



JIM GIBBONS
Governor

Chair: Lesley Dickson, MD

Vice-Chair: Larry Ashley, PhD

**Governor's
Committee on Co-Occurring Disorders
(SB 2)**

Minutes

Date and Time of Meeting: Monday, September 20, 2010 at 2:00pm

Attendance: Larry Ashley, Richard Baldo, Judy Bousquet, Harold Cook, Lesley Dickson, Nancy Domiano-Sader, Stuart Ghertner, Ron Lawrence, Mel Pohl, David Sonner and Donna Wilburn.

Absent: Elena Brady, Kathy Eppen and An-Pyng Sun.

Public: Brad Greenstein, Kevin Quint.

Minutes: The minutes of the July 12, 2010 meeting were approved with the change that Stuart was absent.

Update on Judge Elliott: Lesley contacted Annalyn in the Governor's office that Judge Elliott had to resign and she would like an official letter so Lesley will take care of that. Judge Elliott sent word via her office that she highly recommends Judge Kerns and Lesley is working on seeing if he will apply although his schedule is limiting. Ron has visited Judge Kerns YO court and described him as the "most connected" he had seen. Mel agreed after the Judge had come to one of their family programs. Other names discussed are Judges Gloria Sanchez and Cynthia Leung from Clark County and Judges Weller and Perry from Reno.

Committee membership renewals: Stuart, Dave, Judy and Larry need to renew their memberships and all said they would complete the paperwork.

Larry made the announcement: Today is National Addiction Professionals Day honoring all professional from the counselors to the physicians who work with folks with addictions.

Presentation: Brad Greenstein of Foundation for Recovery Board of Directors presented on formation of a Peer Support Service. He said that such services can be delivered in non-profit organizations and through recovery communities and the courts. Stumbling block is funding. Twenty two states have certified peer support specialists and in 2000 Georgia became the first state to establish a certified specialist program and in 2002 Arizona established the second. 13 states have a Medicaid waiver. A lot of the work has been done in establishing programs and a lot of SAMHSA grants are available and private insurance does sometimes pay. Although there is some good infrastructure, he had found that not much is happening in Nevada or Las Vegas and that we need a committee to develop a system of services and also to be writing for grants from SAMHSA and such. He brought a handout with him and presented data showing effectiveness. Larry invited Brad to go before the BOE for alcohol and drug counselors. Judy suggested there have been grants available for peer training. Lesley suggested Brad attend the Southern Nevada Mental Health Coalition meetings which is looking into peer support programs for those released from CCDC. Judy agreed that NAMI is also a good contact. Mel brought up the need for good training and the possibility that professionals would be "threatened" and that we would need to present it as filling in the gaps. Although the cost to the state might be an issue Larry described the problem of not enough professionals trained and licensed in co-occurring disorders so there is a niche for peer support, particularly in the rural areas. Judy also presented about Adam's House which will be modeled on the Clubhouse model. Lesley added that peer supporters would help a lot with making folks aware of which resources actually exist. Kevin Quint described the Frontier Recovery Network that operated for five years and then lost its grant. Denise Everett knows about it and Brad might want to contact her. Richard added there was a group called "Indigenous Providers" at one time and Rebecca Jankovich was involved. Richard said he would contact her.

MHDS Commission Report: Kevin Quint, the chair, discussed the collaboration of our committee with the Commission and its recent activities. 1) The Children's MH Consortium plan which makes recommendations of systems change was sent to the Governor; the subcommittee is headed by Dr. Julie Beasley, psychologist. In response to this plan, DCFS has developed a BDR. 2) Budget will be a problem and they will make recommendations. 3) We need to talk about SB 260. 4) The Commission has two empty slots in addition to one member being on leave. They need a physician in Developmental Services and an MFT. Dr. Thomas Hunt is an MD who is interested but Dr. Cook mentioned he could have a conflict as Medical Director of DRC. Donna said the MFT's had sent a list several weeks ago. Richard had a couple of suggestions but they do not have experience in Mental Retardation which is a requirement.

Ron asked for some opportunities to plan for what is coming in the budget so Dr. Cook gave a brief report on the budget and our anxiety but said agencies are under a strict directive not to discuss. He said they have proposed cuts, layoffs and perhaps loss of whole programs. There is a PODS process which is a priority system of high, medium and low. On Oct. 15 the proposed budgets may be made public – a new for the state. He will be scheduling Town Hall meetings around the state to discuss MHDS budgets. High priority government services are those that are mandated by NV constitution or are federally mandated programs which includes institutions for the “insane, blind, deaf and dumb” which is interpreted as inpatient services. Medium priority services are mandated in NRS or state law and include outpatient and substance services and could be changed by the legislature. Other programs etc. are considered low priority. Larry described a tele-mental health program now includes adolescent programs and are covering more of the rural areas. This program includes UNLV and the SOM psychiatry programs and treats clients while training students. Lesley asked about the DOC in this budget situation but Dr. Cook cannot speak to DOC although he understands they may not be subject to as many cuts. David added that the DOC was asked to submit proposed cuts and that a news article did say 3000 prisoners may end up being released.

BDR's: Lesley reported on two proposed BDR's: one for required CME's for prescription drug abuse training and the other BDR on outpatient commitment. Harvey Munford has two BDR's on substance abuse but we do not know what is their focus.

Report on Professional Boards: Larry had the proposed CEU's on the agenda but there did not seem a lot of support. Mel described some possible federal regulations from a work group which required 2 voluntary hours but it was rejected as too little.

Dividing up work for our January report: We worked from last year's report and divided up the work. It will again be organized along the lines of the SB 2 mandates. Lesley will turn this into an outline and send to members. We will try to get it near to a final draft at the next meeting.

Public Comment: None.

Agenda and Date of Next Meeting: An-Pyng had asked we move the next meeting so she can attend as right now she teaches Monday afternoon. We reached some consensus to try Tuesday, November 2, 2010 and make it an hour earlier.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lesley Dickson, MD