

Minutes

Mental Health Committee Governor's Commission on Senior Services December 6, 2007 Department of Human Services

Attendees: Denise Dion (Chair), Chuck Frazier (Vice-Chair), Peggie Beck, John Brenne, Lucy Morgan, Millie Salt, and Joan Staley

Excused/Absent: Eunice Dutton and Remona Simpson

Guests: Rebecca Curtis, Judy Giggy, Robert Lawrence, and Marjorie Rueling

Staff: Becky Murphy

Called Meeting to Order

Introductions – Introductions were made.

Review Agenda – Additions to the agenda included Robert's report and the Committee's evaluation of its efforts to date.

Approval of October Minutes - MOTION: Accept minutes as written. (John Brenne/Peggie Beck) Passed.

Announcements –

- Judy Giggy or Debbie Concidine will be attending the Mental Health Committee instead of Lynn Hanson.
- Judy reported survey results are not in yet, so she will report at a later time on statewide MDTs and specific ethnic populations.

DHS Reports (Rebecca Curtis)

Rebecca distributed a copy of the letter and survey sent out to County Mental Health Departments in regard to their plans. She incorporated suggestions from GCSS on needed data. Data is needed for a baseline to provide strategies for older adults in mental health.

Rebecca is optimistic on collaboration between SPD and AMHD on older adult services and shared programs.

Work Plan Development and Reports

Discussion from members and guests included:

- Proposed AMHD budget and recommendations from the State Hospital Planning work group.
- The problem of a lack of needed mental health services is getting larger.
- Shared vision and initiative and collaboration with other groups.

- The need to support groups that include a mental health component. The committee asked about models from other states, and checking with Senator Gordon Smith's office. Discussion included the need for realistic resources, time spent, etc.
- Discussion of last legislative session's issues. People expressed the need to work with a caucus, the Governor's office more, and form relationships with people in power, as well as local representatives.
- DHS budget/proposed option packages process.
- Joint collaboration with GCSS, SPD, and AMHD.
- Subcommittee to work on mental health proposal for 2009-2011.

Robert's Updates

- The December 4th Human Services Committee had an emphasis on mental health issues. There is a crisis with children; however, older adults are not getting much attention. There is an impact on law enforcement and the justice system. Many homeless individuals have mental health issues. The community mental health system is in crisis.
- There is a bill proposed for February 2008 to develop an advance directive for mental health treatment.
- There is another bill proposed regarding the police and mental health intervention.
- Robert gave a report on the Board of Nursing's Nurse Monitoring Program.

Chuck commented on a Wall Street Journal article; copies will be made available for those who want one.

Evaluation

Denise reported the committee's revised work plan (December 2006) was not used on the evaluation form. Committee members reviewed all goals, steps completed, and steps that remain of the revised work plan. Becky will update the document prior to the next meeting.

Members identified areas they would like to work on:

- **State Hospital Plan** – Chuck
- **Suicide Prevention** – Peggie, Millie, and Joan
- **Legislative Issues** – John B., Denise, and Millie

Agenda for Next Meeting

- Invite Judy Strand and Matt Bartolotti to the next meeting.

Adjourned