



MENTAL HEALTH CONNECTION BOARD RESOLUTION APPROVING ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES FOR 2009

WHEREAS, Mental Health Connection is a collaboration of public and private entities and individuals working in concert with consumers of mental health services and their caregivers; and whereas, the purpose of Mental Health Connection is to create and implement strategies to improve and ensure an accessible, quality, strengths-based, family-driven mental healthcare system in Tarrant County for people of all ages; and whereas members of Mental Health Connection recognize that transformation of the mental health system can be more readily achieved by the community as a whole, rather than by one group or individual working alone, the Board of Mental Health Connection, in accordance with the bylaws, commits to support the establishment and work of the following committees to accomplish the strategic goals approved by the membership of the Mental Health Connection in 2007 pursuant to this resolution for the period beginning January 1, 2009 and ending December 31, 2009.

WHEREAS, membership on all the following committees shall include family members, substance abuse treatment providers and other individuals with the special skills and expertise to help accomplish the work of each committee as described in this resolution, and

WHEREAS, each committee shall determine a schedule of meetings necessary to accomplish its prescribed scope of work for 2009, and

WHEREAS, each committee shall record its deliberations, actions and recommendations and submit minutes of each of its meetings to the President of Mental Health Connection within ten days after the meeting, and

WHEREAS, the Board Liaison for each committee in this Resolution shall be responsible for bringing requests for action to the Board for approval and keeping the board apprised of the work of the committees,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board establishes the **TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE** with the following goals:

One, to create a strategic plan for technology transformation, which includes, but is not limited to:

- Maximizing use of technologies to increase information sharing across agencies, resulting in consumers' ability to access services more readily and increasing agency efficiency.
- Determining effective ways for collecting and storing and sharing data using technology.
- Determining ways to include data about Evidence-Based-Practices, outcomes, and screening instruments to assist with decision-making and improving access to appropriate services.

Two, to oversee CSMIS including:

- Increasing utilization of current CSMIS users
- Increasing participation in CSMIS
- Making recommendations to Governance Committee regarding develop of governance structure for managing/sustaining CSMIS
- Creating a plan for sustainability of CSMIS
- Creating a plan for evaluation of CSMIS

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board establishes the **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE** with the goals to:

- Increase understanding of mental illness
- Reduce stigma regarding mental illness
- Assist with preparation of a social marketing plan for Hand in Hand
- Create strategies for branding the No Wrong Door philosophy.
- Develop and implement strategies for internal and external communications of the collaboration
- Increase communication with consumer advocacy and support groups.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board establishes the **FAMILY CONNECTION COMMITTEE** with the goals to:

- Strengthen relationships and build collaborations with advocacy groups/peer support groups.
- Ensure the "family voice" in all MHC activities

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board establishes the **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE** with the goals to:

- Plan monthly meetings of Mental Health Connection membership which shall occasionally provide collaborative education and training opportunities, including leadership and skills-based training, based on the interests, desires and needs of the membership.

- Create strategies for communicating the benefits of MHC membership to the community
- Create strategies to ensure meaningful participation of each member in the collaboration.
- Maintain list of MHC members
- Review annual dues structure

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board establishes the **SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE** with the goals to:

- Plan the 2009 Bridging the Gap symposium, including recruiting faculty, handling logistics, determining an agenda.
- Plan post-symposium learning activities
- Create a strategic plan for symposia in 2010 and 2011.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board establishes the **IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE** with the goals to:

- Oversee implementation of the EBP pilot programs recommended by the 2007-8 Learning Communities
- Ensure finalization of implementation plans including budgets, social marketing strategies, evaluation plans, action steps.
- Recruit and train volunteers to complete the work.
- Determine future needs for supporting and sustaining of the work of the teams.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board establishes the **GRANTS COMMITTEE** with the goals to:

- Research funding opportunities to support shared goals of the collaborative partners.
- Develop collaborative funding opportunities to support the goals of Mental Health Connection.
- Consider and recommend Mental Health Connection's support of grant applications by community organizations, when requested.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board establishes the **RESEARCH COMMITTEE** with the goals to:

- Provide education, consultation and support for agencies engaged in developing and maintaining program evaluation and meaningful outcomes, including cost benefit analysis.
- Work with local universities, medical centers, and other research institutions to build alliances to create a body of local data for effective decision-making, including EBP's.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board establishes the **ADVOCACY COMMITTEE** with the goals to:

- Educate decision makers and encourage support of policies that demonstrate Tarrant County's priorities for a quality, accessible mental health care system.

- Ensure that MHC's collaborative legislative priorities are promoted during the 2009 legislative session
- Evaluate benefit/value of state and federal professional consultants.
- Continue to develop policy priorities that are the consensus of the collaboration members.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board establishes the **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE** with the goals to:

- Recommend policies/procedures for managing the work of the collaboration (examples: accounting, administrative procedures, grants review process, expectations/responsibilities of collaborative activities)
- Recommend policies/procedures for implementation of the Evidence Based Practices Pilots
- Recommend Policies/procedures for data sharing projects, including CSMIS
- Review the Standards of Care adopted in 2004 by MHC membership, recommend changes for membership approval, and develop a plan for institutionalizing the standards of care.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board establishes the **WORKFORCE COMMITTEE** with the goals to:

- Develop strategies/policies/procedures to identify, recruit and sustain a highly qualified mental health workforce in Tarrant County
- Facilitate research/data gathering to track local mental health workforce needs.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board establishes the **FINANCE COMMITTEE** which shall provide oversight to the fiscal management of Mental Health Connection including regularly reviewing income and expenses, assisting with preparation of an annual budget, and making recommendations to the Board regarding MHC's annual audit.

BE IT RESOLVED, by unanimous action of the Board on December 10, 2008.

December 10, 2008

Susan Garnett, Board Chairperson