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RAC Meeting Minutes Region 4 January 12, 2011

Region 4 RAC Meeting 1 12 11 – Ada County Sheriff's Office Day Reporting Center meeting room, Boise
Chris Bowers, Melanie Curtis, Micheal Dickson, Suzette Driscoll, LaDessa Foster Vern Garrett, Georgia Girvan, Dennis Hardziej, Dori Healey, Amy Jeppesen, Sandy Jones, Greg Munson, Robin Nelson, Darren Richman, Hillary Roethlisberger, Kathy Skippen, Laura Thomas, and Tom Wilson.

Meeting called to order at 10 a.m.

Minutes from the November meeting were approved.

Greg Munson from Benchmark gave a brief update on Prevention contractors in Region 4. Services are nearly fully contracted, however, there is no longer a provider in Mountain Home and Glenns Ferry. Those two areas will be goals for the next program year to add back into the region's services.

Kathy Skippen from DHW central office gave an update on the current year budget, ATR grant progress, SUD services and expectations for the legislative session at this time. The current budget year spending is over budget for the time of year, however it is less than the overspend rate of last year. It is hoped that the rate will slow and/or be managed so that we enter the next fiscal year (which starts July 1) with much less carry over debt. We started this year $5 million in debt; we hope to end with about $2 million in carry over debt. The net result will mean more of the 2012 budget will be available for services during that fiscal year.

The Single Point of Entry Contact (SPOEC) and Local Accountability Group (LAG) process is being developed for implementation first in ATR and then will expand to other populations serviced. Kerry Hong will be the misdemeanant SPOEC and Ryan Porter will be the non criminal justice SPOEC for Non-Criminal Justice client populations. The LAGs will be local groups with investment in the population and help make decisions on who should stay in treatment using clinical review information along with budget guidance.

Access to Recovery (ATR) is fully staffed and we successfully met the December deadline to be up and functional; our first client's GRPA data was entered and fully accepted on December 27, 2010.

One change in service funding that will be implemented soon is that Family and Community Services (FACS) clients, primarily child protection cases, will be moved to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding. This will allow for 90 days of SUDS service from this funding source and does allow for other services (coordinated by the H&W navigators) not covered by SUDS budget. Diverting this client population to alternative funding for 90 days of their treatment will help address the overspend of SUD funds. The target date for implementation is January 31, 2011.

Regarding the current legislative session, the Governor is expected to issue an executive order to establish the framework recommended in the Transformation Workgroup report. Senator Stegner is reportedly following the Behavioral Health Transformation Work Group developments and will sponsor whatever legislation may be needed to make the changes needed in Idaho Code to move forward on the workgroup recommendations. There is not expected to be funding for changes during this session. It is expected that the legislation that established ICSA will be allowed to sunset. As with all items before the Legislature, we will know the final outcome at the end of the session. Regarding budget, the budget presented by the Governor's office is fairly constant for treatment funding and there are no rumors of cuts at this time.

Suzette Driscoll from BPA provided an update; she echoed Kathy's complements to the providers for helping to work through the rapid timeline for getting ATR launched. BPA is focusing on evaluating the pilot project to determine what revisions and changes are required prior to roll out to the rest of the misdemeanor referral sources. BPA is partnering with the stakeholder group to hold additional referral source trainings with a target date of February for full roll out to the misdemeanant referral source. Suzette announced the upcoming provider GPRA trainings and encouraged providers to register individuals in their agencies to attend.

Providers were reminded the 100% of the intake GPRA data must be entered and correct and then sent to SAIS (federal agency) within seven (7) business days in order for a voucher to be issued. This is a federal requirement. The GPRA must be completed first and please have them processed the same day if possible and by the 3rd day at the latest to allow for the process to work within the 7 day time limit.

Providers are advised to work closely with the referral sources for ATR. If a client doesn't show for an appointment, contact the referral source (probation officer) so that everyone is aware of the situation.

Suzette also mentioned that the per the ATR grant requirements, the state has to have an 80% response rate for clients after discharge. Providers are encouraged to set up systems now for maintaining contact with clients so that this post discharge contact is achievable.

Kathy emphasized the important of data in the ATR grant. If we can show the state has considerable savings with the services, then we are in a stronger position to pursue funding when the grant period is over four years from now.

ICSA is having BPA finalize a new expenditure report form that will provide information based on funding source and populations served. It is hoped this tool will help improve budget management and even out funding rather than have providers experience dramatic swings.

Hillary Roethlisberger from Genesis World Mission (GWM) presented findings from the recent survey completed by GWM in partnership with the Leadership Nursing class at Boise State University. The data collected in Garden City is available to anyone working on grant applications in this area. A complete copy of the PowerPoint report is posted to the RAC 4 Website under the Misc Documents Banner. Some top line findings from the study are:

Garden City appeared to have:

higher than national average poverty rates;
lower than national average unemployment rates (data may change with next census release) which indicates more working poor, people with 2-3 jobs;
The top rated health concerns were:

1) Chronic Care – such as hypertension, asthma and diabetes care
2) Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder services/treatment
3) Social services
4) Prevention services, health insurance access

The next group of leadership nursing students will take these findings and move forward.

RAC Chair Update – Darren reported that a legislator has been selected by the RAC chairs and the awards event is scheduled for February 16 at 4 pm in the garden level auditorium, Senate Wing of the Capitol building. Darren reminded RAC 4 members that those in the Boise area have the easiest option of attending important legislative committee events in person; other RACs are best able to make their presence known via email, phone and mail. AACT Idaho is keeping members updated weekly on important developments. Vern Garrett asked Laura to forward an email from AACT on the upcoming budget reports to the RAC.

Regional Director and Projects Update – Laura Thomas reported Ross Mason could not attend the meeting due to a schedule conflict and all items he had for an update have already been covered. He's meeting with the director of H&W this week and will learn more about potential budget approaches; nothing to report at this time.

Regional projects include two opportunities to partner with Elmore and Valley County law enforcement and community groups to establish permanent Rx drug drop boxes. Laura asked the RAC to budget up to $250 for each county to assist with these projects, which was approved. Laura also relayed that Kuna's Coalition is having an Idaho Drug Free Youth presentation and hopes to establish a chapter at Kuna High School after the March event. A request for $200 for chapter funding for Kuna High IDFY was tentatively approved pending the outcome of the event and necessary written request. Laura encouraged all RAC 4 members to plan to attend the Patricia Kempthorne Award Ceremony on Wednesday, February 16 at 4 pm and to encourage others, including legislators, to attend.

LaDessa Foster announced she is now with Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence. She's excited to be working on their new mental health grant and children's network grant. She's be working at a state level to expand the CARES program and provide out reach to rural communities.

Melanie Curtis from Supportive Housing and Innovative Partnerships shared that their NCCR trainings have started. These carpentry skill courses have expanded to include a session offered for refugee/limited English speakers; this session will be spaced over more time to allow for a pace to accommodate language differences. They are still working with the chronic homeless through grants and reminded everyone of the homeless Point in Time survey that is scheduled for January 26, 2011 (counting the homeless on that evening).

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Chris Bower introduced himself to the group. He's a BSU student and is active in prevention programs as part of his personal recovery journey. He's available to give talks to interested groups. He attends the Region 3 meetings and was encouraged to continue attending Region 4 meetings. Welcome Chris!

Georgia Girvan announced that RADAR is 20 years old and will be having an open house to celebrate, on February 9, 2011 from 11 am to 4:30 pm – please RSVP by phone 426-3471 or e-mail radar3@boisestate.edu. On January 4th RADAR will be part of BSU's day at the statehouse, so come by the 4th floor rotunda. Watch for the final ICADD conference program to be released soon, http://www.attendicadd.com/

Amy Jeppesen from Recovery 4 Life reported they are starting co-occurring groups later today – an exciting development.

Dennis Hardziej from Community Services Counseling and Amy Jeppesen both shared that transportation services are now available to clients through S&R Transport. Dennis indicated BPA funded client can access S&R and submit their transportation voucher. Dennis announced that IDOC is conducting MRT training January 24-27, 2011 in the Boise area. The contact for more information is Sonda Ceri-Magic, 658-2192.

Tom Wilson of Tom Wilson Counseling recently received his certification as a Prevention Specialist. He is interested in exploring new opportunities and partnerships. One area of interest is underage drinking prevention.

Sandy Jones was thanked for arranging the meeting space and coffee/cookies. She reported that things the same at ACSO.

Vern Garrett encouraged everyone to become members of AACT Idaho; AACT Idaho will keep information flowing during the session.

Laura Thomas encouraged anyone going to McCall Winter Carnival to consider supporting the Polar Plunge fund raiser on January 29, 2011. Funds support youth programs in Valley County. See the RAC webpage for more information.

Darren Richman reported that Ascent's work with the new Drug Court in Elmore County is continuing.

A providers meeting will be scheduled for February. Providers will also meet at 9 am prior to the start of the next full RAC meeting on March 9, 2011. Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.