

**Mental Health Connection Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, March 14, 2011 at 8:30am**  
**The Women's Center**

**Attendees:**

Sue Adams	Jennifer Gilley	Jane Sanford
Sean Allen	Estrella Griggs	Alan Schonborn
Joan Barcellona	Nancy Hagan	Carolyn Sims
Kay Barkin	Diane Harrison	Jamie Souders
Samantha Beene	Jennifer Martin	Patsy Thomas
Maury Booth	Marisol Mogus	Cynthia Thompson
Estella Cardenas	Barbara Lamsens	Katy Tomlinson
Pat Cheong	Sandra Lydick	Richard Vickers
Margaret Cohenour	Kelly Mays	Lyn Willis
Travis Davis	Bart Miller	Brenda Wingo
Lisa Farmer	Santos Navarrette, Jr.	Drenda Witt
Jan Finch	Stephanie Norton	Wayne Young
Lydia Garcia	Sherri Pratt	Lena Zettler
Susan Garnett	Matt Robison	

Susan Garnett called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees at 8:38 a.m. Sherri Pratt led the group in introductions.

**Special Reports**

*Tarrant Cares*

Barbara Lamsens reported the Tarrant Cares materials are here today, including rack cards, magnets and business cards. The kickoff and press conference will be held March 30. She asked everyone not to distribute the materials until after the press conference. We will also send images in an email and ask people to distribute them. Samantha Beene said there is a distribution form to be filled out when people pick up their materials that will help with reports to sponsors. Samantha will be here until 4 p.m. today, and attendees should invite others to stop by and pick up materials as well. A mass e-mail from Trilogy was sent last week telling all included agencies that their information is on Tarrant Cares. The agencies were encouraged to check their information now to be sure everything is listed the way they want it. Trilogy is trying to have all corrections made by March 30, the go-live date. Patsy thanked everyone for all they have done. There will be a training on Monday for anyone who wants to attend. Later in the day on Monday, a training at Cook Children's is expected to attract 100 people. On Tuesday, March 29, there will be trainings at the Public Health Department, Tarrant County Juvenile Services and the Tarrant County Administration Building. Kathy Sterbenc could also be available on Wednesday morning, March 30, if another training is needed.

### *Child Abuse Awareness*

Katy Tomlinson, a community educator from the Alliance for Children, reported on Prevent Now, a community-wide initiative designed to raise awareness about child abuse. The program offers a training for adults that includes information on statistics (such as one in four girls and one in six boys will be sexually abused before their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday); signs of child abuse; reporting of child abuse; and pro-active prevention of child abuse. The goal is to train 65,628 people, or 5 percent of the population, within the next 10 years. There is a theory that if you reach 5 percent of a group, you can make change happen. Alliance for Children is focusing on five groups to reach with the presentations: schools, faith organizations, youth-serving organizations, youth sports and parents. Trainings planned in April include: April 5 at 9 a.m. at the Fort Worth Alliance for Children office; April 11 at 2 p.m. at Glenview Baptist Church; April 20 at 1 p.m. at the Arlington Alliance for Children office; April 26 at 6 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Hurst. CEUs can be provided along with Certificates of Completion. People can register through the Alliance for Children Web site or by calling 817-335-7172. At this time, there are no trainings in Spanish, although there are materials in Spanish.

### *Cultural Competence*

Lydia Garcia announced there are several upcoming CBMCS trainings and plenty of slots are available. To sign up, go to the Mental Health Connection Web site and link to the form. The first training this year will be held March 25 and 26 and March 31-April 1. Lydia thanked Nancy Hagan for hosting the March session at Alliance for Children. The fee has increased to \$125, which includes materials and meals. For more information, call Lydia Garcia at 817-492-4673.

### **Utilization Review**

*JPS Health System* – Wayne Young reported there were 1,176 visits to the Psychiatric Emergency Room in February. There were 64 admissions to the adolescent unit, 57 to crisis stabilization and 245 to the adult unit.

*Hand in Hand* – Stephanie Norton reported on a meeting that Hand in Hand held for churches and community groups interested in starting a Parents Night Out Program for children with special needs. Alsbury Baptist Church hosted the event, and its pastor made a presentation about the special needs program there. Lena Zettler from REVIVE in Keller explained how a similar program works in her church. There was a good turnout, and Hand in Hand is looking forward to working with REVIVE to mentor others.

Hand in Hand is entering a national evaluation study with CPS, comparing children in the child welfare system who receive wraparound services with children in the system who do not. Hand in Hand is committed to enrolling 50 children for the study.

The training on handling behavioral issues for day care centers is continuing in partnership with Camp Fire. The Connect4Success program is currently being offered in Johnson County.

Hand in Hand parent-child play groups are expanding. Youth Engagement Specialist Ronnie Seagroves is leading groups in Palo Pinto, Hood and Parker Counties.

There have been 54 children served by Hand in Hand.

*DataLink* – Patsy Thomas reported that John Hopkins of IIT presented a proof of concept of the Federated model on March 1. Utilization of DataLink is growing every month, with 18 agencies currently on board. The Committee meets once a month to improve the system.

### **New Business**

Patsy reported on a meeting she, Virginia Hoft and Susan Garnett attended in Wisconsin with a coalition of cities trying to create a similar system of care. The same group visited Tarrant County in October. They have a great deal of energy and are using what they have heard as they plan for the future. Patsy believes there will be more of that type of outreach and communication between communities in the future. As a result, Mental Health Connection is currently in the process of determining how to write its story, including evaluation of some significant outcomes that could be implemented in other counties. Susan commented that the Wisconsin group was particularly intrigued with DataLink. It was impressive that several medical doctors attended the meeting all day. The group is focused on the integration of physical and mental health.

Patsy has been invited to meet at SAMHSA for a national conversation about behavioral health issues in the public setting, spurred by the shooting in Tucson, Arizona.

### **Announcements**

Susan Garnett reported that Chuck Hoffman is retiring from Fort Worth ISD and will be the new Project Director for Hand in Hand.

Susan also announced that Dr. Joe Burkett has left MHMR of Tarrant County. Dr. Carol Nati is the new medical director. James Turnage is moving from Children's Mental Health Services to Adult Mental Health Services. Tracy Koller is moving into the Children's Mental Health Services position.

Alan Schonborn announced ACH Child and Family Services is hosting a Lend a Hand luncheon on April 7 at the Fort Worth Club to honor Child Abuse Prevention Month. He has a few copies of the invitation, or people can visit the ACH Web site.

Pat Cheong reported there have been multiple visits to Austin by various agencies lately. However, the legislators have said they want to hear from consumer groups. On Saturday, March 26, from 8:30-11 a.m., there will be a meeting with state legislators at the Botanical Research Institute of Texas. Agencies are encouraged to bring people who use their services and are willing to tell their stories. The materials are not in Spanish at this time.

Sandra Lydick announced the Crime Victims Council is presenting an Interfaith Worship Service on Sunday, April 10, at 3 p.m. in the Great Hall of First United Methodist Church of Arlington. The Art Station is serving as a sponsor and will lead the development of sand Mandala. Victims or friends and families of victims will be able to draw a symbol

representing a victim of violence pouring out hopes, dreams and what has been lost. At the end of the service, the sand will be swirled together, and attendees will be able to take some home as a memento.

Jennifer Gilley reported that Tarrant County Challenge will be hosting Dr. Thomas Smith for a presentation about psychotropic medications on Tuesday, May 17, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The program, which will offer six hours of CEUs, is \$30. It will be held at Temple Beth El on Hulen. Tarrant County Challenge will be sending out a Save-the-Date postcard this week.

Patsy announced Jennifer Johnson gave birth to a baby boy and both are doing fine.

Sherry Pratt reported there will be three programs at the April meeting. Sonja Gaines will report on Your Texas Benefits, Sandy Lutz will discuss CHIP and Maury Booth will present information on AmeriGroup.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held Monday, April 11, at 8:30 a.m. at The Women's Center.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.