

CFAC Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2007

Present: Virginia, Leslie, Megan, Gwyn, Edward, Ken, Pam, Allen, Cheryl, Heather, Marcus, Steve, Vicente, and Michael

Minutes: The minutes of the September meeting were approved as written.

REPORTS

Update from CFAC Chair: Virginia reported on a memo written by Secretary Dempsey Benton to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) expressing concerns about proposed rules which would be harmful to persons with mental illness and substance abuse disorders. Virginia was impressed with the Secretary's understanding of the chronic nature of addictions and mental illnesses, and the fact that there are no cures or "quick fixes." The memo focuses on the fact that rehabilitation is possible for both of these populations, and that maintaining one's level of functioning can be considered a success.

Update from OPC CFAC Liaison: Michael reported that the first reading of the Area Board's revised By-laws took place at their October meeting, and that a 2nd reading is scheduled for their meeting on December 6. Michael believes the Board Chair will sign the Relational Agreement after these By-Laws have been approved. Michael also informed the CFAC that OPC intends to apply for single stream funding in August of next year. This will require the involvement of CFAC in a number of ways, and the Division recommends amending the Relational Agreement to address the communication and reporting expectations between the LME and CFAC with regard to single stream funding. This topic will need to be taken up at a future CFAC meeting for more detailed discussion. Finally, Michael reported that the latest date provided by the Division for having a "Provider Report Card" ready for use is next July.

Update from State CFAC Liaison: Suzanne was ill and unable to attend the meeting this evening.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Adult MH/SA Committee

No report

AQIC

Michael reported that this committee approved a new policy dealing with federal requirements to report fraud and abuse. In addition, AQIC reviewed information related to OPC's efforts to gain accreditation through CARF.

PSW (Peer Support Workshop)

Out of 83 registered for the workshop, 76 people were in attendance last month. There was strong interest in the topic of Peer Support and the feedback was very positive. There was a lot of representation from areas of N.C. outside of the OPC catchment area. Edward reported that Camp New Hope already has limited availability for next year in September, and he proposed securing the site for Sept. 26, 2008. A motion was made, seconded and approved to hold next year's workshop at Camp New Hope on Sept. 26th and to pay a deposit to hold the space. There will be an initial planning meeting for this workshop at 4:30 on Nov. 15 (before the CFAC meeting) here at OPC. Anyone who is interested should plan to attend. Edward recommended that one task of the workgroup would be to develop a support statement for the Peer Support Workshop that could be incorporated into the Relational Agreement. Finally, no specific recommendation about a Peer Support/Drop-In Center came out of the discussions the day after this year's workshop. Michael will e-mail Ken to get contact information for the director of the Peer Support Center in Durham, in order to get some information on potential costs.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upcoming Meetings with the Area Director and Management Team

Pam will attend the last half-hour of OPC Management Team on November 8th, and Virginia and Leslie are scheduled to meet with Judy Truitt on November 13th. CFAC requested that Micro-enterprises be discussed at these meetings. CFAC members are interested in having trainings/workshops to help consumers learn about Micro-enterprises, which help consumers determine how to turn their skills into business opportunities (including establishing a business plan and seeking grant funding). Edward noted that Kirk Williams did presentations on Micro-enterprises in the past.

Performance Contract

Michael reported that OPC had received the Performance Contract from the Division, and that there were a number of items in the contract that directly referenced CFAC or would be of interest to CFAC. Some of the items will require that CFAC review new reports from the LME. For example, the LME will report on community need and provider capacity every year, and also provide CFAC with quarterly updates on this assessment. Other reports include quarterly financial reports; quarterly reports on consumer incidents, complaints, appeals, and satisfaction with services; and a report on patterns and trends for consumer access to services. More information will be forthcoming as these reports are developed.

Service Gaps

Michael distributed a Service Gaps Analysis that covered services in all disability areas, as well as housing and other system-wide issues such as transportation. The information in the handout was developed by OPC staff and providers. The LME requests CFAC input. Members are asked to review the list and bring back feedback for any additional services that are believed to be insufficient to meet the needs of the community, or in some cases lacking altogether. CFAC members can provide feedback to Michael individually, and it can be discussed as a group.

OLD BUSINESS:

Revision of By-Laws

Michael reminded members that the only recommended change to the By-laws was to move the election of new officers from the month of September to January. Leslie made a motion to approve the revision, which was seconded by Gwyn. The revised By-laws were approved by a unanimous vote.

Chapel Hill Transit Advisory Committee

Neither CFAC member who volunteered to join this committee looked into it during the past month. Pam said she had a strong interest and volunteered to contact the Committee to get information and to serve on it.

ITEM FROM THE FLOOR:

Gwyn shared concerning information from a story in her local newspaper focusing on access issues for people with disabilities. According to the news article, local business owners were expressing reluctance to install ramps to make their buildings accessible because it would alter the appearance of historic buildings.

Virginia shared that she had been recently diagnosed with cancer and would begin undergoing treatment before the November meeting. She has a good prognosis and will attend as much as possible, but may have to miss some meetings over the next few months.

Check-in and Proposed Agenda for November Meeting:

Ongoing recruitment discussions