Combined Region 3 & 4 Mental Health Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes - September 13, 2011

Region 3 Board Members in Attendance:
Lisa Koltes, Chris Smith, Elda Catalano, Jeri Gowen, Jose Valle, Phyllis Vermilyea, Ross Mason, Steve Rule, Todd Hurt

Region 4 Board Members in Attendance:
Ross Mason, Gina Westcott, Laura Thomas, Courtney Santillian, Kate Pape, Martha Ekhoff, Greg Dickerson, Judi Corlett, Vern Garrett, Arlie Shaw, Vernon Blisterfeldt

Guests:
Paula Campbell, Kristi Olson, Chris Christopher, Kathie Garrett, Tammie Rice, Pamela Rose, Jeb Bulmer, Lee Barton, Ross Edmunds, Christina Smith, Jennifer Stairs, Mary Rong

Scribe: Joy Husmann and Liza Clinger

Agenda Item	Discussion
Welcome, introductions, and sign-in sheet	Greg Dickerson, Chairperson of the Region 4 Mental Health Board in conjunction with Dr. Lisa Koltes, Chairperson of Region 3 Mental Health Board welcomed everyone and presented the agenda.
Behavioral Health Cooperative Update	Ross Edmunds reviewed the Behavioral Health Transformation Workgroup evolution into the Behavioral Health Cooperative. Progress made thus far is to continue to commission more groups to be involved in the transformation of the behavioral health system. While monies were separated by agency, the BHC would like to continue to keep both SUD's and MH working together. Electronic health information system, WITS, has been implemented in both SUD's and Adult Mental Health. Most recently was implemented into Children's mental health. This system was implemented statewide by all agencies. Idaho will remain the State Behavioral Health Authority for SUD's and MH. Continuity of systems and service standards.

	Core services array is standardized and developed by the BHC and most are already in Idaho Code. The BHC is supposed to make some changes to the State Planning Council which would have representation for both SUD's and MH. Combining primary healthcare and behavioral health services is a focus right now for meeting client needs. One of the proposals is to move the BH system from a statewide system to regionalized system, such as public health. The Cooperative has asked Regions 2 & 7 to develop and propose a plan to structure this on a local level to gear up to run BH services on a local level. Medicaid is pursuing a statewide contract for mental health and substance abuse services; therefore they will be excluded from the regional breakdown. While the RAC and Mental Health Boards will likely be combined, there hasn't been a decision as to if the combined boards will have control of the funds on a local level. There was some discussion regarding managed care and potential long-term implementation/complications for Medicaid vs. non-Medicaid BH clients. The Behavioral Health Cooperative Committee meets monthly and is open to the public. Their website is www.bhic.idaho.gov Ross Edmunds – Administrator for the Division of Behavioral Health edmundsr@dhw.idaho.gov 208-334-6997
State Planning Council (SPC)	It is federally mandated that there is a SPC and that regional mental health boards explore gaps and needs to make recommendations to the SPC. Federal funding is based upon these needs. One of the major gaps in Idaho is the lack of a suicide crisis hotline. Kathy Garret briefly shared information on the status of the Suicide Crisis Line that is currently working on operational funding. The lack of a crisis hotline puts more emphasis on the need for law enforcement to respond. SPC is currently reviewing board vacancy needs.
County Commissioners Update	Arlie Shaw (Elmore County) – 15 suicides last year, many of which are youth. SUD's and mental holds are increasing which is widely affecting the county. Indigent stats have increased this year as well. Steve Rule (Canyon County) – Aware of the problems, however, there is very little

	funding to support services. Canyon County is suffering from the economic downturn like most counties. Vern Blisterfeldt (Ada County) – Ada County just renegotiated their bed rates to be more in line with what Canyon County pays. There has been an increase in needs and little funding as well. There has also been an increase in costs associated with the needs of having an interpreter. Steve Rule reported this to be the case in Canyon County as well. Todd reported there has been an increase in mental holds each year successively between both counties (Ada and Canyon County - 12-13% increase per year).
Mental Health Program Updates	Gina Westcott reported that she is currently attending a CIT training along with Boise Police Department. CIT implementation reduces overall costs for everyone. Gina reminded us of Wellness Week and the Region 4 Mental Health Program will be sponsoring a Wellness Fair on September 22nd from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at Westgate. Paula Campbell with NAMI provided more information on the vendors who will be available. Everyone is welcome and it's a free event. Gina also stated that there will be a NAMI walk on October 1st. Gina and her staff have put together a recovery and resiliency training program to increase their department resources. Smoking cessation classes are also available at Westgate to promote recovery and wellness. Todd reported that there has been a significant decrease in staffing and an increase in clients. CIT implementation is critical in decreasing costs and increasing communication between agencies. Region 5 Operations Manager should be hired within the next month. After being awarded a Federal grant, Terry Reilly will be opening a new clinic in Middleton around December 2011. There is a video available from NAMI for $15 on assistance for veteran's returning from combat. Joy also stated that the Department received grant funding for military clients who are in need of SUD's or MH services and she will include that information in the minutes. There is also a free training and webinar available at the end of the month for those working with military clients.
Time Banking Presentation	

Next meeting	Annual Meeting: September 2012 Region 3 Meeting: October 26, 2011 Region 4 Meeting: November 8, 2011

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm