

Local Advisory Council
February 10, 2010
Minutes

Members present: Allison Wollbeck, Consumer/Adult LAC; Dawn Tommerdahl, Clay County Collaborative; Shawna Croaker, Dakota Medical Foundation, Children's Initiative; Bryan Hanson, Lakeland Mental Health; Debra Schillinger, consumer; Beth Zimmerman, Metro Crisis; Carol Beckstrom, Clay County Social Services; Lanette Krinsky, parent/chairperson; Carolyn Strnad, parent/secretary/treasurer

Carolyn welcomed the group and stood in as acting chair until Lanette arrived.

Minutes for the January meeting approved with no additions or corrections (Dawn/Bryan)

Agenda: Additions to the agenda included update on transportation public hearing, update on mobile crisis program, children's initiative program and MN Disability Law Center advisory board meeting. Agenda approved with additions (Carol/Dawn)

Financial report: Balance of \$1313.55 Lanette has submitted a written request to Social Services for the council payment for the year 2010. A budget will be developed at our next meeting or when we receive confirmation of payment.

Discussion:

Adult LAC: Alison reports that the adult LAC is working on a number of activities including May Mental Health month activities; transportation issues, website development and possible link to DHS site.

State Advisory Council report: Alison is a consumer representative on the state advisory council. She will provide us updates on the issues that the council is addressing. She also informed us that she is the contact person for the LACs for the state advisory council so if there are any issues or questions we have let her know.

Rule 79 report: Bryan reported that case loads are full among the case managers. A total of 175 children are being served. There are currently no waiting lists.

Children's Mental Health Initiative: Shawna requested ideas from the group on presenters and possible locations for the workshops that will be held in May in conjunction with Mental Health Month. She is also looking for ideas for the upcoming newsletter.

Mobile Crisis: Beth provided the group with a sampling of the promotional items that the mobile crisis work group has developed. There are also billboards going up and advertising placed on metro busses to advertise the crisis line. Productive Alternatives have taken over the contract to answer the hotline. Things are going really well. Calls for crisis assistance continue to come in slowly and present staffing is sufficient to meet that demand.

Transportation: Dawn and Deb reported on a metro cog public hearing meeting they attended. Metro Cog was very interested in getting ideas from the groups to determine how they can improve the service. They will be looking at the forms presently used to see where modifications can be made to reflect some of the mental health disorders that adults have to access this form of transportation. Carol talked about the changes in medical transportation. This may impact their volunteer driver program.

MN Disability Law Center: Carolyn shared information on the January meeting of the advisory council. Discussion items included the upcoming legislative session and the priorities that the mental health legislative network will be pursuing. Information was

also shared on a report compiled by the Disability Law Center in respect to seclusion and restraint use in schools. Carolyn has a copy of both of these reports for anyone interested. The group decided to look at the issue of restraints used in school at a future meeting of the LAC.

Trainings: The group discussed a number of different areas for trainings and possible partners. Funding to purchase a DVD for a brown bag lunch was approved (Carol/Bryan). The DVD is called 24: A day in the life of a child with bi-polar. Deb suggested that we look at doing a presentation at the Fargo Theater for a community awareness activity. Carolyn and Lanette will research other training ideas and bring them to the group next month.

Speaker: By consensus the group decided to hold off on having speakers at our meetings until we have finished the work plans and other organizational tasks.

Bylaws: Motion to approve the bylaws as written with two corrections on stipends for members. (Carol/Beth)

Survey: Carolyn presented drafts of the agency survey and parent survey. Dawn suggested adding a line regarding the transportation barrier to see if we could get any additional information that would assist in reducing that barrier. Carol recommended and the council approved by consensus to provide an incentive to parents for completing and returning the survey. Carolyn will add a slip to the mailing for the drawing for three \$25 Target gift cards.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting, March 10, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. at the Family Service Center.