

HARRIS COUNTY SYSTEMS OF HOPE
Governing Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 20, 2010
2525 Murworth
Houston, TX 77054

Attendees:

Board Members and Alternates Present:		
Taren Bates	Robin Harrison	Dr. Diana Quintana
Julie Bourne	Rebecca Johansson	Dr. Raquel Runge
Thomas Brooks	Renatta Kost	Pat Sibley
Eileene Chappelle	Joseph Le	
Bonnie Cord	Alma Montejano	
Angel Escamilla	Dr. Curtis Mooney	
George Ford	Charissa Nealey	
Carolyn Hamilton	Beverly Pettway	

Systems of Hope Staff Present:	
Larry D. Brown Jr.	Randy Joiner
Nichole Christoph	Lauren Moore
Lareatha Clay	Stephanie Pecora
Tammy Foster	John Puder
Cherease Glasper	Pam Schaffer

Other Attendees:	
Karen Bates	Austin Jean
Brian Baxendale	Evevona Plummer
Dr. Rosalyn Bertram	Dori Wind
Joseph Bourne	
Kendra Jackson	

I. Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Mooney called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm. Members of the Board and guests introduced themselves around the room.

II. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Mooney asked the group to review the minutes of the November 2009 meeting and note corrections. A motion was made and passed to accept the minutes as presented.

III. Grievance Against Systems of Hope Report

Mr. Ford reported that he was asked by Mr. Williams to address the grievance against Systems of Hope by Ms. Harrison. Mr. Ford gave a chronology of events pertaining to the grievance and steps that were taken by both Mr. Ford and Ms. Harrison. Mr. Ford submitted a written response to Ms. Harrison. Mr. Ford stated that he regrets the pain that has been caused to Ms. Harrison and others involved. Mr. Ford then cited the code of ethics that were adopted by the Governing Board, specifically section D.

Ms. Harris responded to the issue stating that she should have been able to speak. She further stated that the grievance policy did not apply to board members and proceeded to go over emails and responses sent to and from Ms. Bane and Ms. Herman.

Ms. Chappelle made a motion to draft a white paper for creating a grievance procedure for future situations. Ms. Sibley seconded the motion which passed without exception.

Mr. Ford, Ms. Johansson and Ms. Sibley volunteered to draft the white paper and will present it at the next meeting.

IV. Financial Report

Mr. Baxendale submitted a budget report for the period ending December 31, 2009 which accounts for 25% of the fiscal year. The program is currently over budget in the salary and fringes line because new grant funded positions were still on the SOH budget to that point. The report also detailed wraparound services expenditures.

V. Recommendation to Eliminate the IQ Eligibility Criterion for Referrals to SOH

Mr. Joiner stated that he would like to get consensus from the board to eliminate the IQ eligibility criterion for referrals to SOH. He stated that it has been a barrier to service delivery. Mr. Joiner proposed removing the number and replace with adequate functioning as recommended by the site visit. Ms. Cord made a motion to grant permission to petition the feds to remove IQ from eligibility. Ms. Chappelle seconded the motion which passed without exception.

VI. Improvement of Wraparound Fidelity Report

Dr. Bertram reported that she has been working with SOH on various projects over the years. Her most recent project has been working with the admin team to improve wraparound fidelity. In doing so she reviewed cases opened between March 2008 and March 2009. She found excellent wraparound implemented in certain areas. She has been meeting with a group of board members and SOH staff to develop training for staff. Training will focus on creating a better composed team that is not focused on one issue

VII. Consider and Take Appropriate Action on Recommendations for New Governing Board Members

Ms. Foster reported that PEG has identified and assessed the willingness of three potential board members. Ms. Foster introduced Ms. Bates and Ms. Morgan, caregivers to graduated youth. Ms. Bell was unable to attend due to illness.

Ms. Chappelle made a motion to accept Ms. Bell as a new member of the Governing Board. Ms. Bourne seconded the motion which passed without exception.

Due to wording of the SOH by-laws the group decided to delay a vote on Ms. Bates and Ms. Morgan. Ms. Cord asked to have an agenda item to consider re-wording the by-laws to also previously served family members on the Governing Board. Ms. Cord will develop a draft of the re-wording.

VIII. Systems of Hope Governing board Membership Subcommittee

It was asked that the membership sub-committee be reformed to address membership issues including adhering to the by-laws, attendance and vetting new members. Ms. Cord made a motion to reactivate the membership sub-committee. Ms. Chappelle seconded the motion which passed without exception. Ms. Bourne, Ms. Nealey, Ms. Cord and Mr. Brooks volunteered to serve on the sub-committee.

IX. Work Group Report

CQI-Ms. Johannson reported that the group has been working to develop a Youth Satisfaction Survey. Ms. Bates and Mr. Escamilla have been working with the group and volunteered to write the first draft. Over next few months CQI will be revisiting the CQI plan which will be posted on the website. A phone survey is planned for quarter one regarding the caregiver pilot. Ms. Johannson reminded everyone that this group has room for new membership.

Evaluation-Dr. Runge announced that the groups meetings for 2010 have been scheduled and can be found on the website. The group has been busy revising the evaluation and data decimation plans. Mr. Brown will have them posted on the website when they have been finalized. Dr. Runge reported that a youth evaluation retreat was held in December which was well attended. Ms. Bates, Mr. Escamilla, Mr. Jean and Ms. Plummer shared their experiences at the retreat. They all reported that they enjoyed it and learned a lot about data collection. Dr. Runge thanked the youth involved for their participation and hopes to continue the retreats on a quarterly basis.

Fiscal-Ms. Pettway reported that the group addressed the same topics as presented in the budget report. She stated that the budget will be monitored closely to ensure that it ends up within budget. She expects that it will not be a problem. Ms. Pettway advised that the program should control costs where possible. The group also discussed revisions to the stipend form specifically the eligibility rules #1 and #5 for receiving a stipend. The change for rule #1 would be to include served family members and rule # 2 to add "actively participate". Ms. Chappelle asked to add a box or an option to opt out of receiving the stipend all together.

Social Marketing-Mr. Puder reported that Ms. Cord is the new Co-Chair for the group which will meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm. Mr. Puder handed out a 2010 calendar which was created using art work from last years Children's Mental Health Awareness Day activity. If anyone needs additional copies, they should contact Mr. Puder. Planning for this year's Children's Mental Health Awareness Day activities are underway. A video similar to the "Pink Gloves" is being planned. It will be a music video featuring green lays. Mr. Puder has been working with the Children's Museum to premier the video. The group has been working with the youth to ensure that the event is youth driven.

Sustainability-Ms. Johannson reported that members of the board and served family members have been meeting to answer the question fo what should be sustained to make a difference in the community. The group has been working with the TA partner, Bruce Strahl. Focus groups are planned after which a session will be planned where board participation will be sought.

X. Program Services Report

Ms. Schaffer presented stats for November and December 2009. The report shows that the number of transitioned families is high for the month of December. Ms. Shaffer added that referrals have begun to increase now that staff assignments to the new grants are finished.

XI. Interim project Director Report

Mr. Joiner shared a report of program activities for the month of December. He reported that several staff and family members attended the December national Federation of Families conference in Washington DC. The program also held a Pot Luck Holiday Celebration for served families. Mr. Joiner thanked Ms. Cord, Ms. Sewell and Ms. Bourne for their support during the event. Mr. Joiner also recognized donors that helped collect toys for SOH families.

A new organizational chart for SOH was included in each packet. The chart is updated to reflect staff assignments to the new grants and Mental Health Court.

XII. Announcements

Ms. Cord announced that NAMI will conduct Visions for Tomorrow classes and has fliers for those interested.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.