



Serving Cabarrus, Davidson, Rowan, Stanly and Union Counties

CONSUMER/FAMILY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

“Our mission is to ensure that Consumers receive quality services.”

December 16, 2008

MINUTES

Members Present: David Bullins, Chair; Andrea Stevens, Beverly Morrow, Co-Vice-Chairs; Ann Medlin; Bart Kean; Dawn Bierschbach; Jeff Euto; John Hufton; Lemar Underwood; Linda Mercado; Major Sampson; Sarah Boyd; Mary Sechler; Rick Samuels; Michael Kinlow; Stephen Brannan; Vernon Worrell; Melanie Frick

Guests Present: Peter Euto; Robin Boyd; Dora Hufton; Leno Mercado; Cathy Kocian; Mike Prouty; Kathy Shields; Norma Anderson; Ronnie Helms; Benny Faulkner

Members Absent: none

PBH Staff Present: Pam Shipman, Deputy Director; Steve Tomlinson, Director of Community Relations; Bonnie Schell, Director of Consumer Affairs; Shelby Marlow, Administrative Assistant with Community Relations;

I. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:

David Bullins called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and welcomed all guests in attendance. There were three new guests in attendance; Kathy Shields, Norma Anderson and Ronnie Helms.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND REVIEW OF AGENDA

David asked the committee to review the minutes for November 18, 2008. Vernon made a motion to approve the minutes. Mary seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented. There were no additions to the agenda.

III. REVIEW OF PROGRESS OF STRATEGIC PLAN

Sarah and Major gave a CFAC presentation at the Carter House in Salisbury on December 11. There were several questions asked by those in attendance. One of those questions was regarding if PBH has contact with the school systems and colleges. Schools have Individual Education Plans (IEP) for students with behavioral or mental illness issues. Most colleges have a disabilities office to serve their students. It is not a statutory requirement for LME's to keep contact with schools. School representatives do attend the county Advisory Council Meetings. We can still make PBH brochures available to them. Cathy Kocian has an e-list we can use to email the brochure to the schools. Another question presented by Carter House attendees was regarding CS workers providing transportation to CFAC meetings, or other meetings in the community. Steve will research the answer to this question and report at the next meeting. Sarah stated the Carter House Newsletter included an article on CFAC in their last edition.

Ann reported that Arc will not be having another meeting until after the first of the year. She will make contact with them by email and phone and report back in January.

Mary stated she will be presenting to the TBI group in January. Lemar plans to present to the Action Club in January and report back. Andrea will be presenting to the Union NAMI in January.

Rick reported he, John and Dora presented at Passage Way in Davidson County. There were 16 in attendance. One of the questions asked was who is responsible for keeping county buildings up that are leased by MHA? The county is responsible. A concern presented at the presentation regarded consumers having to make co-pays for group therapy and psychiatric appointments. Is this due to budget cuts being passed on to the consumers with Medicare and Medicaid? Depending on which program you are on, there will be co-pays. Some co-pays have recently started because of the budget cuts. Also, when consumers are able to work again it affects their SS benefits. Can someone from SSI go to them to explain? Yes. An SSI representative gave a workshop at the PCP Conference and offered to present or talk to anyone regarding this issue. Her contact information will be made available at the next CFAC meeting. Rick informed the committee that consumers at Passage Way wanted to attend the conference but was told that MHA would not provide them transportation. After some discussion, it was determined that decision must have been made by each individual county within MHA due to the fact that some MHA groups in other counties were provided transportation to the conference.

All CFAC members were encouraged to continue presenting out in the community and be prepared to report these presentations at the CFAC meetings.

IV. REVIEW OF 2008-2009 CFAC BUDGET

Sarah gave an updated report on the CFAC budget. With the increase in membership and the increase in the cost of a caterer the line item for stipend/food will be short by a projected \$2,339 by the end of this fiscal year. That line item started with a fund of \$11,760. \$5,873.28 has already been spent. That is half in just five months. The travel/mileage line item will be short by a projected \$759 due to increased membership and the cost of mileage paid being increased. That line item started with a fund of \$8000. \$4,262.45 has already been spent. That, too, is almost half spent in only five months. The training line item is already short by \$1,377 due to paying Wilma Townsend for her consultations with CFAC. Misc/printing line item will cover the shortage in training leaving a balance of only \$623 in that line item for the remainder of the fiscal year. David encouraged CFAC to exercise restraints in spending CFAC dollars.

Ann suggested the Executive Committee, along with Sarah as Finance Chair, meet to study the budget and report back to the CFAC committee. Rick seconded the suggestion and all approved. David will arrange a meeting with these members.

V. LME BUDGET REDUCTIONS DUE TO STATE BUDGET SHORFALL

Pam stated the Governor was planning ahead for an expected budget shortfall. We have received a 3% cut so far equally approximately \$800,000. PBH is already suffering from the \$3.6 million cut from 2007-2008 and another \$3.6 million cut from 2008-2009. PBH is taking legal action against the state secretary to get this money back. This action began in late November. PBH has frozen new admissions to state funded services. Services NOT frozen include inpatient,

psychiatry and outpatient, crisis and Mobile Crisis Unit and Detox. Community Support services could be reduced and there will be no new admissions for Community Support services at this time.

Dan stated it is very unfortunate this has happened when it did due to the economy. Economic situations can cause consumers to experience crisis issues and they may not be able to access the services they need. Dan informed the committees that LME's across the state were not spending their state dollars for services so the state took the money back. PBH should not have been included in that. This had put PBH at risk of overspending dollars they have in the future. PBH has approximately \$40 million that is earmarked for specific purposes. This money will be used like insurance for over run costs. It costs \$12.5 million per month to operate PBH. Therefore, if needed, this money will not last more than three months or so.

Andrea requested something in writing regarding how PBH operates differently from other LME's for her to present to the SCFAC on January 8, 2009. Pam and Dan agreed to develop a document for her to use.

VI. REPORT ON NATIONAL CIT CONFERENCE

Mary reported that she, David, Steve and Shelby attended the National CIT Conference the first week in November. Many states and a few other counties were represented. There was also a very diverse group of people there; police departments, sheriff's departments, advocates, interested citizens, social workers, NAMI and dare officers to name a few. Approximately 800 people were in attendance. Mary gathered a lot of printed materials to share, made new contacts and new friends. She joined the newly formed International CIT. Many stories were told about how helpful and informative CIT is. Overall the conference was a great and informative experience. Mary stated she continues to keep in contact with the smaller law enforcement offices in Rowan County hoping they will be able to send officers to the CIT training.

David informed the committee he attended workshops on psychiatry, NAMI and family members working with their relatives. All workshops David attended were really good.

Steve informed the committee that Kannapolis Police Chief Chavis met with him today. Their department is going through accreditation. Chief Chavis had one of the reviewers with him at the meeting. The reviewer needed to see the partnership PBH has with the Kannapolis Police Department.

VII. ADJOURNMENT OF BUSINESS SESSION, BEGIN THE SOCIAL HOUR

Mary made a motion to adjourn the meeting session. Stephen seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10pm and the social hour began.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shelby Marlow
Administrative Assistant

Community Relations

Next Meeting is Tuesday, January 20, 2009

February, March and April Advisory Council Meetings Schedule

Cabarrus	Feb. 3	300 Copperfield Blvd
	March 3	
	April 7	
Davidson	Feb. 17	Health Dept. – Health Education Room
	March 17	
	April 21	
Rowan	Feb. 26	Chamber of Commerce - upstairs
	March 26	
	April 23	
Stanly	Feb. 10	Stanly DSS
	March 10	
	April 14	
Union	Feb. 5	UCPS Prof Dev Ctr
	March 5	
	April 2	