May 13, 2009
Regional Advisory Committee Meeting
Region 4 Minutes

Members Present: Marilyn Baughman, Jamie Cain, Melanie Curtis, Michael Dickson, Elisha Figueroa, LaDessa Foster, Vern Garrett, Georgia Girvan, Krista Green, Dennis Hardziej, Elagrace Lyerla, Sherri Molina, Jeff Morrell, Rick Quanstrom, Darren Richman, Claudette Thor, Landis Rossi, DHW Regional Director, Laura Thomas, CRDS. **Guests:** Sherry Johnson, Dept. of H&W SUDS, and Kathy Skippen, ODP.

9:00 a.m. Treatment and Recovery Support Providers Subcommittee

The subcommittee meeting focused on discussion of the draft IDAPA rules. The conversation opened with a statement that the RAC members share a commitment to providing quality substance abuse services to individuals in the state of Idaho. The RAC sees areas where the draft rules may hinder a business's ability to compile. Discussion followed and general concerns were raised, including:

- Length of the draft rules is cumbersome and in places confusing. Removing redundancies and employing a consistent in approach within the treatment services continuum is a way to shorten the rules and clarify the information.
- Areas where other IDAPA rules or state/local ordinances area sited for criteria and then additional requirements are listed, which creates confusion.
- Qualifications for various staff positions and number of administrative positions listed in the draft rules. Confusion exists on how the qualifications requirements are interpreted. (Example: Executive director and requirement to be a Q SUDS P.)
- Business practice areas are in places redundant and overly detailed for rules. The draft format will not allow for ease of updates as codes, reference manuals, and statutes change or are revised. A simpler set of rules
- Concerns were raised regarding the ability of frontier areas of the state to comply with draft rules.

During the discussion, Sherri Johnson announced that the draft rules were not being presented to the Health and Welfare Board at the May 21, 2009 meeting. The anticipated date for the Board to review the draft rules was the August board meeting. Sherry encouraged all to send written comments to the department.

A desire and willingness to work with the department in a dynamic process was expressed. The members of the RAC would be available for working group meetings with the department as a means of enhancing the rule re-writing process.

10:05 a.m. Full RAC Meeting Called to Order

Facilitating Chair, Darren Richman, Regional RAC Chair

Agenda Review: Additions/changes No additions or changes were made.

Minutes: No corrections were made to the draft minutes from the March 11, 2009 meeting as posted on the RAC Web page. Approval of minutes moved and passed.

GAIN Update: Kathy Skippen discussed the addition of the GAIN short screener to the WITS system (Web Infrastructure Treatment Systems), another exciting development.

An area of discussion was the alignment of target dates for transitioning to WITS and the implications for billing practices. Currently, the follow dates have been released

- July 1, 2009 is the target date for the WITS system to be implemented.
- July 1, 2009 is the deadline for providers to have information back to the department of Health and Welfare to access the WITS system.
- Memos have been sent indicating once WITS is implemented it will the be source for billing information, currently set for July 1, 2009.
- It appears that providers may not have access to WITS for billing on July 1, 2009 and have disruptions in billing processes.

Providers expressed concerns that the dates do not facilitate a smooth transition from the current system for billing to the WITS based system. The financial implications for providers are significant if the processes are not aligned to be seamless. A request for clarification on the dates and billing activities was requested.

Another GAIN development is in the works. Two faculty from five of the Idaho colleges and universities will be attending the June GAIN Train the Trainer sessions. The GAIN will be incorporated into the curriculum at these institutions of higher learning. Sometime in the future, new graduates will be GAIN trained. Other options for training may also be developed through the various universities and colleges.

Short discussion was held on the potential to have additional WITS training available during the same period of time that the consultant is in town for an ICADD presentation. Laura will send out information as it becomes available.

Budget Update: All of the dollars for treatment are now in the base budget. This means in future years, there will not be a need for additional one time funding approval through the Legislature. This is very positive for substance abuse services. The only one time funding that was included this year was $1.8 million from the Millennium Fund.

Currently services are being managed at a $2.1 million per month rate. In the fiscal year starting July 1, 2009, the monthly rate will decrease to $1.7 million. While it is a decrease, substance abuse funding fared well during the last legislative session.

The WICHE report continues to be discussed. At this time, no specific plans for implementation have been developed.

RAC Chair Update: Darren Richman reported that Tammy Rubino from Region 1 will be the new representative on Inter Agency Committee on Substance Abuse (ICSA). She has asked for Darren's assistance since he is located in the Boise area. Darren reported

the April 29, 2009 ICSA meeting was very interesting. Region 4's concerns on the qualified substance use disorder professional draft rules were include in the RAC report at the April 29, 2009 ICSA meeting. Discussion the unique role of the RACs on ICSA – the fact RACs have full voting privileges – was noted. ICSA is an appropriate forum for RACs to bring forward issues of concerns regarding substance abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery support services. Darren invited members to continue to bring issues of concern to him.

Regional Director's Update:

Landis Rossi explained to the group that the department was reorganizing some positions. The current regions would be hubbed similar to the integrated services areas. Regions 3 and 4 will be combined and Ross Mason will be the regional director. The Community Resource Development Specialists will still be supporting the RACs in each of the seven regions. Landis will be moving to a position with FACS at the central office. The changes will take effect by June 12, 2009. Landis encouraged the RAC to continue to bring energy to the issues of substance abuse. The group expressed gratitude to Landis for all her work on behalf of the RAC.

RAC Budget Update: Laura Thomas reported that, depending on the number of applications for the North West Alcohol Conference Scholarships available for region 4, she expects the RAC will have at least $500 for training purposes. Members were asked to forward ideas to for training to Laura. The budget year ends June 30, 2009.

Regional ICADD Award Winner: Darren announced that the Region 4 ICADD award winner is Tammy de Weerd, Mayor of Meridian for her advocacy work in substance abuse prevention and education, treatment, and enforcement. The award will be formally presented during the Silver Lining Reception Tuesday May 19, 2009 at ICADD – Boise State University campus, Student Union Building. The award section of the reception will happen from 5:30 to 6:30 pm.

Member Update – Meridian Mayor's Anti-Drug Coalition: Elisha Figueroa presented an overview of the coalition's work, include their recent Reach Out education sessions. The coalition partnered with the school resource officers from Meridian school district and the 5th grade classes at Meridian schools. The program was very well received and lays the ground work for further education when these 5th grades move to middle school. The officers at the middle schools were paired with the elementary schools to help establish a relationship. In some schools, students choose to stay in from recess to extend the Q & A time with the SRO.

Informal networking followed the agenda items and the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Region 4 RAC Meeting

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DRAFT AGENDA 5/13/09

PLEASE NOTE NEW LOCATION
Intermountain Hospital, 303 North Allumbaugh Street in Boise
(you can access Allumbaugh from west bound Franklin or east bound Barrister)
If the directions below are not detailed enough, call Laura 334-6866 or email thomasl@dhw.idaho.gov before 5/13/09 for additional help.

Meeting room is in the first building on the south side of the Intermountain Hospital campus. It is the building nearest the stop sign between the drive existing the Intermountain campus and Allumbaugh. Parking is located across from the building on the north, or right hand side, as you enter from Allumbaugh - please leave spaces immediately in front of buildings for IMH clients. We will have signs posted to make it easy to find.

9:00 am to 10:00 provider subcommittee
10:00 to noon full RAC meeting

*9:00 a.m. Provider Sub-committee meeting
- IDAPA Rules Re-write Discussion
- GAIN Update – Bethany Gadzinski, SUDS H&W
- Training and BPA Update – Sherri Molina, BPA

* 10:00 a.m. Welcome, Approval of Agenda and Minutes of March 11, 2009 RAC Meeting, Darren Richman, Region IV RAC Chair

*10:10 a.m. Central Office Update
- Budget Update current and State Fiscal year 2010 including Prevention
- Contracts update
- Legislative Session Update

*10:30 a.m. RAC Chair Update, Darren Richman
- ICSA Meeting 4 29 09

*10:40 a.m. Regional Director Update, Landis Rossi

*10:50 a.m. Recognition of ICADD regional award winner

*11:00 a.m. Program Presentation, Meridian Mayor's Anti-Drug coalition, Elisha Figueroa

*11:15 a.m. to noon Networking Updates