



# HOME CARE COMMISSION

## Meeting Minutes

December 4, 2008

*Members present:*

Don Bruland, Sharon Ely, Scott Lay (via phone), Angela Munkers, Dayle Niemie, Lyla Swafford, Michael Volpe

*Member absent:*

Patricia Brost

*Others present:*

Claudia Babcock, Jeanette Burket, Glenna Niemie, Dottie Schwab

*Staff present:*

Yvonne Fleming, Leslie Houston, Kelly Rosenau, Cheryl Sanders

### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Mike Volpe.

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Introductions were made by all in attendance.

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The agenda was reviewed. Cheryl Sanders made one correction: Don Bruland will give the Registry update. The agenda was approved.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of November 6 were reviewed. Dayle Niemie commented that on Page 2 under "HUBB Update," it states, "HUBB Enrollment Statistics – April 2008 through October 2009." Dayle stated that he felt that the ending date of "October 2009" was in error and should say "October 2008." [Later in the meeting, Cheryl Sanders pointed out that "October 2009" was correct as that is what is reported in the actual HUBB report.]

Dayle Niemie commented that Page 4, "Registry Update," states that the RRS provided "283,895 HCW referrals" during the same time period that 6,000 employer/anonymous user searches were made. Cheryl Sanders stated that "283,895" represents the number of HCW matches made for all employers. Usually, employers get about 10 pages of matches (10 names per page). In the future, the match list will consist of 20 HCWs matched to any one particular employer.

Dayle Niemie made a **motion** to accept the minutes. **Seconded** by Don

Bruland. **Approved** unanimously.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

### **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

There was no public testimony.

### **HCC BUDGET UPDATE**

Claudia Babcock presented the "2007 – 2009 Home Care Commission Budget to Actual Report, July 1, 2007 through October 31, 2008."

### **HUBB UPDATE**

In the absence of Cheryl Willcoxon, Cheryl Sanders gave a HUBB update.

- HUBB's November 10<sup>th</sup> invoice to DHS for HCW premiums for Kaiser/ODS medical and dental totaled \$2,229,966.29 including prior month adjustments.
- HUBB mailed 247 "Welcome Newsletters" to HCWs in November.
- New members enrolled in Kaiser/ODS dental/medical in November totaled 176. Total November terminations from Kaiser/ODS medical/dental was 130.

### **WORKERS' COMPENSATION UPDATE**

Kelly Rosenau presented a Workers' Compensation Report for October 2008:

- 28 new claims were filed. The majority of injury types involve lifting. The majority of injured body parts affect the back.
- 10 claims were denied.
- 12 claims were closed.
- 130 claims are being managed at this time.

Kelly Rosenau presented a CPR/First Aid HCW Request Report for 2008 (YTD):

- Total requests processed – 345
- Average number of requests processed per month – 31
- Expired requests – 42
- Classes taken – 115
- Pending requests – 188
- \$4,783 paid for program (YTD)

The total of CPR/First Aid requests processed in 2007 was 164. This

training program cost \$3,274 in 2007.

### ***TRAINING COMMITTEE UPDATE***

Dayle Niemie reported that a Training subcommittee meeting was held to discuss charging a fee to non-HCWs to attend HCC's training classes. Some guidelines were set at this meeting. The subcommittee will meet a couple of more times before they are ready to make a recommendation to the Commission.

Leslie Houston reported:

- 38 training classes were held in November.
- Total training attendance in November was 711.
- 18.7 was the average class attendance in November.
- 2,883 unduplicated HCWs have been trained to date.
- 58 Professional Development awards have been given to HCWs since the program started.
- The Training Committee is discussing whether to offer a second level, three to four hour, Respiratory Care training class. More discussion is needed prior to making a recommendation to the Commission.
- Leslie stated that seven peer mentors continue in the Peer Mentor program. A peer mentor progress report based on material by MaryAnn Shaw, HCW Peer Mentor Supervisor, was distributed.
- The Training Committee is continuing to discuss the NIOSH grant that was awarded to study violence in the HCW's workplace. The Committee may offer some help in recruiting HCWs to participate in focus groups to discuss violence in the workplace, their experiences, what they think should be done about it, process for reporting abuse and resulting action taken, training, etc. A new name has been give to this study: Prevention of Violence Against Caregivers (PVAC).

### ***REGISTRY UPDATE***

Wendy Sampels' Registry report was distributed. Don Bruland reported:

- Most calls coming into the Registry Department relate to user ID and/or password issues.
- Two-hour RRS trainings were held in Roseburg and Klamath Falls during October and in Albany during November.
- Registry staff continues to mail out applications to HCWs who have an "incomplete status" in the RRS.
- 15,522 HCWs listed in the RRS are "approved to work and career."

- 8,555 HCWs listed in the RRS are “approved/career and complete.”
- 2,561 HCWs listed in the RRS are “available for referral.”
- One of the upgrades in progress to the RRS system is to limit the number of HCWs pulled on each list to the top 20. Other upgrades included adding the Training Newsletter to the RRS and resource links for HCWs and employers.
- The Registry Committee, due to a request from HCWs, discussed adding an on-line jobs board to the RRS whereby HCWs could view employer’s profiles who are looking for workers. Only those HCWs whose status in the RRS is “approved to work and career” would be able to view the jobs board. The Committee has some concerns about this request, will explore it further, and discuss it with SEIU.
- The Registry Committee discussed the high number of HCWs available for work in Jackson and Josephine Counties, making it nearly impossible for some to get an adequate amount of work. The Committee will research this further before considering the option of closing HCW applications for that area.

### ***EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS UPDATE***

Don Bruland reported that the Emergency Preparedness Committee has not met again formally, but is gathering information and clarifying HCC’s role in this matter.

### ***DHS KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES/PROPOSED REDUCTIONS***

Cheryl Sanders received a set of “DHS Proposed 2009-11 Key Performance Measures” from SPD and e-mailed them to the Commissioners prior to this meeting. SPD asked the Commission and other stakeholders to review these measures and respond back with comments and suggested modifications by December 10. The Commissioners reviewed the measures; Cheryl Sanders will summarize their recommendations and modifications and forward to SPD.

Cheryl Sanders reminded the Commission about the forum that SPD has scheduled for December 12, 9:30 am – 11:30 am, at the Oregon State Fairgrounds, to review the Governor’s Recommended Budget and how it affects seniors and people with disabilities.

### ***GOVERNOR’S RECOMMENDED BUDGET***

Scott Lay mentioned his concern about the Governor’s recommendation that HCWs no longer provide care to consumers who receive less than 80 hours of authorized service per month. This approach will eliminate

a lot of consumers from receiving HCW services.

Scott's other concern is the Governor's recommendation to lower the income standard to reduce the number of people in care by applying for Congressional approved "i" waivers under the Social Security Act. DHS proposes to move from the use of the "c" waiver to the new Medicaid State Plan option "i" waiver. Income eligibility would decrease from 300% of SSI (\$1,991) to 200% of SSI (\$1,300). This would cause consumers to lose both their long term care and eligibility for the Oregon Health Plan.

Don Bruland stated there are "stimulus packages going through Congress and as part of those stimulus packages, at least last go-around, and I would assume this go-around, is a statement that if the states accepts them, and that is a higher rate of match for Medicaid, they cannot cut back services, and basically, it would wipe those two things out unless there is some backdoor way that they can do it. So I think that we should be very concerned. I think that we have a major battle on our hands, but we should also not panic at this point."

Cheryl Sanders reviewed the items in the Governor's Recommended Budget that concern OHCC:

- Eliminate HUBB overpayment of health care benefits premiums paid to HUBB for HCW health insurance premiums (stabilization fund).
- Reduce HCW training budget by 50%.
- Reduction of HCW health benefits for new HCWs. This would establish paying of prorated benefits per minimum work week based on hours worked for any new HCW starting in the 2009-11 biennium. Those working less than full time and more than the 20 hour minimum per week would receive prorated benefits. This would establish Tier 1 and Tier 2 benefit status.
- Eliminate HCW services for consumers who receive less than 80 hours of authorized services per month (effective October 1, 2009).
- Lower income standard to reduce number of people in care by applying for Congressional approved "i" waivers under the Social Security Medicaid Act.
- Eliminate senior health insurance benefits assistance program.
- Eliminate all cost of living adjustments (COLAs).

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Cheryl stated that the current HCC Legislative Committee includes Don Bruland, Sharon Ely, and Michael Volpe. Scott Lay and Dayle Niemie were added. Cheryl will schedule a meeting (via teleconference or videoconference) before January to discuss the Commission's approach and role in current and upcoming legislative issues.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Cheryl Sanders reported:

- She attended a SPD Managers Brown Bag meeting.
- Had a meeting with Brett Brewer to discuss upgrades to the RRS.
- Yvonne Fleming and Cheryl attended a safety meeting for the Church Street building.
- Cheryl met with Don Bruland and Leslie Houston to discuss the next steps for the Emergency Preparedness Committee.
- Cheryl met with Claudia Babcock to discuss OHCC's budget.
- Cheryl attended an AARP Forum on Diversity and Aging in Oregon Communities. Cheryl will send her notes from this meeting to the Commissioners.
- Cheryl attended two trainings: Personal Styles and Rule Writing.
- Attended Monthly HCW Issues meeting with SPD, SEIU, and Labor Relations.
- Met several times with Tina Treasure, State Independent Living Council.
- Met with Jeanette Burket, Administrator, Senior & Disability Services.
- Met with others to locate accessible meeting places for SPD's Budget forums.
- On November 13, James Toews signed the Interagency Agreement between OHCC and DHS/SPD.

Cheryl Sanders stated that typically, the Commission cancels its January Commission meetings, but that Commission members were polled to determine if they would like to meet on January 7 and 8, 2009. The majority said, "yes." Cheryl asked for a final decision. The majority of Commissioners agreed to meet on January 7 and 8.

Cheryl Sanders stated that Clackamas County has gone to a four day workweek and gave the Medicaid program in that area back to the State. The transition will occur on July 1, 2009.

**STEPS UPDATE**

As Tina Treasure was unable to make the meeting, Cheryl Sanders gave a brief update on the STEPS program and mentioned that Tina's reports were included in the packets that were handed out if anyone wanted to review them, especially the consumer success stories.

**ADJOURNED**

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, January 8, 2009, 10:00 am, 676 Church Street NE, Salem, OR.

## Attachments:

- Agenda
- OHCC Meeting Minutes of November 6, 2008
- 2007-2009 Home Care Commission Budget to Actual Report, July 1, 2007 through October 31, 2008.
- HUBB Invoice of November 10, 2008, to the Department of Human Services for HCW Insurance Premiums
- HUBB 2008-09 Plan Year Insurance Premium Summary, April 2008 – March 2009
- HUBB Enrollment Statistics – April 2008 through March 2009
- HUBB 2008 Dependent Enrollment Statistics
- HUBB Consumer Service Report
- Workers' Compensation Report for October 2008
- CPR & First Aid Homecare Worker Request Report, 2008
- Oxygen to Ventilators training agenda
- Progress Report on the Oregon Home Care Workers Peer Mentor Program, Second Year, Pilot Project, Multnomah and Washington Counties, August – October 2008
- Registry and Referral System report
- Key Performance Measure Checklist
- DHS Proposed 2009-11 Key Performance Measures
- SILC STEPS Project Report to Home Care Commission, November 2008
- STEPS: Consumer/Employer Training Statistical Report, September 2008
- STEPS: Consumer/Employer Training Statistical Report, Project to Date – September 30, 2008

- Home Care Commission 2009 Meetings
- Oregon House & Senate Revenue Committees' Economic and Revenue Forecast, December 2008
- Oregon Economic and Revenue Forecast Summary, December 2008
- Legislative Revenue Office Forecast Summary, December 2008
- The Governor's Message: A Budget for Progress in Challenging Times