

Mental Health Connection Membership Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 10, 2010 at 8:30am
The Women's Center

Attendees:

Sean Allen	Jennifer Johnson	Barb Reid
Joan Barcellona	Patrick LeBlanc	Chris Riddick
Kay Barkin	Lee LeGrice	Pam Rinn
Faye Beaulieu	Kelly Mays	Matt Robison
Andre Bennett	Patricia McGrew	Jane Sanford
Cindy Bethany	Steve McLaurin	Ronnie Seagroves
Stephanie Books	Michelle Morgan	Michael Steinert
Pat Cheong	Clea Moss	Cynthia Thompson
Michelle Denison	Santos Navarrette	Mark Ware
Dale Edmiaston	Stephanie Norton	Vicki Warren
Jennifer Farnum	Melissa Opheim	Artie Williams
Sonja Gaines	Michael Parker	Lyn Willis
Susan Garnett	Patty Poma	Michael Williams
Allison Giles	Sherri Pratt	Brenda Wingo
Phillip Hawkins	Carolyn Presnall	Wayne Young
Virginia Hoft	Raquel Qualls-Hampton	

Susan Garnett called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m. Carolyn Presnall, co-chair of the Membership Committee, led the group in introductions.

Special Reports

Crisis Services

Sonja Gaines of MHMR reported on the outcomes of the mental health crisis services. The *ICARE Call Center* has been certified by the American Association of Suicidology. Approximately 70% of the calls received are traditional information calls; the remaining 30% are crisis calls. The majority of the crisis calls can be handled by phone. In all of the crisis cases, ICARE has followed up with the original caller.

The Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT) served 204 individuals between September 2009 and April 2010, including 25 children/adolescents. MCOT reached 99% of those individuals within the time mandated by the state. The exceptions were caused either by traffic tie-ups or the individual had given the wrong address. More than 99% of all MCOT clients were diverted from state hospitalization. Of the 25 children/adolescents seen, 19 were admitted into ACH Child and Family Services Respite Program. Of those, 89.74% had a successful outcome.

The Crisis Respite Unit offers up to one week of care and has separate facilities for men and women. Since September, 127 individuals have been served in the eight available beds. Of those served, 97.5% avoided incarceration and local hospitalization for 60 days after discharge. None of them were admitted to the state hospital after discharge from the program.

The Crisis Residential Unit served 71 clients between September and April. Of those, 97.8% avoided incarceration and 97.1% avoided local hospitalization for 60 days after discharge. There were no admissions to the state hospital after discharge.

The Crisis Stabilization Unit, located at JPS, served 443 unduplicated individuals between September and April. Of those, only 3.6% required readmission to the CSU. More than 90% were linked to ongoing services, and 95.5% were able to avoid admission to a more acute inpatient unit.

MHMR also offers a *Competency Restoration Program* for those in jail who cannot stand trial because they have been determined to be incompetent. Between September and April, this program worked with 27 individuals. Of those, 93% had no new arrests. All clients who did not receive jail time were transitioned to continued psychiatric treatment.

Sonja encouraged Mental Health Connection members to view a five-minute video about the crisis services on YouTube (go to www.youtube.com and search for MHMRTC). There is also a 15-minute video that Sonja can provide.

Camp Fire/Hand in Hand

Sean Allen introduced Allison Giles, who is the new community liaison for Hand in Hand. Her position is funded in kind by Cook Children's Medical Center.

Sean explained that Hand in Hand and Camp Fire conducted a survey of child care providers in the five-county area. He focused on the results for Hood County in comparison with Tarrant County. Problem behaviors are being seen more in Hood County, and expulsions are higher. However, Sean speculated it may not be a case of Hood County's children have worse problems than those in Tarrant County. Instead, it might reflect the lack of services and training. Child care providers believe the cause of the negative behaviors is parents (lack of discipline at home, 60%; uneducated parents, 36%; neglectful parents, 28%). A quarter of the respondents said they had not received any training on ways to meet the needs of children with behavioral/emotional issues, and 91% in Hood County said they would be interested in additional training.

Pam Rinn of Camp Fire reviewed Connect4Success, a 21-hour, seven-week program that Hand in Hand and Camp Fire are currently offering for child care providers in Hood County on Saturday mornings. It will be completed in June. Previous evaluation of Connect4Success shows a 28% decline in disruptive behaviors and a 44% increase in positive interaction between the child care provider and children six months after the course is completed. The current class, held at Acton Methodist Church in Granbury, includes 27 teachers who represent 21 classrooms at nine child care facilities, including in-home providers. Camp Fire conducts a pre- and post-session survey, in addition to a pre- and post-series survey with all participants. To sustain implementation of the new concepts, Camp Fire has a multi-pronged strategy. It includes a quarterly newsletter, identification of peer mentors who will then facilitate support group meetings, and an annual group meeting with guest speakers and networking. Camp Fire also has a Resource and Referral Database for parents who are having problems in child care. They can use the database to find child care centers willing to accept children with difficult behavioral issues.

Stephanie Norton reported she has received referrals from some of the child care providers who are participating in Connect4Success.

Barb Reid of Camp Fire leads the infant/toddler version of Connect4Success. She said the biggest difference between the two courses is that the younger children often are not yet verbal. So she focuses on non-verbal communication.

Utilization Review

JPS – Wayne Young reported there were 1,391 patients seen in the Psychiatric Emergency Room in April. There were 285 adult and 69 adolescent admissions. Sixty-two were served in the Crisis Stabilization Unit.

Cook Children's Medical Center - Carolyn Presnall reported the increase in Psychiatric ER visits has continued. The PHP should be winding down for the summer, but that might not happen this year. There are currently 11 in the PHP.

Hand in Hand – Stephanie Norton reported there are 23 families currently receiving wraparound from Hand in Hand, with a goal of 50 for the year. Referrals are needed in every county except Tarrant, which currently has three people on a waiting list.

CCHAPS – Sean Allen reported the Hand in Hand team met with the CCHAPS team. CCHAPS has hired outreach coordinators in each county, and Hand in Hand overlaps in four of those counties. The meeting included discussion on ways the two organizations can work together.

DataLink – Steve McLaurin reported 171 referrals went through DataLink in April, a 36% increase over March. Fifteen agencies are now a part of DataLink. Fort Worth ISD referred the most clients in April, followed by the Fort Worth Police Department. The predominant needs are counseling (individual and family) and truancy mediation. During the past month, DataLink enhanced the referral system. There are currently five agencies either poised to join DataLink or thinking about it. The Art Station will come on next month. Others include Tarrant County Juvenile Services, Millwood Hospital/Excel, Glick House and Mental Health Association.

Announcements

Pat Cheong announced the Center for Public Policy Priorities is bringing a half-day session to the Tarrant County Public Health Department. The focus will be the new health care bill. The first hour and a half to two hours will provide an overview of the bill. The final hour will provide a chance for those who work on systems to learn more.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held Monday, June 14, 8:30 a.m., at The Women's Center. The speaker will be Andre Bennett, who will give an update on services provided by Millwood Hospital.

Adjournment

With no announcements or further business, Susan adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.