

# Minutes of the Mental Health Connection Board Meeting September 26, 2007

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Mental Health Connection Board was convened in the MHMR Board Room at 4 p.m. on September 26, 2007.

**Attendees:** Joan Barcellona, Vice-Chair, and members Kay Barkin, Ray Broadbent, Dr. Joe Burkett, Pat Cheong, Jennifer Gilley, Chuck Hoffman, Mollie Kuchta, Barbara Lamsens, Susanne Luebke, Heather Reynolds, Cynthia West, Lyn Willis, and Stacie York. Sherwyn Daryani was present representing Community Solutions.

Joan Barcellona, Vice-Chairman, called the meeting to order and presented the agenda items in Patsy Thomas' absence.

The first item of business was approval of the minutes of the July 25th, 2007 meeting. Upon the motion of Chuck Hoffman, with a second by Heather Reynolds, the minutes were unanimously approved as prepared.

## Standing Committee Reports

### Finance Committee

Jennifer gave the Finance Committee report, and she reported that we are on target with revenues and expenditures. Upon the motion of Lyn Willis, with a second by Cynthia West, the report was unanimously approved.

### Advocacy Committee

Jim McDermott, chair, was ill and therefore unavailable to give this committee's report. Dr. Burkett volunteered information that we are still awaiting a response to our request for corporate grant funding to support the work of the committee.

### Membership

Barbara Lamsens, chair, reported that she will make recommendations to the Board at its next meeting regarding requests that MHC receives to advertise events and materials. The program at the next general membership meeting will feature Bob Ray Sanders speaking on the topic of the Virginia Tech shootings.

### Social Marketing

Heather Reynolds, chair, and Kay Barkin reported that MHC has received the Silver Anvil Award of Excellence given by the Texas public relations' organization for *The Fine Line* exhibit.

Key issues being worked on are:

- 1) Branding MHC's "No Wrong Door" theme;
- 2) Training a speakers' bureau;
- 3) Developing a strategy to get into the corporate world with our anti-stigma campaign

## Old Business

### *Community Solutions Update:*

Sherwyn Daryani gave a report on our request for \$1 million in TANF grant funding from DFPS. Representatives from MHC had traveled to Austin to meet with FPS Commissioner Carey Cockerell and his staff to finalize the request and learned, disappointingly, that FPS decided they must hire their own facilitators and provide direct services in the community. MHC is no longer eligible to receive this funding.

A funding announcement for 23 new System of Care grants will be released October 31<sup>st</sup>. CFW/Community Solutions will re-apply for a county-wide project to serve 0-6 year olds. There will be a planning meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup>. Kay will send out the announcement particulars.

## New Business

A. Pat Cheong reported about recent work on MHC by-laws by a Board sub-committee. Though Susan Garnett had hoped that the revisions could be approved by the Board at today's meeting, the revisions are not ready for approval. Joan thanked the sub-committee for its work.

B. A final item of new business was a request for Board approval not to interrupt compensation benefits during a period of sick leave for President Patsy Thomas, resulting from a recent surgery and recuperation. Upon the motion of Cynthia West, with a second by Chuck Hoffman, the motion was unanimously approved.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyn Willis, Secretary