

**Harris County Systems of Hope  
Cultural and Linguistic Competence Work Team  
6300 Chimney Rock Road • Houston, Texas 77081  
Wednesday, March 23, 2011 4:00 p.m.**

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Julie Bourne, Larry D. Brown, Jr., Rev. Dr. Robert Gilmore, Randy Joiner, Dr. Samoan C. Johnson, Esteban Mayers, Lauren Moore,  
Note taker: Sherry Hubbard

- I. Dr. Samoan C. Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm. Introduction were made around the table.
- II. The January 26, 2011 meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted as submitted. A motioned was moved to approve the minutes by Dr. Johnson and seconded by J. Bourne.
- III. Policy interpretation – Larry Brown revisited the language interpreter policy – Section II. from the previous meeting to the workgroup with changes. The changes were referenced and L. Brown will email to the workgroup. L. Brown felt the workgroup should discuss a special provision to the policy. He suggested that a youth should only interpret small simple interpretations items as appropriate. Also language interpreter policy should have manager’s approval. Targeted date for approval – April 13<sup>th</sup>.
- IV. SOH Program Updates/CLC Coordination Updates
  - a. Changes with structure have happened.
  - b. Staff reduction has occurred. One staff member was relocated to another section of CPS.
  - c. Larry Brown is in a new position.
  - d. Three positions were transferred to TRIAD.
  - e. What will happen after reduction of services?
    - i. SOH will service the Kashmere community and Southside area.
    - ii. SOH submitting grants.
  - f. Larry Brown’s update
    - i. L. Brown presented and discussed the CLC Plan 2010 to the workgroup.
    - ii. The following highlighted activities were reviewed:
      1. Training on youth culture –considered one the greatest challenges (1) Youth Involvement and Engagement

2. Youth representative, Taren Bates contribution-this portion is incomplete. The new Youth Engagement Coordinator, S. Pecora will assist with completing this task.
3. Continuing education workshops – three workshops were completed (1) Human Trafficking, (2) Religion and Occult, (3) LGBT community focus, and (4) Cultural competency activities with SOH staff. R. Joiner shared the self-test with SOH staff.
4. Collaborative relationship – targeted projects were met in the Fifth Ward community, i.e., Wheatley HS, Cleme Manor, and a community health fair. Six (6) projected were completed.
5. CLC specific protocols, policies and procedures – all projects were completed. Projects includes: Being approached by the Houston Federation of Families, participation agreement, and language interpreter policy.
6. Cultural competence implementation outcome – waiting on the CLC sub-study report from the National Evaluation.

v. Major SOH Updates

- a. SOH was nominated for exemplary area – Cultural Competency/2 practices submitted
  - i. Committee composition
  - ii. Cultural awareness moments (presented at Governing Board meeting)
- b. Youth Involvement in Gangs and systems of care-conference call to take place on April 20<sup>th</sup>
- c. Status of other system of care sites – L. Brown will try to get a report of what other sites are doing by the next meeting.

vi. Faith-based involvement discussion

- a. Dr. Gilmore addressed implementation of faith-based involvement. Presently, over 300 churches participate in domestic violence workshops. These faith-based organizations would like to develop partnership agreements. Also, Dr. Gilmore explained the church's relationship to the congregation as it relates to mental health. He stated there are six churches that would like to have psychological training. He addressed a question to R. Joiner regarding

community engagement, such as will SOH engage this component and what is tangible? It was explained that this component is currently in the Kashmere Gardens and Sunnyside communities. The group will revisit this issue. Also, the south area will be targeted at upcoming conferences.

- b. Dr. Gilmore expressed to the group that the Hogg grant specifically stated that faith-based organization should be included in some form of mental health alliance. He also expressed there should be representation from the Commissioners Court. In regards to the Kashmere Gardens community, L. Brown will follow up with L. Clay to determine if faith-based was included in the letter of interest. Dr. Gilmore felt the clergy in the Kashmere Gardens area should be educated in mental health issues.
- VII. Announcements – Dr. Johnson
- i. Harris County Psychiatric Hospital’s mental illness contract terminated as of May 31, 2011 for inmates.
  - ii. Incarcerated juveniles contract will continue.
  - iii. Child Abuse Task Force will be presenting “April is Child Abuse Prevention Month” on billboards from local taxis. Esteban Mayers from DePelchin Children’s Center presented this information to the group. The event will take place on April 7, 2011 between 9:00am-4:30pm. The Houston Women’s’ Center will also participate in this event.
  - iv. Children Mental Health Awareness Day – May 3<sup>rd</sup> will take place at the Fifth Ward Multi-Services Center, information presented by L. Moore.
- VIII. **Meeting adjourned @5:15 p.m. The next meeting: May 25, 2011.**