DAUPHIN COUNTY MH/ID PROGRAM BOARD
MEETING MINUTES AND PLANNER

MEETING DATE: January 30, 2014

MEETING PLACE: CMU, 1100 South Cameron Street, Harrisburg

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members: Sherri Smith, Carol Oman, Korah Abraham, Judy Vercher, Liz Pliszka

Staff: Dan Eisenhauer, Paul Geffert, Shirley Keith Knox, Martin Yespy, Renee Robison

Guests: Mike Grier, Keystone Human Services, Leah Hannah, PCS

MEETING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

- Education Topic
- Administrator’s Report
- Committee Reports
- Fiscal Report
- Community Report

DECISIONS:

- Approval of the November 21, 2013 Advisory Board Minutes

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

- None at this time
NEXT MEETING DATE:
March 27, 2014, at CMU, 1100 S. Cameron Street, Harrisburg. The agenda will include a presentation, as well as the Administrator’s Report and Committee Reports.

Welcome and Introductions
Sherri Smith called the meeting to order. Sherri welcomed everyone in attendance, and introductions followed.

Approval of November 21, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes
The motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as written.

Administrator’s Report
The following report summarizes major MH/ID program concerns, updates and initiatives over the past two months. Staff are preparing for our annual provider contracting and budgeting process with providers for FY 14-15, which will begin tomorrow.

Statewide/DPW Updates
- DPW completed their public hearings for Healthy PA, which is the Commonwealth’s proposal to expand Medicaid coverage to uninsured persons whose income is at or below 133% of the federal poverty level, and it also is PA’s plan to enact Medicaid reform. DPW expect to review feedback and submit their plan to the Federal Health and Human Services Department in February.
- Governor Corbett will announce his FY 14-15 Budget proposal on February 4, 2014, which will help inform our budget and contracting process.

Crisis Intervention:
- The Crisis Program completed their 22nd Annual Holiday Food Basket Project. Crisis purchased $3,350.65 worth of discounted food as well as distributing donated food to 254 individuals and families. We thank the many partners and donors that make this effort a success.
- Crisis has one part-time staff vacancy.

MH Program:
- Three proposals were reviewed by a cross-system committee for a Mobile MH/ID behavioral Intervention Service funded with reinvestment dollars. The service is intended to reduce the use of inpatient care among persons with MH and ID disorders by increasing access to behavioral assessment and supports for adults. The highest ranked provider will be meeting in mid-February with the County, CABHC and PerformCare to discuss the review and next steps.
- A random sample of persons ages 60 and older using MH services were identified as potential survey subjects in the Annual MH Satisfaction Survey in 2014. About ten (10) individuals have expressed interest in conducting the survey and they were trained in late January. Persons participating in the survey must provide written consent and understand individuals using MH services are the ones conducting the survey. Surveying will begin in February and continue in March.
- A work plan is being developed with the CMU, Keystone Student Assistance Program staff and Pennsylvania Psychiatry Institute to implement Mental Health First Aid for Youth training for first responders in Dauphin County schools and communities in the next six months. The Mental Awareness Wellness Association is assisting with the coordination of the training plan.
PATH (Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness) is a homeless assistance program, which helps persons in Dauphin County who are literally homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness. Funds are awarded to Dauphin County MH through the state office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse services from the federal government. PATH funds support the Homeless Caseworker position at Crisis Intervention and an Outreach specialist position at Downtown Daily Bread. During FY 12-13, over three hundred (300) persons were outreached and contacted and more than 250 persons were enrolled in PATH services assisting them out of homelessness.

ID Program Issues:

- ID staff participated in meetings with interested family members and UCP to redesign “Alternatives.” UCP proposed a redesign of “Alternatives” that integrates supports within the community. In addition, an employment and citizenship focus will be embedded within the program.
- The ID Department is soliciting proposals for our Summer Employment Initiative. Last year seven providers received summer employment initiative grants and the program was a huge success.
- The ODP Futures Planning workgroup presented their plan for ID system change to the DPW Secretary in December. Next steps are being planned for the recommendations in the report.

Early Intervention:

- We received our 2013 Verification results whereby OCDEL determines our level of compliance with various factors. Our EI program scored a total of 94% (substantially meets requirements). We scored 100% in General Supervision, Fiscal Supervision, Public Awareness and Child Find, and Quality Service Delivery. Areas of deficiency included Quality Framework 82 % (Minimally Meets Requirements) and Transition 71 % (Does Not Meet Requirements).
- Our EI Coordinator completed and submitted an Improvement Plan on 1/14/14, which was accepted by OCDEL.

Education Topic – 2012-2013 Annual Report – Dan Eisenhauer
Dan noted that MH/ID faced the largest single year reduction in funding in services since 1966 – 10% cut or $2.1 million in MH and ID programs, impacting the quantity and types of services we could provide to our residents and families.

Dauphin County participated in the Human Services Block Grant, which allowed us to leverage funds from the Block Grant to support MH/ID and HAP.

Intellectual Disabilities Program Challenges:

- Limited waiver opportunities to serve new persons in need of ID services.
- Late notice of initiative funding to address the service needs of 2013 graduates at the time of graduation.
- Changes to rates set by the Office of Developmental Programs resulted in a reluctance of some providers to risk expand or startup of new services.
- The population of individuals living in residential settings is aging, requiring planning for long and short-term medical admissions, aging in place opportunities, and long and short-term admissions to a long-term facility.
Intellectual Disabilities Program Successes:
- Services were offered to all 26 eligible students who graduated in June 2013 and to over 100 individuals from the Emergency PUNS.
- Added three new providers for residential, adult developmental training, respite, habilitation, companion, and nursing services.
- 60 individuals live in a Life Sharing home, created 4 new options.
- Two diversion beds to divert people from ERs or as a step down from a community psychiatric hospital established with two local providers.
- Collaboration with cross-system partners addressing children returning to the community from a Residential Treatment facility. The cross-systems group also enhances the communities’ understanding of young children with autism and ID and the stressors impacting their family.
- Conjoint efforts among ID and MH partners to increase understanding of both systems and how to work together to meet the needs of people with a dual diagnosis of intellectual disability and mental health.

Employment 1st Initiative
- Focus on developing working partnerships with local school districts. Transition-age students were targeted to receive information about preparing for adult life, work, and the ID system.
- Base dollars funded employment programs targeting working age students to 6 providers for job shadowing, customized employment, discovery services, resume building, community awareness and job support over the summer months.
- Staff conducted outreach to small businesses in the Dauphin County community to inform them of the benefits and opportunities to employ folks with ID. An increasing number of businesses are taking the lead in this endeavor.

Early Intervention Program Challenges and Successes:
- Children in Dauphin County are at high risk for school failure. EI program offers information on early childhood education resources to the families of children at the highest risk for developmental delay, as well as to other primary referral sources who work with these families.
- Served children in all high risk areas of the County
  - Northern Dauphin communities went from 44 children active with plan in FY 11/12 to 49 children active with plan in FY 12/13.
  - Harrisburg City communities dropped from 348 active children in FY 11/12 to 333 active children in FY 12/13.
- OCDEL State validation: areas cited for improvement during the EI program’s verification review in 2011 were “validated” in November 2012 as fully corrected.
- EI continue a second year of the Positive Behavior and Intervention Support (PBIS) Grant with Keystone Children and Family Services (KCFS) as the administrative partner.

Mental Health Program Challenges:
- $1.9 million dollars in budget cuts were implemented with a significant impact on residential services.
- Closed the Philhaven Clubhouse, reduced the number of Student Assistance evaluations at schools, reduced staffing and expenses at several residential programs.
- Incident reporting – total reported incidents decreased, but serious illness reports increased from 108 to 118 or 53.2% of the reports to 60.5% of the reports in FY 12/13.
- Many MH services had decreased utilization in spite of not having direct funding cut.

Mental Health Program Successes:
• Adult residential: 50% of discharges were positive and recovery-oriented. Discharges due to a rule violation decreased from 3 in FY 11/12 to 2 persons in FY 12/13.
• Decreased length of stay in residential services.
• Successful diversion from state hospital level of care, 67 people referred, 14 admitted, 29 admitted to EAC, 24 diverted to community with MH services.
• Dauphin County Community Support Program (CSP) Committee served as a primary support to the HOPE Troupe, which provides education and stigma reduction through entertainment is accomplished by Helping Open People’s Eyes (HOPE) about mental illness and inspire hope and healing.
• Reduced the use of Children’s RTF to approximately 30 youth (down from 40 youth in FY 11/12) and has been below 30.
• Consultation with CMU—with better preparation, a community-based alternative was approved or pursued for 18 children and their families versus out-of-home placement.
• During this past fiscal year, there were a total of 64 youth discharged from Multisystemic Therapy services. Forty-five of the 64 discharges or 70% were considered successful.

Crisis Intervention Program
• In FY 12/13, 42% of all Crisis contacts were for persons who were first time consumers of crisis services.
• 1,853 or 41% of all contacts results in commitments because of level of risk. The number of actual hospitalizations was 1,780 because some persons initially under commitment were diverted to other dispositions/treatments.
• The Bridge Project resulted in 264 referrals. An inpatient readmission committee analyzed bridge project data in order to determine the impact on hospital readmission rates and other factors related to recovery and stabilization. 125 persons in the Bridge Program had at least 1 readmission within a 30-day period.
• Crisis continued their efforts as part of the Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team, and Disaster Coordination and Outreach Response Team (DCORT).
• After two years of planning and development, the CI Program converted to a digital record system during FY 12/13.

Dan thanked the Management Team of Renee Robison, Paul Geffert, Rose Schultz, Shirley Keith Knox and Martin Yespy, staff, and providers who make this program successful. Sherri Smith stated this is an incredible team and proud of Dauphin County and Dan’s leadership.

Committee Reports
Adult Mental Health Committee – The Minutes from the September 16, 2013, meeting were distributed. Rose Schultz stated that the Dauphin County MH/ID Satisfaction Survey results for transition age youth ages 16-24 conducted FY 2011-2012 were reviewed by the Committee.
Highlights of the survey results are listed below:
• 20 transition age youth were surveyed
• 94.5% of the participants were satisfied overall with services
• 94.1% agreed that their quality of life was better
• Survey recommendations and areas for improvement were reviewed

This Committee meets the 3rd Monday of the month at noon in the Zarin Room at the CMU, 1100 South Cameron Street.
Children’s Mental Health Committee – No updates from this Committee at this time.

Intellectual Disabilities Committee – Korah Abraham -- The Minutes from the January 15, 2014, meeting were distributed. Community forum ideas for 2014 were listed:
- Financial Management Services (FMS)
- Estate Planning/Special Needs Trust
- Staying Healthy
- Guardianship/Power of Attorney/Surrogates
- County Conference

Hershey collaborates with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and a number of employment agencies to employ individuals with disabilities at the distribution center. More information can be found in the careers portal at thehersheycompany.com. Employment conditions for these individuals include a doubled probationary period.

Nominating Committee – Still looking to fill the Pediatrician/Psychologist vacancy on the MH/ID Advisory Board. Dan Eisenhauer noted that three people on the MH/ID Advisory Board will have their terms expire in December and has submitted the names for their new terms to the Commissioners. The Commissioners have not acted on this yet.

Executive Committee – This committee has not met.

Fiscal Report
Paul Geffert distributed the Budget vs. Expenses report by cost center. The final reporting was completed for fiscal year 2012-2013. Paul noted that ESG was not included in this report. The 2013-2014 allocation has been received. Dan Eisenhauer has been trying to review internal processes to accommodate the 10% cut that was received. There is intensive work to do, but we do the best we can with our resources. It was noted that under MH Psych Inpatient that some claims are in process. Almost everyone uninsured applies for MA.

Community Input and Other Comments
Mike Grier thanked the Board, Rose Schultz, and Dan Eisenhauer for all of their support after a very tough year. Mike stated that he had an opportunity to participate in a Q&A on Smarttalk and the topic was the Newtown tragedy, mental health and guns and safety. It was also a fundraiser for WITF and the food bank. Mike stated that 2 people there also shared their stories and they had accessed the food bank previously and it was nice for other people to see that people with a mental health diagnosis can and do get better and have to have opportunities.

Mary Eberts from Crisis Intervention explained that there are two teams that oversee Disaster Preparedness – CISM and DCORT. The DCORT team is trying to expand membership to include providers. Mary stated that if there is someone interested in the training to contact her. Mary also stated this year is the 22nd year for the Annual Holiday Food Baskets and they accept referrals from anyone. There is no county funding involved and all donations can be given to Crisis Intervention. Last year, 254 baskets were distributed. Dan Eisenhauer added that this is a collaborative effort with different agencies.
Adjournment

There were no additional comments or announcements, and the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held January 30, 2014, at CMU, 100 Cameron Street, Harrisburg.