

Mental Health Connection Membership Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 8, 2010 at 8:30am
Tarrant County Juvenile Services

Attendees:

Sean Allen	Virginia Hoft	Keri Robbins
Joan Barcellona	Shelby Hopson	Matt Robison
Kay Barkin	Cynthia Jensen	Jamie Souders
Andre Bennett	Jennifer Johnson	Michael Steinert
Cindy Bethany	Barbara Lamsens	Karen Sutton
Pat Cheong	Susanne Luebke	Kyer Tatum
April Coccarelo	Bart Miller	Patsy Thomas
Shawn Curtis	Michelle Morgan	Cynthia Thompson
Dale Edmiaston	Clea Moss	Larry Tubb
Lisa Farmer	Michelle Nail	James Turnage
Sonja Gaines	Santos Navarette, Jr.	Richard Vickers
Susan Garnett	Stephanie Norton	Tamra Walker
Jennifer Gilley	Melissa Opheim	Grace White
Carrie Greer	Sherri Pratt	Lyn Willis
John Hamlett, III	Carolyn Presnall	Brenda Wingo
Julia Harris	Barb Reid	Lily Wong
Barbara Hartzendorf	Barbara Reynolds-	Wayne Young
Ginny Hickman	Brown	Lena Zettler

Susan Garnett called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. Carolyn Presnall, co-chair of the Membership Committee, led the group in introductions.

Reports

CCHAPS

Ginny Hickman introduced Larry Tubb, senior vice president, system planning for Cook Children's Health Care System, who provided an in-depth report on results of the Communitywide Children's Health Assessment and Planning Survey (CCHAPS). Among the key findings were:

- North Texas is at or slightly better than the national average in the way parents describe the health of their children. North Texas is far better than the state average.
- Leaders think mental health care is important, but – as an aggregate – parents do not place the same importance on it.
- 18.1% of all the respondents had children who had been diagnosed by a health professional as having asthma. Asthma affects behavior, health and school problems.
- 15.5% report their children do not eat healthy meals. Larry believes a part of that is the inability of many working parents to cook and still spend time with their families. A lack of exercise is related to academic and behavioral issues.

- 15.3% reported their children had needed medical care for an injury in the past year.
- 8% said their children currently have dental problems. These children were twice as likely to have behavioral problems as well.
- 34% said they did not get the medical care they needed for their children.
- 55% reported their children have been abused or neglected. These children are four to six times more likely to have academic and behavioral problems.
- 9.3% of all parents said their children have experienced bullying; however, 51% of all children say they have experienced bullying. Larry suggested that different perspectives led to the variation.

In the area of mental health, the findings revealed:

- 10.7% reported their children had mental health problems.
- Of those, 11.4% reported having difficulty accessing care.
- Children with mental health issues are nine times more likely to have problems in school and five times more likely to experience abuse.
- Mental illness affected all socioeconomic groups almost equally.
- The rate of mental illnesses in Latino and Non-Latino families was about equal.
- More males than females report being diagnosed with a mental illness.
- Diagnoses spike at age 4 and again at age 10.
- Those who do not have children with mental illnesses are far less likely to think access to care is an issue.
- Those who need mental health care the most are the least likely to access it.
- Of all respondents, 0.9% reported being diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Larry explained the homeless and undocumented population was reached through MHMR and homeless shelters in the area. He will be analyzing those results in the spring.

CCHAPS conducted separate surveys with Cook Children's patients. A comparison between patients and non-patients will be completed over the summer.

Cook Children's identified seven issues on which it will focus initially: asthma, obesity, accidents, mental illness, dental health, abuse and health care access.

Cook Children's has posted all of the results on www.cchaps.org. Visitors to the site can review narratives or raw data. He said Cook Children's is committed to:

- Giving the community access to the data and tools to act
- Continuing to use the data to research, understand and communicate children's health issues and potential solutions
- Creating a Center for Children's Health to sustain this effort.

Larry then presented a video, "A Call to Action." The video introduced the theme "The Decade of the Child: Health Children 2020."

The survey to date cost approximately \$600,000 out of pocket, with the funds coming from the Cook Children's general fund as a gift back to the community.

Patsy Thomas committed Mental Health Connection to working with Cook Children's and asked Larry to call us anytime as they proceed with their strategic planning process. She also expressed the appreciation of the mental health community for the survey.

Susan pointed out that CCHAPS is an amazing gift, and she appreciates the commitment to keep the effort alive for at least 10 years.

Utilization Review

Lily Wong reported 1,586 visits to the Psychiatric Emergency Room, which is higher than usual in January. There were 235 adult admissions and 67 adolescent admissions.

Carolyn Presnall reported there are currently 9 inpatient beds taken with some blocked beds. Seven are currently in the PHP, with a couple on the waiting list.

Sonya Gaines reported on crisis services for September through December 2009. During that time, ICare received approximately 13,000 calls, with a little under 200 being designated crises. MCOT worked with more than 700 people. The Stabilization Unit served 203 individuals, with 52 in the Respite Unit and 29 in Residential. Approximately 1% of all calls were for children and adolescents. Sonya also announced that she is distributing a video that outlines crisis services, with a brief report on each area. Work is underway to post a longer version of the video on the MHMR Web site.

Cultural Competency

Virginia Hoft reported that the Cultural Competency Implementation Team had completed trainings for approximately 42 practitioners and 40 executives in October and November. The group will come together February 22 at 3:30 at The Women's Center to determine where they want to go next. Dr. Gloria Morrow will facilitate that session. The Selection Team has chosen individuals to train with Dr. Morrow so they can provide the training to others in the community. Those selected will be announced at the February 22 meeting. Their training will take place that week. Dr. Morrow will return in April to help the trainers present the curriculum to about 45 Mental Health Connection members.

Hand in Hand

Sean Allen reported that Hand in Hand working with Camp Fire to roll out training for child care centers within the next two months. Connect4Success is a strengths-based approach to managing children with behavioral problems. The initial training will take place in Hood County, with additional Hand in Hand counties receiving the training each year. Sean reminded members to remember to report in-kind hours for any time they spend working on systemic issues with young children in the five-county area. Hand in Hand needs help finding referrals, especially in Hood and Palo Pinto Counties.

Susan reminded the group that the large number of in-kind donations during Community Solutions allowed the mental health community to draw SAMHSA dollars for seven years instead of six.

DataLink

Tamra Walker reported that DataLink users made 65 referrals in January. The group is working on a pilot of the Federated Model. She also reported on meetings with the agencies providing TF-CBT and with 2-1-1. Pam Beach presented privacy training in January. Solomon Edwards Group is continuing to work on Memorandums of Understanding. SEG recently received updated pricing from IIT and is pleased with the results. Kay Barkin is working with SEG on developing a DataLink brochure. Susan pointed out DataLink is a great opportunity to use technology to bring the community of services together.

Announcements

Carolyn Presnall announced the March meeting will feature a presentation on critical incident procedures at Fort Worth ISD. Cindy Bethany will be the speaker.

Joan Barcellona asked whether the Advocacy Committee will address the 5 percent cuts by the state in the next budget. Susan said a stakeholder meeting is planned in Austin to discuss the cuts. The State expects a \$14-\$16 billion shortfall for the budget that will be determined in the next legislative session that begins in January. Efforts are underway to fight any cuts in community-based services, which could affect the crisis services that have been added in the past two years.

Susanne Luebke and Patsy reported the originally scheduled orientation for the Journal Clubs has been postponed from tomorrow. A second day had been set, but it conflicted with a presentation sponsored by Tarrant County Challenge. A new date will be set soon. Multiple notices will go out to ensure everyone knows about the date.

Lily Wong announced she has been transferred to another area of JPS and will no longer be able to attend MHC meetings.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held Monday, March 8, 8:30 a.m., at The Women's Center.

Adjournment

With no announcements or further business, Susan Garnett adjourned the meeting at 10:03 a.m.