DAUPHIN COUNTY MH/ID PROGRAM BOARD
MEETING MINUTES AND PLANNER

MEETING DATE: December 4, 2014

MEETING PLACE: Paxton Street Home, 2001 Paxton Street, Harrisburg

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

Staff: Dan Eisenhauer, Paul Geffert, Rose Schultz, Shirley Keith Knox, Joy Hafer, Renee Robison

Guests: Greg McCutcheon, CMU; Mike Grier, Keystone; Linda London, Goodwill Keystone Area, Leah Hannah, PA Counseling Services, Jodie Smiley, Paxton Ministries

MEETING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

□ Education Topic
□ Administrator’s Report
□ Committee Reports
□ Fiscal Report
□ Community Input

DECISIONS:

□ Approval of the September 25, 2014, Advisory Board Minutes
□ The motion was made and seconded for Judy Vercher to continue on the Block Grant Advisory Committee.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

□ None at this time
NEXT MEETING DATE:
January 29, 2015, at CMU 1100 South 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. Sherri also thanked Jodie Smiley for allowing the MH/ID Advisory Board to have their meeting at this location.

Approval of September 25, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes
The motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as written.

Presentation of plaque to Korah Abraham
Dan Eisenhauer – Korah has indicated that he will let his term expire this month and presented him with a plaque, thanking him for all of his years of service. Korah thanked Shirley Keith Knox, the staff and stated it was a pleasure to work with the Board and the ID Committee. He said he would like to see new people on the Board and the ID Committee and hopes that families will be more engaged.

Administrator’s Report
The following report summarizes major MH/ID program concerns, updates and initiatives over the past two months. Staff will begin working on provider contracts for FY 15-16 in the near future, as well as our FY 13-14 Annual Report that will be presented to the Board at our January Board meeting.

Statewide/Department of Human Services Updates
- Governor-elect Wolf has formed his transition team, his transition steering committee, and named former DPW Secretary Estelle Richman to his transition team to serve as his Medicaid advisor.
- Governor Corbett continues to proceed with implementation of Healthy PA, although the Federal HHS has not yet approved the Healthy PA Private Coverage Option benefit package, nor the rates for the HealthChoices program that are needed to implement the waivers approved by HHS. In addition the Wolf administration has signaled their intention to adopt a straightforward Medicaid expansion versus pursuing the Healthy PA Program waiver.
- During all this uncertainty about Healthy PA, some 800,000 current HealthChoices members have been sent a letter indicating that certain actions are required in order to determine which benefit package they will qualify for. We are working with case management staff and providers to understand how to assist consumers. Also, letters are being sent to families of Children enrolled in CHIP, the low income insurance program for children not eligible for Medicaid under the current income guidelines, about their enrollment options under the Healthy PA/expanded Medicaid program.
- Dauphin County’s FY 14-15 Block Grant Plan was approved by DHS, and is posted on the County’s web site at http://www.dauphincounty.org/government/Human-Services/Block-Grant-Advisory-Planning-Committee/Pages/Block-Grant-Plan.aspx The County has begun planning for FY 15-16 through the Block Grant Advisory Committee.
Crisis Intervention

- Crisis currently has several vacancies including third shift full-time and two part-time positions. In addition, long time First Shift Supervisor Mary Eberts is retiring effective 12/5/14; and longtime Crisis Director Martin Yespy is rumored to be retiring by year’s end. We are developing transition plans for Crisis line staff and supervisory staff until we can hire the full complement of staff. Dan noted that this is a 20% vacancy, but Crisis staff have been very accommodating to fill the shifts.
- The Corporate Compliance Committee met for our quarterly review of our audit sample on November 20, 2014. There were no issues related to our Perform Care billing and we continue to refine our documentation in our electronic records. We are instituting another review item re: compliance with documentation of providing HIPAA Notifications to Crisis consumers as a result of our recent OMHSAS licensing visit.

Fiscal Department

- Barb Brown, our Fiscal Technician who worked for MH/ID for 27 years retired on November 21, 2014.
- The fiscal and program staff are refining our projections for our FY 14-15 budget. So far, we expect no issues with meeting our provider expenses.

MH Program

- The MH Program continues to roll out information and gather community support for the Valley Strong initiative.
- MH staff submitted data for FY 13-14 analysis for the Block Grant review of the effectiveness of programs. Our Quality Assurance staff has established MH program baseline data and measurement of our primary services and our success in implementing a recovery oriented system of care.
- Staff and providers continue to develop the three remaining HealthChoices re-investment programs that will be fully implemented over the next several months; MH and D & A co-occurring outpatient treatment, our Bridge Subsidy rental assistance program in collaboration with the Housing Authority of the County of Dauphin, and the Mobile MH/ID Behavioral Intervention Service.

ID Program

- ID staff and HSDO staff continue to move forward with implementation of Project Search with Dauphin County as the site for the internship. We are targeting April 2015 for the start and hope to identify the first round of consumers who will participate in the program in the next few months.
- ID staff is working on planning to serve all our recent graduates of special education. ODP recently confirmed that we will receive new funding for one recent graduate with the PFD/S funding stream. ID staff has been working with all 2014 graduates throughout the past calendar year to enroll graduates in either the PFD/S Waiver when we have capacity, or the Consolidated Waiver based on their needs, rather than working from a waiting list after June of the year. Also if some graduates have minimal needs for support we use our base funding. All 2014 graduates were offered services.
- We recently learned that ODP now has until March of 2015 to submit their plan to CMS for how they will come into compliance with CMS regulations for home and community-based waivers.

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by March of 2019. These changes will likely impact residential programs, day program, and facility-based vocational rehabilitation programs.

**Early Intervention Program**

- EI program staff recently met with the PACA MH/DS ID committee to talk about concerns in the EI program including gaining a better perspective on understanding new eligibility requirements, options for better coordination with the EI age 3-6 Program, and the ID system regarding eligibility concerns.
- We also discussed changes in the PELICAN data system, and also about strategies to engage the DHS about a more comprehensive approach to serving children with autism and their families.
- Finally, the legislature approved, and Governor Corbett signed Act 143 into law. Act 143 expands the categories of young children who are being tracked by the EI system to include homeless families with young children. We are waiting for additional direction and requirements from OCDEL to begin the tracking.

**Education Topic – Employment Video – Adam Wiener**

Adam showed the employment video, “Diversity in Dauphin County Equals Success”, which shows local business owners and executives discussing how hiring individuals with intellectual disabilities has benefited their businesses. Adam has been showing it to lots of different groups to inspire businesses to employ people with intellectual disabilities. There is a two-minute trailer for businesses to view as well. Listed are the links to this video: Trailer: [https://vimeo.com/106204220/](https://vimeo.com/106204220/)

Film: [https://vimeo.com/106401256](https://vimeo.com/106401256)

Sherri Smith stated that this video is very inspirational.

**Committee Reports**

**Adult Mental Health Committee** – Rose Schultz -- The minutes from the October 20, 2014, meeting were distributed. Joe Whalen from Dauphin County MH/ID provided a summary of a Block Grant outcomes briefing. With a 10% budget cut while still serving the same number of people, Dauphin County is one of the first counties to measure Block Grant cost effectiveness. A formula, which includes cost, priority rating, and effectiveness rating, will be implemented to provide a ranking of services. Consumer-driven programs will be the highest priority.

SOAR Program – the SOAR Program is an expedited SSI application process for consumers who apply for SSI. The goal is to get consumers stable income to afford housing and other necessities. The SOAR Program has complete autonomy over the SSI case. A case manager will complete initial intake, and if the person qualifies for these SOAR services, their information gets passed on to Bill Frederick from the CMU. A decision and response will be made in around 60 days of the completed application. There was a 90% initial rejection rate for SSI when consumers apply on their own. This cuts through a lot of the paperwork and speed the process for consumers.
Children’s Mental Health Committee – Sherri Smith -- The Minutes from the November 20, 2014, meeting were distributed. At this meeting, the committee was given a handout that outlines PCT (Parent Child Interactive Therapy). Dauphin County is implementing this evidence-based therapy practice. PCIT is designed for the parent or guardian and child to work together. The goal of PCIT is to put emphasis on restructuring parent-child patterns instead of just modifying target behaviors of the child.

RTF Teletherapy – Results of the first quarter fiscal year 2014-2015 teletherapy satisfaction surveys have been very positive. PAYS Suicide and Depression Data – Sherri will have survey results at the January meeting. She has reached out to her peers and has collected about half of the surveys.

Intellectual Disabilities Committee – Korah Abraham – The Minutes from the October 7, 2014, and November 4, 2014, meetings were distributed. The Committee continued their discussion about employment options for individuals with intellectual disabilities. They also viewed the employment video, “Diversity in Dauphin County Equals Success”.

Nominating Committee – Judy Vercher – Still looking to fill the Pediatrician/Psychologist vacancy on the MH/ID Advisory Board and now recruiting to replace Korah Abraham and Malorie Sirb. If anyone has any recommendations, please contact Dan Eisenhauer or Judy. It was noted that the applicants have to live in Dauphin County and their participation on the Board should be conflict-free.

Executive Committee – The motion was made and seconded for Judy Vercher to continue to serve on the Block Grant Advisory Committee. It was also noted that Korah Abraham and Malorie Sirb have resigned from the MH/ID Advisory Board.

Fiscal Report
Paul Geffert distributed the Budget vs. Expenses report by cost center. Paul stated that the budget expenses are on track for the year.

Community Input and Other Comments
None at this time.

Adjournment
There were no additional comments or announcements, and the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held December 4, 2014, at Paxton Street Home, 2001 Paxton Street, Harrisburg.