

CFAC Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2008

Present: Virginia, Leslie, Diane, Benita, Gwyn, Pam, Heather, Edward, Linda, Vicente, Steve, Bradley, Marcus, Suzanne, and Michael

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

REPORTS:

Update from CFAC Chair: Virginia learned at the Area Board meeting that OPC's lease on the office suite at the Europa Center would expire several months from now, though she was not certain of the date. There has been some discussion with Orange County to have OPC move into office space in Hillsborough, though no final decisions have been made. Orange County is renovating the old Wal-Mart on Churton Street to be used for county office space, similar to what was done in Person County. Members discussed briefly whether this could cause transportation problems for CFAC, and commented that it may be necessary to find space in Chapel Hill or Carrboro for CFAC to meet.

The next time Virginia and Leslie will meet with Judy is in October, and they asked whether there were any issues that CFAC members wanted them to bring up with Judy. Heather commented that the phone situation in the Freedom House Hillsborough office seems to have improved over the past several weeks. Pam mentioned that she had tried to call the TASC office several months ago and got some sort of beeping noise. She was not certain whether it was a fluke, however, and said she would try calling again before asking Leslie and Virginia to bring this up with Judy.

Update from OPC CFAC Liaison: Michael reported that OPC had submitted the application for Single Stream Funding. We do not anticipate any problems in having the application approved, since Division staff reported to the LOC in August that OPC was one of the LMEs that met the requirements. OPC is requesting that the funding begin in July of next year, so that there are no problems trying to change funding mechanisms during the middle of a fiscal year. Michael also pointed out several training opportunities from the Pass Around Folder, including the NAMI Conference in October, the Community Service Array Conference in November, and the Pinehurst Conference in December.

Update from State CFAC Liaison: Suzanne noted that consumers from Dix are scheduled to move to Central Regional Hospital on October 1st. Approximately 135 patients from the Adolescent and Forensic Units will remain at Dix until December, which is a projected date at this point in time. Virginia asked about the plans for the Dix campus. Suzanne noted that in the short term, 60 beds will remain open under contract with the Wake LME. Long term plans are not known. She also reported that DMH has hired consultants to do a complete evaluation of Cherry Hospital. Their report is due before the end of September, and then the Division will develop a plan to improve the hospital and regain federal funding. Suzanne also noted that new DMA policies are available on their website for public comment. Finally, she said that the State CFAC is seeking a consumer from the Central Region who represents the Substance Abuse area. She has applications available and will leave them with Michael. The State CFAC meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month in Raleigh.

NEW BUSINESS:

Policy Review

Members reviewed a dozen policies that have been revised by OPC as a part of preparation for CARF accreditation including policies on accessibility, consumer rights, complaints & appeals, and stipends, among others. These policies had been sent to members for review a week prior to

the meeting via e-mail and U.S. mail. Diane requested clarification on federally established guidelines for admission to substance abuse services, and Michael agreed to research her question and report back at the October meeting. During the review of the "Consumer Rights: Guardianship" policy, members engaged in a discussion about the criteria for needing a guardian, and the difference between a guardian and a representative payee. Members pointed out what appeared to be a typo in two policies and noted that some policies reviewed during this meeting were missing actual policy statements. Members did not express any concerns over the content of the policies, nor recommend any substantive changes. Michael will bring CFACs feedback to OPC management.

CFAC Member Binders Proposal

Michael passed around a mock-up of a binder to discuss whether CFAC members would find it useful to have their own. He explained that other Committees have this sort of binder to keep copies of minutes and other documents that might be useful for reference during meetings. Sample documents in the mock-up included copies of the CFAC by-laws and relational agreement. Members thought it might be useful to have these and agreed to continue this discussion on October.

OLD BUSINESS:

CFAC Social Activities

Heather has been doing some research into social activities. Gwyn asked about the purpose, and Leslie responded that this would be an opportunity for CFAC members to get to know one another outside of the meeting time, and on a more personal level. Money was budgeted for this purpose during the current fiscal year. Heather offered various suggestions, and CFAC thought the best ones were bowling, Playmakers, and festivals. Virginia mentioned the Shoccoree Festival, and Heather agreed to research this.

Housing Survey

Michael noted that he still had some blank copies of the Housing Survey being conducted by the Division, in case anyone did not get a chance to complete one last month. He asked anyone who is interested to see him after the meeting to complete a survey. He will mail them all in next week.

Member Recruitment

There were no updates on this topic, nor did any discussion take place.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

AQIC

The committee continues to review policies as OPC prepares for CARF accreditation. All of the policies reviewed at tonight's meeting had been reviewed at AQIC.

Provider Community & Quality Management

Leslie noted that this committee learned that OPC would be piloting an automated version of a provider monitoring tool developed by the Division.

Service Management and Public Awareness & Advocacy

Virginia noted that these two committees held a joint meeting last week. They were informed that OPC has decreased the use of inpatient bed days, which is a goal of reform. Also, OPC will be joining with other LMEs as a crisis region, and the region will get new funding for 2 teams. However, OPC already has two so they will not operate out of this area.

PSW (Peer Support Workshop)

Edward reported that the workshop would be held next week. A lot of people have registered, and the PSW Committee is requesting volunteers for helping with registration, food, parking, and other activities on the day of the workshop.

PSC (Peer Support Center)

Gwyn reported that members of this committee began to list questions for the survey they will use to try to determine the level of interest for a peer support/drop-in center. Diane will work with the social work intern to develop a draft before the October committee meeting. Since CFAC members who have spoken about the value of a center in the past are not on this committee, Leslie asked whether anyone had input for the committee members. Edward noted that the first Peer Support Workshop examined this issue, and agreed to share his notes from that event.

Proposed Agenda for October Meeting:

- Follow-up discussion on social activities and CFAC member binders.