

**THE DURHAM CENTER**

*Providing Behavioral Health & Disability Services*

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**AREA BOARD MEETING**

**Minutes**

**August 3, 2006**

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The Durham Center Area Board met at 4:00 pm, August 3, 2006, at 501 Willard Street.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Doug Wright, Eureka Capri Daye, Phil Golden, Colleen Kilsheimer, Terry McCabe, Thomas Owens, George Quick, Ellen Reckhow, Matthew Wallace, Melvin Whitley

**EXCUSED ABSENCE:**

Emily Baldwin, Karen Crumbliss, Amelia Thorpe

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Lowell Siler, County Attorney's Office

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Ellen Holliman, Kathy McNeill, Carla Alston-Daye, James Osborne, Beth Bordeaux, Rob Robinson, Carrie Baines, Vivian Harris, Janice Stroud, Paula Hyman, Robin Baker, Doug Fuller, Bart Grimes, Martha Kaufman, Terrie Grant, Michelle Zechmann

Area Board Chair Doug Wright called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM

**APPROVAL OF JUNE 1, 2006 MEETING MINUTES**

**Doug Wright entertained a motion to approve the June 1, 2006 minutes. A motion was made by Melvin Whitley and seconded by George Quick to approve the minutes. The motion unanimously carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MAY 25, 2006 CALLED MEETING MINUTES**

**Doug Wright entertained a motion to approved the May 25, 2006 called meeting minutes. A motion was made by Terry McCabe and seconded by Melvin Whitley to approve the minutes. The motion unanimously carried.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**CFAC:** No report

**HUMAN RIGHTS:** No report

**FINANCE:** George Quick reported that the Finance Committee discussed reducing the amount of state dollars paying room and board costs for children placed in out-of-home facilities by 50%. This would be necessary in order to serve children who do not

have/are not eligible for Medicaid. Approximately 80% of our current state dollars for children with serious emotional disturbances have been used to pay for room and board costs alone. While the reduction of room and board is a 50% reduction, this is only part of the money a residential provider receives to serve a child each day. For example: the residential rate for Level III Group Home is approximately \$267.00 per day. The current room and board rate for Level III Group Home is \$43.00 per day. The proposed 50% reduction in room and board rate for Level III would be \$21.50 per day. The overall reduction for Level III Group Home rate is from \$310.00 to \$288.50 per day.

Ellen Holliman reported that the Finance Committee would submit a full report to the entire Board at next month's meeting.

**QUALITY MANAGEMENT:** Phil Golden reported that the Quality Management Committee reviewed the Quality Improvement Plan Policy and made a few suggestions. They will report their findings at next month's Area Board meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **1. Election of Officers**

George Quick reported that the Nominating Committee met on July 25 to discuss Area Board officers for next fiscal year. Mr. Quick reported that the Nominating Committee recommends that Doug Wright be nominated as Chair and Phil Golden be nominated as Vice Chair for FY 06-07.

**Doug Wright entertained a motion to close the nominations on the two names. A motion was made by Ellen Reckhow and seconded by Tom Owens to close the nominations on the two names. The motion unanimously carried.**

**Doug Wright entertained a motion to approve the Nominating Committee's proposed ballot. A motion was made by George Quick and seconded by Tom Owens to approve the Nominating Committee's recommendation. The motion unanimously carried.**

#### **2. Revision of Area Board Policies and Procedures – Area Board Member Meeting Attendance Compensation Policy**

Members reviewed the proposed revision to the Area Board Policies and Procedures – Area Board Member Meeting Attendance Compensation Policy. This revision would change the amount of reimbursement from \$15.00 per meeting to \$50.00 per month for all regular Board meetings attended only. Each member would have the right to decline the compensation on a yearly basis if they choose. Reimbursement would be based on attendance, and the Administrative Assistant of the Durham Center will submit reimbursement information to the Finance Department. County officials and employees would not be eligible for reimbursement.

A question was asked if the proposed changes were consistent with other Durham County Boards. Ellen Reckhow and Terry McCabe discussed reimbursement rates for other County Boards. The proposed new rates would be in line with other County Boards, as well as the General Statutes.

Reimbursement will be paid on a quarterly basis. This information will be added as an addition to the policy.

**Doug Wright entertained a motion to accept the proposed changes to the policy. A motion was made by Phil Golden and seconded by Melvin Whitley to accept changes in the policy with the addition of members being reimbursed quarterly. The motion unanimously carried.**

## **UPDATES**

### **1. Settlement and Impact of DHHS Lawsuit**

Ellen Holliman reported that an agreement was reached between Durham County and the Department of Health and Human Services that settled the lawsuit. Two events happened in the 2006 General Assembly session which aided in this decision:

- a) The budget bill outlined how LMEs will be funded for FY 05-06. TDC will be funded at the same rate as FY 05-06 less the dollars for Medicaid UR and claims payments. The Durham Center's reduction is \$832,000.
- b) HB 2077 excluded Medicaid UR as a function of the LME.

Beginning August 1, 2006, we no longer complete any Medicaid UR except for CAP MR/DD. CAP MH/DD authorizations will end September 1, 2006.

The Durham Center will lose 15 positions, with eight positions being full-time county employees. Effective dates for RIF employees will be August 18 and one on August 31.

Mrs. Holliman recently sent a letter to Secretary Carman Hooker Odom as an effort to move forward and do everything TDC can do to ensure a smooth transition to Value Options as well as a commitment to work with the state in the best interest of our citizens (see attachment).

### **2. FY 06-07 Budget**

Ellen Holliman gave an overview of the 2006 - 2007 State budget. The mental health system received \$90 million. TDC has not received its final allocation letter from the Division. Mrs. Holliman reported that she was expecting approximately \$200,000 of mental health money based on population, \$200,000 for substance abuse, \$400,000 for developmental therapies, and hopefully additional funds for the crisis programs. Fourteen million dollars (\$14 million) was also placed in the mental health trust fund, to hopefully be used for start up and to build community capacity.

### **3. House Bill 2077**

Members had an opportunity to review House Bill 2077 (see attachment). Ellen Holliman discussed several sections of the document, including functions of LME, changes in Area Board membership, and existing terms of Board membership.

### **4. Regional Planning for Crisis Services**

Mrs. Holliman reported that the law states that there shall be up to 24 planning groups for crisis programs. The Legislature has allocated money for a crisis consultant to work with area programs. For planning purposes, monies will be allocated to LMEs based on population. The State is hoping to use local hospitals, especially in the rural areas. At this point, TDC's planning region will include Five County, Alamance-Caswell-Rockingham, and OPC.

### **5. Application for Ketner Award**

Mrs. Holliman reported that TDC has applied for the 2006 Ketner Award for the rapid response homes developed by System of Care. This was completed in conjunction with partners DSS and the Juvenile Justice System.

### **6. Area Board Terms**

Board members received corrected copies of Area Board terms (see attachment).

## **REPORTS**

### **1. Chairman's Report**

Doug Wright made the following announcements:

- Yvonne Copeland is the new Executive Director of the NC Council.
- New Member Orientation was recently held for Matthew Wallace.

Ellen Holliman reported that TDC has been working hard on the SA Plan and will give an update at the September meeting.

Mrs. Holliman also reported that Beth Bordeaux has resigned as Quality Management Administrator, but will remain with TDC on a part-time basis. Paula Hyman has been appointed the new Quality Management Administrator.

### **2. 2005-2006 Board Report**

Ellen Holliman thanked staff for their hard work preparing the Board report.

Several staff members discussed sections of the Board report (full report attached).

Highlights of the report included:

- TDC improved communication by instituting a Network of Care website
- TDC strengthened the community collaborations through leadership positions with Durham System of Care and contributions to Durham's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness

- TDC accelerated the housing initiatives to provide assistance to over 100 consumers
- Developed 39 new units of housing
- Rainbow 66 was opened to provide community-based day activities for consumers with developmental disabilities
- Peer supports were strengthened within the community by implementing the Triangle Empowerment Center

(See attached report for entire list of accomplishments.)

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Colleen Kilsheimer announced that Richard Reho, with the Governor's Advocacy Committee, would like everyone to sign a petition allowing Medicaid monies to follow a person from the institution to the community and be available for community-based services.

Doug Wright thanked TDC staff for their hard work with the annual report.

Ellen Holliman reported that in this month's NC Council newsletter, an article is included regarding the faith-based website.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ellen S. Holliman  
Area Director