

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES Hybrid Meeting

March 2, 2022

10:00 a.m.

Region V Systems, 1645 N Street

MEMBERS PRESENT: Karen Helmberger, Greg Janak, Corrine Jarecke, Corrie Kielty, Stephanie Knight, Jill Kuzelka, Linda Mesteth, Barbara Murphy, Laura Osborne, Gale Pohlmann, Darla Winslow

MEMBERS ABSENT: Christine Cooney, Rebecca Meinders

OTHERS PRESENT: C.J. Johnson, Tami DeShon, Patrik Kreifels, Sandy Morrissey, Marti Rabe, Region V Systems

HOUSEKEEPING AND INTRODUCTIONS

Osborne called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. followed by rollcall.

ADDITIONS / CHANGES TO AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

OPEN MEETING ACT INFORMATION

Osborne noted that Open Meeting Act information is posted as required by the Open Meetings Act at Region V Systems. Notification of this meeting and information regarding availability of the agenda was provided through a legal notice in the Lincoln Journal Star, published February 16, 2022.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Osborne stated that voice vote rather than rollcall would be used. Janak made a motion, seconded by Jarecke, to approve the Consent Agenda (Minutes – January 26, 2022, FY 21-22 Compliance Management Report, RGB Report) as presented. Voting aye: Helmberger, Janak, Jarecke, Kielty, Knight, Kuzelka, Mesteth, Murphy, Osborne, Pohlmann and Winslow; nays none. Motioned carried.

ACTION / PRIORITY ITEMS

Behavioral Health Threat Assessment (BETA) LPD Funding: Johnson explained that the City of Lincoln is providing funding in the amount of \$28,000 to Region V for the provision of BETA training for youth and adults. The purpose of the training is to equip law enforcement to be prepared with resources and strategies for dealing with individuals experiencing a mental health crisis. As a result of this additional funding, the Region will be able to provide two four-day trainings this year rather than one. Over 60 individuals were trained at the January BETA and a second one is being scheduled for August. In addition, one-day training (mini-BETA) will be scheduled in two rural counties as well as a youth BETA which is available to school personnel including safety resource officers. Pohlmann made a motion, seconded by Helmberger, to recommend the Board ratify and approve this contract. Voting aye: Helmberger, Janak, Jarecke, Kielty, Knight, Kuzelka, Mesteth, Murphy, Osborne, Pohlmann and Winslow; nays none. Motioned carried.

Site Visit Reports (BVBH, LFS & CenterPointe): Johnson reported on the following audit reports:

- Blue Valley Behavioral Health: All units in the two percent sample for all services were verified at 100%. A program fidelity audit was conducted this year, and all programs were deemed satisfactory. BVBH was found to be in substantial compliance with Minimum standards and contractual requirements.

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- CenterPointe: Several programs fell short of the 95% threshold. For dual residential one client was determined to be Medicaid eligible at the time of treatment. For Outpatient / SUD a client file was lacking a current financial eligibility form. Payback for unverified units, a Corrective Action Plan, and a re-audit will be required. For Peer support the 95% threshold was met, payback of the unverified units is the only requirement. For SOAR, an expense-based service, a Corrective Action Plan was requested to ensure financial eligibility information was collected for all clients. A program fidelity audit was conducted this year, and all programs were deemed satisfactory. CenterPointe was found to be in substantial compliance with Minimum Standards and contractual requirements.
- Lutheran Family Services: LFS was in transition from paper files and their previous electronic health record (EHR) to Credible and as a result some signatures were missing. There were billing errors between MH and SUD services. No payback was required because the services were performed, but LFS will be required to correct the errors and add a signature option to the EHR.
- Kielty made a motion, seconded by Pohlmann, to recommend the Board approve the Site Visit Reports as presented. Voting aye: Helmberger, Janak, Jarecke, Kielty, Knight, Kuzelka, Mesteth, Murphy, Osborne, Pohlmann and Winslow; nays none. Motioned carried.

Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Audit Report: Program: Rural Permanent Housing (RPH):

- Johnson presented findings from the HUD Audit of the RPH program which is funded by a grant. For this service clients do not need to have a mental health diagnosis but must be homeless or at risk of homelessness to qualify. This grant is unique in that it covers an additional six counties that are outside the traditional boundaries for Region V and for this program Region V is the leaseholder and subcontracts leases with landlord in rural communities.
- There were six Findings and two Concerns. Findings include: the termination policy and procedures are inconsistent and confusing and rent reasonableness checks have not been conducted appropriately, among others. Johnson explained that the Region has gotten legal advice on how to improve the processes. Corrective Action Plans were required for the Findings and have been submitted.
- Johnson commented that determining rent reasonableness is challenging because so many rural counties are involved, and counties vary in the cost and availability of housing. Kreifels noted that these findings have been incorporated in the file review process to ensure conformance to HUD standards.
- Knight made a motion, seconded by Kuzelka, to recommend the Board accept the HUD audit for RPH as presented; Voting aye: Helmberger, Janak, Jarecke, Kielty, Knight, Kuzelka, Mesteth, Murphy, Osborne, Pohlmann and Winslow; nays none. Motioned carried.

OTHER UPDATES/INFORMATION

Behavioral Health/Legislative Updates: Johnson reported on the following bills:

- LB 1223: Johnson will be testifying at the public hearing scheduled for tomorrow. At issue is the number of individuals waiting for restoration hearings to ensure that they are competent to undergo court proceedings related to their charges. As a result, the number of Lincoln Regional Center (LRC) beds available for individuals who are placed under an EPC (Emergency Protective Custody) hold is severely limited. In addition, the number of beds available statewide has declined from 90 to 32. Persons who may be aggressive or have other significant needs often remain in hospitals which may be experiencing workforce issues and safety concerns, and hospitals may decline to accept a client for the same reasons creating challenges for law enforcement.
- LB 1011: The Appropriations Committee has proposed this bill which would increase rates by 15% across the Board to include Medicaid, Probation, Child Welfare, and Network Providers. Additional funding is available due to the impact of Medicaid expansion and Covid issues. The bill is still in committee and a floor debate has not been scheduled at this time.

Reinvestment Funds / ARPA Funds: Johnson stated that reinvestment funds are available because providers are not drawing down the anticipated allocation as noted previously. The Region has submitted a number of proposals to the Division and continues to work with DBH to get approval to move forward. At the February meeting the

Board approved allowing Region V to move forward on these projects including any RFPs required without formal approval for each individual proposal. These proposals will subsequently go back to the Board for ratification and the BHAC will be kept informed.

Emergency System:

No further discussion.

Prevention: Morrissey reported the following:

- Work has begun on block grant applications, coalitions are working on funding, and the priority will continue to be evidence-based programs such as WRAP, Social/Emotional Learning, 2nd Step, 3rd Millennium curriculum for middle and high schools, Teammates, and Hope Squads for suicide prevention.
- There are four campaigns in progress:
 - 1) Prevention is in the planning stages in addressing the number one priority of underage drinking.
 - 2) A social media campaign targeting opioid use is coming soon. This information will be shared throughout all the counties and is being marketed by KidGlov. This digital campaign will be placed on the Talk Heart 2 Heart website.
 - 3) Lethal means safety for suicide; Morrissey noted that over 50 percent of suicides involve a gun.
 - 4) The Attorney General recently rolled out a campaign to address methamphetamine use which will use some new tactics as scare tactics have been found ineffective with this population.
- Several trainings are scheduled for March including ASIST, an in-depth look at suicide prevention, the annual SCIP conference on opioids March 24, Tall Cop, etc.

BHAC Membership / Terms of Service: The Terms of Service chart was briefly reviewed. Several individuals are coming to the end of a 3-year term and will require background checks. Winslow will term out after the June meeting and mentioned that she may have some individuals who might be interested in serving. BHAC members were asked to refer any interested person to the Region V website or send those queries to Rabe at the Region.

Network Continuous Quality Improvement: Kreifels gave a brief overview of the Regional Data Overview Report (draft). Data is collected in four categories: efficiency, effectiveness, access, and overall satisfaction. The report aligns with National Outcome Measures (NOMS) and includes data on stable living, employment, substance use / sobriety and recovery. Observations and actions plans are included. Information on EPCs and service enhancements is included in the report.

Capacity Utilization Summaries (CAP): CAP summaries through January 31 were provided for informational purposes. Johnson briefly noted how helpful these summaries have been in determining when contract shifts are necessary and to enable the Region to monitor drawdown.

FY 21-22 Training: A list was provided for informational purposes.

IMPORTANT DATES

- March 10 – 9:00 a.m. – Regional Prevention Coalition
- March 14 – 10:30 a.m. – RGB Meeting – at Region V Services
- March 21 – 9:00 a.m. – Network Providers Meeting
- March 30 – 10:00 a.m. – BHAC Meeting

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURN

- There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.