there is never enough funds to go around but we need to make sure basic services are funded before new services are added that we cannot keep up. He added that agency's salaries are not the board's concerns because we buy only services. M. Reitano reminded everyone that the Board's role is to determine priorities; we owe that to the community. B. Weimer agreed adding that we also owe it to the community to understand the issues. Everyone needs more money and there are so many competing interests that we wanted time between meetings to fully understand all the issues.

J. Murphy mentioned receiving a letter from New Horizon's Board Chair. A discussion followed on sending correspondence to board members.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Rhonda thanked the board for their enthusiasm and commitment to the peer certification process. She stated that it is a big commitment on the board's part because decisions will need to be made and policies created and revised. The plan is to meet or exceed standards and we plan to apply in July and give a two month window of May/June 2008.

Director Hall told the Board that Board staff would like to extend the contracts for three months. Rhonda distributed copies of the 120 day letters that is required to be sent to the agencies indicating any possible changes. There were some minor changes. The contract allocations would remain the same for the first three months and by then we should have updated allocation for both ODMH and ODADAS. A letter was sent to the agencies offering bills of non-Medicaid. New Horizons has already accepted. Language clarifications for non-Medicaid services also need to be completed.

RESOLUTION NO. 5-22-07-3

Be it resolved upon motion by J. Murphy and second by K. West to approve FY 08 contracts with FY 07 contract amounts, including the programs that were awarded by the Board last October and effective January 1st. Motion was approved. J. Woodgeard, nay.

Director Hall introduced Lynn Porter, Forensic Manager for the Board. Lynn has worked in the mental health field for 35 years and is a psychiatric nurse. Lynn reviewed the Respite Pro Forma that was sent to board members. Chairman Heath explained the idea behind respite was to allow people to remain local. Costs will be higher the first year because of start up but should be recouped after that. Lynn added that it is costly in a lot of ways to send people out of county. Director Hall noted that with an 8 bed facility, that gives us 2900 days that people can spend locally. He further noted that it is also a much more humane setting for people. M. Reitano voiced her concerns about liability. Lynn said that people go through Crisis Intervention first and the level of risk is determined to see if they are suitable for respite. However, things can still happen anywhere but staff are trained to respond to any event. She added that since she approves the hospitalizations, this gives another option for people that don't really need hospitalization but shouldn't just be sent home. J. Murphy voiced concerns about acceptable staffing. Chairman Heath noted that this is a very important service and it needs to go to the principles committee.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Heath appointed a nominating committee to propose next year's slate of officers. Nominating Committee consists of Dr. Banville who will serve as chair, C. Sullivan and S. Heath. This committee than consists of the last three Board Chairman.

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 5-22-07-04

Be it resolved, upon motion by J. Murphy and seconded by Dr. Banville to adjourn the Board meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Board meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Chair

Secretary