

**WV Mental Health Planning Council
Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2008**

- Attendees:** Pam Akers, Dewey Berry, Angie Ferrari, Millie Gerbo, Melissa Scheicher, Debora Hansen, Pamela Harper, Ted Johnson, David Majic, J. K. McAtee, Jane McCallister, Bob McConnell, Bob Musick, David Sanders, Nancy Schmitt, Jessica Stewart, Elliott Birkhead
- Absent:** Brandy Blankenship, Frankie Capocéfalo, Bob Carey, Francie Clark, Carla Cleek, Nancy Deming, Bob Hansen, Sheila Hicks, Randy Housh, Paul Macom, Diana Miller, Kimberly Murphy, Linda Pauley, Linda Pauley, Mike Pauley, Lorie Roberts, Karen Shimmel, Debbie Toler, Steve Mason
- Guests:** Susan Given, Patrick Tenney, Trenton Holbert, Pam Nichols, MaryAnn Kuhl, Arnold Kuhl, Carolyn Nelson, Sarah Einstein, Ardella Cottrill, Pam Akers
- Presenters:** John Bianconi, Commissioner Bureau for Behavioral Health & Health Facilities

Danny Good & Jeff Bailey, Allied Marketing & Resources
(Medicare Advantage Plans & Options Educational presentation)

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am. Chair Johnson presented ex-officio David Sanders with a gift of gratitude for his many years of dedication to the Mental Health Planning Council and his tireless efforts as past Chair.

John Bianconi, Commissioner of the Bureau for Behavioral Health & Health Facilities was introduced and thanked the Council and Systems & Monitoring Committee for the *Systems Transformation Report*. Commissioner Bianconi stated, "The report presents challenges to the state and gives pause to think". He continued his presentation with an update of the Bureau's activities, strategies for change and various issues that were being addressed:

- Update on Behavioral Health Commission, a positive move that has brought over 150 persons into dialogue in addressing systemic change
- Over census of admissions to the State Hospitals, currently paying for 110 diversion beds for care, possible increase in inpatient capacity
- Bureau under forensic court order, there are currently 3 transitional living facilities and 20 beds at Bateman Hospital
- Integration between Primary Care Centers and Behavioral Health Centers
- Telemedicine & strategic partnership with WVU, VISTA E-Health Systems & WV Health Information Network are positive approaches to systemic change

Bob McConnell conversed in the open dialogue time and voiced concerns that the system was 80/20, 80% good and 20% not helping consumers. Dave Sanders stated that building inpatient capacity was just one solution to address the over census issue, but it was short term; issues should be addressed at the front end with Care Coordination and ACT.

Chair Johnson asked for a review of the June 27, 2008 meeting minutes. No additions or corrections were made. Angie Ferrari made the motion to accept the minutes as written, Dave Sanders seconded the motion.

Cheryl Perrone from Valley Health Care stopped in to say hello to Council members and shared the information that statistically since 1993, commitments were going down.

Chair Johnson reported that a committee had met on Medicaid Redesign; basic Medicaid cards were used as a default, enhanced cards had limited services. A letter was written to the Secretary of State; to date there has been no reply. The Council is also involved in the FACES of Medicaid.

Quarterly Updates:

Department of Children’s Mental Health

- Dave Majic spoke with the Executive Committee on the schedule for “possible program reviews”
- WV System of Care third year summary/handout
- Bob Musick reported on the Suicide Prevention, they are moving to a 501c-3 status. Announced workshops on domestic violence & suicide/returning troops & suicide. On September 25th there will be a press release and report presentation to Governor Joe Manchin.
- School Based Mental Health report/handout

Department of Juvenile Services

- Melissa Schicher spoke briefly of the Day Reporting Centers that are open
 - Barboursville, Hancock-Brooke, Kanawha, Industrial Home (Salem) and contracted to get a building in Putnam County.

Department of Social Services

- Jane McCallister reported that WV was having a federal review in the following counties: Harrison, Greenbrier, Pocahontas, Summers, Monroe, and Kanawha

Advocacy

- Susan Given reported on upcoming conferences
 - 10/24/08 Employment Discrimination
 - 10/31/08 “Blast” Brain Injury
 - 11/19/08 Wright’s Law Training (2 days)

Membership Committee

8 potential interest indicators for nomination to Council; Bob McConnell made the motion to accept and vote form Millie Gerbo seconded the motion, The persons to be voted on:

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Joe Macon | Carolyn Nelson | Jackie Hensly | Sarah Einstein |
| Susan Givens | Arnold Kuhl | Trenton Holbert | Ardella Cottrill |

Unanimous vote for the eight new members; Dave Sanders will send out letters to past members to seek interest in rejoining the Council.

Mental Health Block Grant Application:

Ted Johnson will prepare a letter from the MH Planning Council to forward with Block Grant application. Ted Johnson noted that in the past the Executive Committee drafted the letter, wanted to change this process and ask for input from the entire council. The letter will be sent to the Governor, Secretary of State as well as Grant Management, Director of Adult Mental Health, Children’s Mental Health and Commissioner Bianconi. Block Grant Application for 2009 has been

written by 4 different writers due to the vacant position of Block Grant Planner. The Block Grant Matrix was passed out. This presented questions/issues for the system:

- Funding of outreach liaisons for the Comprehensives
- Create child expertise
- Standardized practices in Case management (infrastructure)
- EBP Family treatment model, want Family Therapy code
- Workforce Development
- Training of the clinical community – collaboration/integration with Block Grant
- Partner with BCF, DJS and others for a blending of funds
- School Based Mental Health & Resiliency
- Mutual project of WRAP for kids

Adult Mental Health:

Ted Johnson reported for Elliott Birkhead, Director of Adult Mental Health the overall themes were:

- Increase in low end services
- MH issues
- Staff turnover
- Access to services
- Crisis services
- Wait lists Increase in suicide
- Increase in mortality rates of those with MH issues
- Mountain Health Choices
- Access to housing and supports
- Rise in co-occurring disorders

Planning Council:

Dave Sanders gave a summary overview of the Block Grant and MH Planning Council:

- Public feedback on Block Grant application
- Lack of community services
- Barriers to community services
- Medicaid Redesign and national criticism
- Elimination of Trip-Ticket
- Expansion of long term care

Dave spoke of unmet needs and ineffective discharge planning were contributing factors to MH crises in WV. He suggested the council plan early and build on the previous Block Grant, with the goal being 30 days prior to the Block Grant review. He also suggested the council advocate for a full-time Block Grant writer.

Dave Sanders also presented on an Economic Tool that would be beneficial to all stakeholders

Danny Goode and Jeff Bailey presented an educational component of Medicare Advantage Plans with the hopes that access to Dental, Vision and Drug Plans may better suit persons receiving Behavioral Health services.

Dave Sanders presented on WRAP for Youth, received money from Children's Mental Health to train 30 trainers and purchase training materials. The Copeland Center will present a 3 day

training within the next 2 months. If interested in the training or program contact Dianna Bailey or Dave Sanders.

The next meeting was rescheduled to October 31, 2008 at Barboursville.

The MH Planning Council meeting was adjourned.