

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

February 28, 2018
10:00 a.m.
1645 'N' Street
Lincoln, NE

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gene Cotter, Megan Hinrichs, Sara Hoyle, Jennifer Jennings, J. Rock Johnson, Stephanie Knight, Richard Pethoud, Tammy Sassaman, Darla Winslow, C.J. Zimmer (via phone)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Susan Johnson, Barbara Murphy, Tracy Pella, Melissa Ripley, Brenda Tracy

OTHERS PRESENT: C.J. Johnson, Tami DeShon, Patrick Kreifels, Robin Schmid and Marti Rabe, Region V Systems

HOUSEKEEPING AND INTRODUCTIONS

Hoyle called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. followed by introductions.

ADDITIONS / CHANGES TO AGENDA

There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

OPEN MEETING ACT INFORMATION

Hoyle pointed out that Open Meeting Act information is posted as required by the Open Meetings Act. Notification of this meeting and information regarding availability of the agenda was provided through a legal notice in the Lincoln Journal Star.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Cotter made a motion, seconded by J. Johnson, to approve the Consent Agenda (January 31, 2018, BHAC Minutes; FY 17-18 Compliance Management Report, December 2017 Discharge / Pre-Admitted Noncompliance Report and RGB Reports) as presented.

Roll Call: Yes: Cotter, Hinrichs, Hoyle, J. Johnson, Knight, Sassaman, Winslow, Zimmer

Abstain: Pethoud

Absent: Jennings, S. Johnson, Murphy, Pella, Ripley, Tracy

Motion carried.

ACTION / PRIORITY ITEMS

Contracts: Johnson commented that the three contracts on the agenda are identical and each provides for \$3,958.33 payable to Region V Systems. The contracted entities are: Four Corners Health Department, Public Health Solutions and Southeast District Health Department. Because Region V is statutorily responsible for responding in the event of a disaster, these databases are maintained to provide a pool of workers in specialty areas such as nursing, information technology (IT) support, or behavioral health skills. Johnson noted that current technology enables the databases to be sorted by specialty and calls made automatically to the selected recipients

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through Phonevite. Sassaman made a motion, seconded by Hinrichs, to recommend the Board approve the contracts with the three public health entities as presented.

Roll Call: Yes: Cotter, Hinrichs, Hoyle, Jennings, J. Johnson, Knight, Pethoud, Sassaman, Winslow, Zimmer

Absent: S. Johnson, Murphy, Pella, Ripley, Tracy

Motion carried.

FY 17-18 Site Visit Summary Reports: Johnson reviewed site visit report summaries for Blue Valley Behavioral Health, The Bridge Behavioral Health and Lutheran Family Services. All agencies achieved 100 percent for the unit audits and all expenses were verified for those services that are paid for on a non-fee-for-service (NFFS) / expense reimbursement basis. Winslow made a motion, seconded by Knight, to recommend the Board approve the Site Visit Summary Reports for Blue Valley Behavioral Health, The Bridge Behavioral Health and Lutheran Family Services as presented. There was brief discussion regarding the protocol to be used if an agency does not meet the 95 percent standard for the initial two percent unit audits. Johnson commented that a five percent random sample would then be reviewed, and failure to meet the 95 percent standard for the expanded audit would require corrective action and payback of unverified units.

Roll Call: Yes: Cotter, Hinrichs, Hoyle, Jennings, J. Johnson, Knight, Pethoud, Sassaman, Winslow, Zimmer

Absent: S. Johnson, Murphy, Pella, Ripley, Tracy

Motion carried.

BHAC Membership Applicants: Johnson reviewed qualifications for three BHAC applicants, Jill Kuzelka, Corrine Jarecke, and Rebecca Meinders. These applicants were screened by the BHAC Membership Subcommittee. Knight made a motion, seconded by Cotter, to move the three candidates for BHAC membership forward to the Board for approval.

Roll Call: Yes: Cotter, Hinrichs, Hoyle, Jennings, J. Johnson, Knight, Pethoud, Sassaman, Winslow, Zimmer

Absent: S. Johnson, Murphy, Pella, Ripley, Tracy

Motion carried.

Network Provider Policies and Procedures: Johnson stated that Region V is in the process of preparing for a site visit survey for CARF accreditation, seeking accreditation in Network Management for the first time. As a result, a number of policies and procedures have been created and / or revised to meet compliance standards. The following documents were reviewed:

Compliance Reporting Policy and Procedures: This policy denotes the compliance-related standards / requirements expected of Network Providers; the procedure outlines the steps Region V utilizes in monitoring contract compliance. There was discussion regarding the use of “may” rather than “shall” with the consideration that using the word “shall” would imply stronger intent. Johnson explained the Region’s stance on any concern that would impact an agency’s funding due to the detrimental affect it would have for consumers. Sassaman made a motion, seconded by Winslow, to recommend the Board approve the Compliance Reporting Policy and Procedures as presented.

Roll Call: Roll Call: Yes: Cotter, Hinrichs, Hoyle, Jennings, J. Johnson, Knight, Pethoud, Sassaman, Winslow, Zimmer

Absent: S. Johnson, Murphy, Pella, Ripley, Tracy

Motion carried.

Site Visit Policy and Procedures: Site visit procedures include the areas of review of independent financial audits and regional site visits (audit of program fidelity and audit of services purchased). The purpose of revisions was to clarify expectations, expand the definition of what was expected and, in general, clean up language that was not clear or did not reference current source documentation. Information regarding direct service provision has been stricken from these procedures because this area is incorporated within another policy and procedure. J. Johnson made a motion, seconded by Winslow, to recommend the Board approve the revised Site Visit Policy and Procedures. There was brief discussion regarding grievance procedures, which is a CARF standard component. Johnson commented that the Region is currently revising its grievance policy and procedure to be all-encompassing.

Roll Call: Yes: Cotter, Hinrichs, Hoyle, Jennings, J. Johnson, Knight, Pethoud, Sassaman, Winslow, Zimmer

Absent: S. Johnson, Murphy, Pella, Ripley, Tracy

Motion carried.

OTHER UPDATES/INFORMATION

Behavioral Health / Legislative Updates: Johnson provided the following updates:

- To date the Governor has not recommended any decrease in behavioral health funding for the current fiscal years and it does not appear that likely that the Appropriations Committee will recommend a reduction during this session.
- Regional Administrators met yesterday with the Division. The statewide drawdown of behavioral health allocations was reviewed. With 58 percent of the fiscal year completed, the Region is at 58 percent of its drawdown for funding. At the current rate of expenditures the Region will be as much as \$500,000 in arrears. The Division has indicated intent to ensure that all fee-for-service (FFS) units are purchased for the fiscal year, which may allow for shifts between our Region and Regions that were not drawing down their allocation. Network Providers have expressed concerns regarding funding for FY 18-19.
- Johnson indicated that he did not expect legislation to approve any rate increases in the coming fiscal year. Legislation introduced to do so was a strategic attempt to increase behavioral health rates for those services directly tied to Corrections recognizing that many individuals involved in the justice system are in need of substance abuse treatment upon release.
- Johnson expressed concerns with the Governor's recommendation to increase funding for child welfare by 35 million dollars. Johnson would like to see more funding available to address the precipitating factors that may lead to family dysfunction. Many children in the welfare system are being impacted by methamphetamines or other substance usage.

Emergency System: Johnson commented that there has been a substantial variance in the number of admissions to the Crisis Center so far this year. The first five and a half months of the fiscal year, and particularly October and November, each of which saw an average of 70 EPCs, were the busiest the Crisis Center has ever experienced. Fifty-two is the typical average. There were 42 admissions last month, and usage is currently more stable.

Continuous Quality Improvement: Kreifels reported that providers are submitting required data for the second quarter, and data will be shared at the March 28 BHAC meeting.

FY 17-18 Capacity Utilization Summaries: Capacity utilization summaries through January were available for informational purposes. Individual provider summaries show projections for agencies which may be over-

producing. These agencies collectively contribute to the \$500,000 deficit the Region is anticipating if current usage rates continue.

BHAC Attendance Log: Provided for informational purposes.

Training:

- The report is provided for informational purposes.
- Johnson reported that he had recently been successful in negotiating a charter membership with National Association of Case Management (NACM) which includes a consortium of all network providers, to include all staff members in those agencies. Benefits include access to free webinars with CEUs and other training.
- When asked whether BHAC members could attend any “Network Provider Only” trainings, Johnson commented that these trainings are specific to providers to attempt to increase capacity; however slots that were not filled could be used by other stakeholders.

Level of Care Meeting Updates / Dates: No updates.

- March 8 – Regional Prevention Coalition
- March 19 – Community Support / Non-Residential
- March 26 – Children’s System of Care
- April 2 – Emergency Services

OTHER BUSINESS

- As a result of a System of Care grant for children with serious emotional disturbances (SED) the Division has begun to compile data concerning the top ten percent of youth who are utilizing funds in juvenile justice, child welfare and Medicaid. A relatively large dollar amount is being spent on a small number of youth (64) who have multiple diagnoses. Several reasons were suggested to explain why a youth would have multiple diagnoses. One of the Regional Administrators asked whether cluster-based planning could be used for this targeted population. Bill Rubin and Johnson recently presented information regarding cluster-based planning to approximately 100 people and the state may decide to adopt that initiative statewide.
- Regarding a question as to whether or not BHAC members could attend Network Provider meetings, contracted providers were in agreement that the Network Provider meetings are not open, public meetings but instead have a specific membership with a specific purpose so are not a suitable forum for attendance by the public.

IMPORTANT DATES

- March 12 – RGB Meeting – 10:45 a.m.
- March 19 – Network Providers Meeting – 9:00 a.m.
- March 28 – BHAC Meeting – 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURN

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.