

THE DURHAM CENTER
Managing Behavioral Health & Disability Services

AREA BOARD MEETING
Minutes
Thursday, April 3, 2008

The Durham Center Area Board met at 4:00 pm, April 3, 2008 at 501 Willard Street.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Doug Wright, Earl Phillips, Ellen Reckhow, Colleen Kilsheimer, Thomas Owens, M.D., Eureka Capri-Daye, Karen Crumbliss, Rev. Melvin Whitley, Phillip Golden, Amelia Thorpe, George Quick

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Matthew Wallace

GUESTS PRESENT:

Yvonne French

STAFF PRESENT:

Ellen Holliman, Rob Robinson, Susan Knox, Lisa Jackson, Doug Fuller, Kelly Goodfellow, Jim Kinnan, Michelle Zechmann, Ann Oshel, Tina Howard, Jennifer Meade, Denene Hinton, Carla Daye, Tonya VonDeinse

OTHERS PRESENT:

Lowell Siler

Call to Order

Area Board Chair Doug Wright called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM

Announcements

Ellen Holliman announced the LME leadership training seminar in Asheville and asked the Board members to take the flyer in their notebook to review. She also announced that she had sent out an e-mail to the board members regarding a pre-survey on topics that they would like to evaluate themselves with. It is a result of the presentation from Vaughn Upshaw two months ago. If they did not receive the e-mail, please see her after the meeting.

Mrs. Kilsheimer announced a workshop, "What will happen to me?" to be held at the Senior Citizen's Center in Chapel Hill from 9am-1pm on April 14, 2008. It is about

people with disabilities that no longer have family members available to them. It will address how to help people with disabilities handle their grief and work through some of the issues when their parents and providers are no longer there. It will include an expert from the New York area as a guest speaker. Three lawyers will also be present to discuss wills and life trusts.

Agenda Adjustments

None

FY08-09 Budget

The FY 07 Budget was presented at the Board Budget Retreat on Feb 20, 2008 and the final draft was included in the Board Packet that was sent to the board in advance of today's meeting. FY 08-09 Budget was presented by Ellen Holliman. Kelly Goodfellow and Michelle Zechmann were on hand to answer questions. The budget addressed questions that were brought up at the Budget retreat, as well as, any other questions that they might have. The budget has been presented to the County Manager's office. It is the same budget presented at the Retreat, but includes more information that gives justification for increases or decreases in line items. During the presentation and subsequent discussion, the following clarifications were made:

- 1.) The County is used as the payer of last resort.
- 2.) The FY09 budget does not reflect any increase in county funding.
- 3.) The Durham Center is expecting at this time a fund balance of approximately 2.1 million dollars.
- 4.) The fund balance projection does not include the Mental Health Trust Fund. Those funds were allocated from the state over a two year period.
- 5.) The overall reduction in the FY09 budget is due to the direct enrollment of Medicaid providers.
- 6.) LME Administration Funds are allocated based on a cost model developed by the state.
- 7.) Expenditures by Duke University now shows \$129,000 for inpatient services.
- 8.) As funds are available in FY09, The Durham Center will consider funding programs that will address the recent survey for Youth Risk Behavior.
- 9.) TROSA has two contracts, one for transitional beds (where people can stay up to 30 days) and a second a second contract funded by the state for extended, longer term stays.
- 10.) Budgets from the agencies that provide halfway houses and transitional living will be reviewed for increases. For the most part these programs have stayed relatively the same over the last couple of years.

Dr. Owens moved to approve the budget as received. **Seconded by Rev. Whitley.**
Passed unanimously.

Finance Committee Report

Chairman George Quick reported that the Committee met on April 3, 2008. They have no action items at this time. Committee did approve the purchase of a new vehicle. The committee reviewed the finances and budget and the recommendation by the Director shows what the fund dollars are expected to be at the end of the year and that is consistent with what was sent forward to County Finance.

Quality Management Committee Report

Chairman Phillip Golden reported that the Committee met on March 27, 2008 and Vivian Harris requested the committee revoke the endorsement for IPA (Innovative Planning Associates) that had been previously approved by the Corporate Compliance Committee and the LME Director. The committee reviewed the recommendation and approved going forward. She also updated them on other agencies that had gone through the process. B&D Health appealed to the office of Administrative Hearings. They went into mediation and through mediation the parties agreed that the endorsement would not be withdrawn but B&D will increase self monitoring, as well as, the monitoring by The Durham Center. Brookdale Havens also appealed to Department of Mental Health, which upheld decision. Kitticks Investment has appealed to the office of Administrative Hearings after exhausting the local appeal process. Dominion Healthcare has appealed and received a preliminary injunction which allows them to continue providing services. Unity and Love has appealed to Ellen Holliman and presented a plan of action. Mrs. Holliman has agreed to stay the endorsement for them to implement their plan of correction following monitoring by The Durham Center.

Jim Kinnan presented a QI (Quality Improvement) practice policy. LMEs are required to conduct and submit at least five Quality Improvement projects. The best practice standard has been met, but this is really to formalize and have a policy that the committee would adopt and ensure inclusion of everyone who are stakeholders in that process. There were some recommendations that were submitted to Jim Kinnan and he has adjusted those. They have been sent out to the committee members by e-mail and once those have been reviewed they will be submitted to the board.

The committee reviewed the Board Report and made several recommendations.

The committee discussed rescheduling the regular meeting time and date so that draft minutes could be included in the Area Board packets. Pending any nays from committee members, they will be meeting on the Third Wednesday of each month at 4:30.

Consent Agenda

Ellen Reckhow moved approval of the Consent Agenda, which includes the March 6, 2008 Area Board minutes, the Executive Committee Report, Human Rights Committee Report, and CFAC Report. **Seconded by George Quick. Passed unanimously.**

Public Comment:

No public comments. Mrs. Holliman took the opportunity to introduce Yvonne French from the Division of MH/DD/SA and part of the LME team and Susan Knox, her new Executive Administrative Assistant.

Board Report

FY 2008 Summary of State-Reported Outcomes Final report was handed out to the board and presented by Jim Kinnan. The report summarizes State reports completed on a quarterly basis. There are two different reports that report on compliance and achieving the goals that are part of the State contract and compares The Durham Center with other LMEs in the state. Overall, The Durham Center is doing well and the focus is now on putting practices in place, particularly through the Quality Council, to address areas that need improvement or areas that are high priority in terms of the impact on consumers and families.

Mr. Wright asked whether there is a way to quantify the information so that the Board knows what the prevalence rate is. It is important to know what percentage we are hitting. Ms. Holliman added that the staff is developing a new service definition with Single Stream Funding, so that we can bill against that definition. The Durham Center is moving in that direction. She also notes that the data in the state reports is not the most recent paid claims and to check the footnotes to see the dates of the paid claims data. While the report talks about the second quarter, the data may be previous to that.

Mrs. Holliman discussed the Secretary Benton's interest in the contacts after hospitalization indicator. He is looking at the key indicators, for example hospital admissions, and tracking that. The other key indicator he is looking at is whether people being discharged are being connected to services. She notes that she has told him that it is a concern of the Area Board and The Durham Center staff and is a priority. Ms. Reckhow asked about the communication. Do we know immediately when someone is discharged? Mr. Kinnan addressed the question. When people are discharged from the State hospital, if they've been given a follow up appointment, then the hospital is supposed to fax a discharge form to the STR and UM department. Durham Center staff has developed a database to track that follow up care. We will include an analysis in the next quarterly report. A discussion followed on the various ways people can be reminded of appointments or follow-ups.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Doug Wright reported that he attended a construction meeting at Oakley on March 10, 2008 to look at the progress. He suggests that if anyone has the opportunity, they should go over and take a look at it. They are saying that they are on schedule for the projected open date of August 1, 2008.

Mr. Wright reported that he attended the Results Based Accountability Substance Abuse Committee meeting the week prior. They are looking at their plan of action and redeveloping that to determine where they have been and where they need to go.

The NC Council Meeting was canceled due to Easter. A letter was sent to Secretary expressing their stance on his plans for the legislature. They believe that he needs to exercise the authority he now has before seeking more. Ms. Crumbliss asked if the Board members could get a copy of that letter.

Closed session pursuant to G.S. section 143-318.11 (a)(6) to discuss the performance of a public official

5:20PM **Mr. Phillips Moved** and **Seconded by Ms. Reckhow** to go into Closed session.

5:45PM Session reopened.

The Area Board returned to open session to state that the action taken in the Closed Session. The action taken was to evaluate the Area Director, Mrs. Holliman. They rated her as outstanding and approved a 4.25% salary increase. Mr. Wright thanked her for her performance and level of professionalism.

During the subsequent discussion, Members made the following suggestions and comments.

- 1.) Develop positive articles for publication in the local paper. Will include in the FY09 strategic plan.
- 2.) Board committee needs to meet with the editorial board of the newspaper.
- 3.) We need to meet with the new county reporter to address problems with Medicaid, as well as, discussion of how reform has impacted Substance Abuse and Developmental Disabilities.
- 4.) Concerns were expressed about the quality of care and supervision in some group homes.

Adjournment

George Quick moved and **Phil Golden seconded** that the meeting adjourn. **Passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted:

Ellen Holliman, Executive Director

Date

Material included in Notebooks:

North Carolina Council Community News-February 29, 2008

Announcing the NC LME Board Leadership Institute, North Carolina Council of Community Programs

Articles:

Updated State Contract commencing Dec 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008

“Easley vows to fix mental health system:He stick to story on opposing reform”, Michael Biesecker, News and Observer, March 10, 2008

“Gov. Meltdown swings like Mark McGwire—and whiffs”, John Drescher, News and Observer, March 9, 2008

“Benton vouches for Crane”, P. Stith, News and Observer

“Easley goes into denial”, News and Observer, March 8, 2008

“Rane to speak on sunshine”, B. Krueger, News and Observer, March 4, 2008

“Hospitals battle bid to rein in Medicaid:The Bush Administration’s new rules could cost NC hospitals thousands of jobs and millions of dollars”, Barbara Barrett, News and Observer, Mar. 9, 2008

“Mental hospital opening delayed: Facility opening no later than July 1”, Michael Biesecker and Pat Stith-McClatchy Newspapers, News and Observer, March 7, 2008

Editorial “Fixing ‘reform’: A N&O series on mental health exposed an inadequate and even dangerous system of care, Immediate action is needed.” News and Observer, March 6, 2008

“Accountable Error”, News and Observer, March 6, 2008

“...lost in cyberspace? “, News and Observer, March 6, 2008

“Pros pan Easley performance: Strategists: He flubbed efforts to manage crisis”, Craig Jarvis, News and Observer

“A disturbingly instructive day”, Chris Fitzsimon, Fitzsimon File

“Some of the most pressing problems afflicting North Carolina’s mental health system can be fixed with stronger oversight from state officials.”, Mark Binker, News-Record

“Update on the status of the State-operated psychiatric hospitals”, Liza Wainwright DHHS, NPR on WHQR,

“Candidate for Governor Bob Orr Releases Mental Health Plan and calls for Investigation of Failed Mental Health Reform”, Pat Nelli, News and Observer

“Easley seeks power to fix mental health”, Michael Biesecker, News and Observer, March 5, 2008

“Rife with abuse: The abuse of patients at the state’s psychiatric hospitals is yet another sign that mental health ‘reform’ has far to go”, News and Observer, March 4, 2008

“Here’s the thing about Gov. Mike Easley: He is a talented, often charming politician with an extraordinary ability to communicate with people”, Jack Betts, The Charlotte Observer, March 4, 2008

“Easley seeks more mental health oversight”, Staff Reports, News and Observer, March 4, 2008

State’s top mental health officials say safety net needs repairs, Leslie Boyd, Citizen-Times.com, March 19, 2008

“N.C. mental health system meltdown must be reversed”, CITIZEN-TIMES.COM, 2008

“When homeless issues hit close to home” The Herald-Sun, Jean Bolduc

“Fixes for mental care put forward”, News and Observer, Lynn Bonner, March 31, 2008

“How candidates would fix mental-health system”, News and Observer, March 31, 2008

“Repairing the reforms”, Charlotte Observer, March 31, 2008

Material handed out at the meeting:

Final FY2008:Summary of State-Reported Outcomes for the Durham Center Area Board report.