

## **REGIONAL GOVERNING BOARD**

### **MINUTES**

April 12, 2021  
Region V Services  
3600 Union Drive  
Lincoln, NE  
and  
Via Zoom  
10:30 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ryan Svoboda, Butler County; Kenny Harre, Fillmore County; Dennis Byars, Gage County; Gale Pohlmann, Jefferson County, Christa Yoakum, Lancaster County; Dan Crownover, Otoe County; Jan Lang, Pawnee County, Jerry Westring, Polk County, John Caverzagie, Richardson County, Janet Henning, Saline County, John Smaus, Saunders County, Dean Krueger, Thayer County; Bill Barnesberger, York County

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jim Erickson, Johnson County, Kent Schmieding, Seward County; Larry Holtzman, Nemaha County

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Aaron Adams, Department of Health and Human Services; Tami DeShon, Renee Dozier, Annie Glenn, C.J. Johnson, Tami DeShon, Patrick Kreifels, Kim Michael, Malcom Miles Gretchen Mills, Sandy Morrissey, Marti Rabe, and Amanda Tyerman-Harper, Region V Systems

### **OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION**

Byars noted the Open Meetings Act information is posted in the meeting room and reminded Board members that the meetings are open to the public and are audiotaped. The agenda is posted for public viewing. Notification of this meeting and information regarding availability of the agenda was provided through a legal notice in the Lincoln Journal Star.

### **CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / AGENDA**

Byars called the meeting to order at 10:37 a.m. followed by roll call.

**Present:** Butler County, Fillmore County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Thayer County, York County

**Absent:** Johnson County, Nemaha County, Seward County

Pohlmann made a motion, seconded by Lang, to approve the April 12, 2021 agenda.

Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **ZERO SUICIDE PRESENTATION**

Malcom Miles and Annie Glenn, Region V Systems' Family & Youth Investment Program (FYI), and Sandy Morrissey, Regional Prevention Coordination, presented on the Zero Suicide Academy. Zero Suicide

is an aspirational goal and foundational belief that suicide deaths are preventable. Zero Suicide is based on transformational frameworks, designed for health and mental health systems using evidence-based practices. Please visit [www.zerosuicide.com](http://www.zerosuicide.com) for more in-depth information and resources. Morrissey discussed participation in the Academy and the Region's involvement in trainings. It has been identified that motivational interviewing is a top training need. Morrissey mentioned the success of NARCAN and Detera Drug Disposal envelopes (<https://deterasystem.com/>) being distributed in the community through the Opioid Grant. Please contact Morrissey at any time for more information on Prevention activities and how organizations can become involved.

### **ACTION / PRIORITY ITEMS**

**Regional Governing Board Minutes:** Pohlman made a motion, seconded by Lang, to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2021, meeting. There was no discussion.

Voting by consensus; motion carried.

**Financial Report:** DeShon reviewed the financial reports that were emailed on April 9, 2021. The reports encompass 66.67% of the fiscal year, through February 2021. The balance sheet reflected the current cash position at \$575,133.29, with the CD at \$250,000. The year-to-date payments of Substance Abuse is \$4,420,590.96. The year-to-date payments of Mental Health is \$4,273,652.53. The Other Payments, including grants and one-time-funding year-to-date payments are at \$1,063,951.25. Administration and Program Expenses are at a year-to-date payment of \$1,179,163.36. DeShon covered some of the administrative costs that were over budget and it is anticipated that every line item will balance throughout the year.

Bamesberger made a motion, seconded by Lang to accept the financial Report as presented.

Voting by consensus; motion carried.

**Alternative Compliance (Community Support and PIER):** Johnson discussed the need to get Alternative Compliance approval for Community Support (provided by Blue Valley Behavioral Health, CenterPointe, and Lutheran Family Services) and PIER (a collaboration of CenterPointe and Lutheran Family Services) each year due to the way the original service definitions were written. Alternative Compliance for Community Support allows providers to bill in 15-minute increments and PIER is allowed to operate with an APRN rather than a psychiatrist.

Henning made a motion, seconded by Yoakum to approve the Alternative Compliance as presented.

Voting by consensus; motion carried.

**Election of BHAC Representative:** Greg Janak was the former Regional Governing Board BHAC representative, Johnson asked for a volunteer, after receiving no volunteers, Johnson said he would reach out to a few Board members about service as BHAC representative and the election will be moved to the agenda of the next board meeting. There was no dissent nor discussion.

### **OTHER UPDATES / LEGISLATION / INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**Behavioral Health / Legislative Updates:** Johnson provided an update that the bill allowing for landlord mitigation which is critical to supportive housing programs, has been attached to the Appropriations bill, and the Region is hopeful the language will be in there to help support landlords. Johnson stated that the Region continues to monitor the impact of Medicaid expansion. As of right now, we are waiting to see if there will be a 2 (two) percent increases across the board for Behavioral Health Services.

**Covid 19 Impact:** Johnson reported that the gap-funding for providers will end April 2021.

**Medicaid Implementation Impact/ FY Budget Plan and Reinvestment Planning:** Johnson stated that the Regions are looking at how to reinvest dollars that are not being drawn down from the system due to the expansion. There are a lot of unallocated line items in the proposed budget. The true impact of the pandemic has yet to surface. The Department of Behavioral Health will work with reinvestment funding to help spend the unspent dollars. Providers have submitted requests and ideas on how to expand services using this money, specifically with supported housing and supported employment programs. There could be somewhere in between one to two million dollars that has not been drawn down due to Medicaid expansion.

**Prevention:** Morrissey reported that June Jam will be a one-day event at Southeast Community College in Milford and asked the board to send her any recommendations for youth to join the next cohort of the Youth Action Board.

**Network Continuous Quality Improvement:** Kreifels described, and urged the board to contact him with any questions, the following reports that are included in the packets for informational purposes:

- Regional Data Overview (RDO)
- FY 20-21 Capacity Utilization Summary Reports
- FY 20-21 Network Provider Management Report

**Training Schedule:** Included for informational purposes. Johnson mentioned that the Region hopes to increase training opportunities, Mental Health First Aid is on hold due to complications using Zoom for the trainings. QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) is being offered as per usual online; Lincoln Public Schools trains independently with QPR, and the Behavioral Threat Assessment Training (BETA) will be available for Law Enforcement and Lincoln Fire and Rescue.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

A discussion was held about Federal funds that are channeling down to the counties, how that money can be appropriately used, and the limitations of block grant funding. Several different ideas were given on ways to spend the dollars including accreditation fees, bringing in new therapists, and thinking outside of the box to work with the specific targeted groups that the money is intended to support (consumers with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness and/or youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance). The Nebraska National Association of County Officials (NACO) has some guidance on how to appropriately distribute the funds on their website, counties can also find ideas about how to use the money. County Officials can find more information on resources here (NACO Nebraska Website) <https://nacone.org/#gsc.tab=0>

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- April 19 – Network Provider Meeting – via Zoom
- April 28 – BHAC Meeting – 10:00 a.m. – via Zoom
- May 10 – RGB Meeting – 10:30 a.m. – (Location TBD)

### **ADJOURN**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.