

HARRIS COUNTY SYSTEMS OF HOPE
 Governing Board Meeting
 Wednesday, May 20, 2009
 2525 Murworth
 Houston, TX 77054

Attendees:

Board Members and Alternates Present:		
Taren Bates	Renatta Kost	Steve Schnee, PhD
Julie Bourne	Linda Lamb	Barbara Sewell
Bonnie Cord	Sherea McKenzie	Stephen Williams
Angel Escamilla	Alma Montejano	
George Ford	Curtis Mooney, PhD	
Robin Harrison	Beverly Pettway	
Harvey Hetzel	Diana Quintana	
Rebecca Johansson	Raquel Runge, PhD	

Systems of Hope Staff Present:	
Janis Bane	Randy Joiner
Larry D. Brown Jr.	Lauren Moore
Nichole Christoph	John Puder
Tammy Foster	Pam Schaffer
Magno Guillen	Charlotte Wilkins

Other Attendees:		
Karen Bates	Judy Harris	Clemelia Richardson
Brian Baxendale	Kendra Jackson	
Dr. Nora Benny	Joel Levine	
Rebecca DeCamara	Leslie Raneri	

I. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Williams called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm. Members of the Board and guests introduced themselves around the room.

II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Williams asked the group to review the minutes of the March 2009 meeting and note corrections. Ms. Cord asked that more detail be added to the fiscal report regarding a possible extension of the grant term. A motion was made and passed to accept the minutes with noted corrections.

III. Report on Sunnyside Project

Ms. Harris presented the group with information on collaboration between the City of Houston and Harris County called “Kid Village”. The goal of the initiative is to improve the health and well being of children and families residing in the Sunnyside area. Kid Village will provide services using a four tier approach to address families’ needs using

the wraparound approach. Detailed information regarding the services being offered and measures being used to gauge outcomes was distributed.

IV. Project Director Report

Ms. Bane gave a report on preliminary feedback from the Nation Evaluation site visit. The evaluators were positive and very impressed with Care Teams being assigned to geographical areas. They were impressed with family involvement in CQI and evaluation as well as the strength of our youth involvement. Points of concern included training partner agencies on SOC principles and staff turn over.

Ms. Bane attended several meetings in Austin during the month of April. The first was the TIFI Consortium meeting on the upcoming 1915c Medicaid waiver. The second meeting was sponsored by Systems of Hope where Dr. Janice Cooper challenged the attendees to map funding streams across agencies to look at funding spent on SED youth in an effort to find more effective methods to deliver services. Ms. Bane also testified in Austin on the information sharing bill, SB861.

Ms. Bane announced that Randy Joiner joined the SOH team in April. It was also announced that Jackie Mendoza has accepted a position with an outside company offering hours that better suited her needs. Although Ms. Mendoza's departure was not influenced by Mr. Joiner joining the team, Ms. Bane reported that Ms. Mendoza's position will not be filled at this time. Mr. Joiner will assume her duties.

Ms. Bane shared a strategic plan for program sustainability. The report follows the logic model suggested by SAMSHA and details several possible funding options. It was reported that the program will have a 2 to 1 match starting October 1, 2009. This equates to \$3,000,000.00. The program has been instructed to request the full amount from SAMSHA with a plan for the match. If needed, the match can be adjusted during the grant year. A few of the possible funding sources being explored are: stimulus monies available through schools, Asset forfeiture funds, Hogg Foundation Grant, DFPS/DHS Sunnyside project, TRIAD funding and Texas Youth Commission funding for community based diversion services.

V. Financial Report

Ms. Pettway reported that the program expects a \$980,000 estimated shortage in match for the next fiscal year unless funding is found for the match. Ms. Pettway assured the group that the financial department is working with everyone to ensure there is not an interruption of services. Along with the options Ms. Bane discussed, the program will seek out a no cost extension after year six.

Mr. Baxendale presented a financial report for the period October 1, 2008-April 30, 2009. The program is currently \$30,128 over budget. Mr. Baxendale reported that a \$600,000 carry over has not yet been approved. Once it is the overage will not be an issue. Ms. McKenzie asked if any stimulus funds received could count towards the required match. Ms. Pettway stated that it would depend on the wording and clarification will be necessary. Ms. Bane noted that several sites through out the country are having the same issues especially because of the economy.

Ms. Sewell expressed her concern regarding Independent Flex Funds. Mr. Baxendale provided a report on funds received and expended. The current balance for Independent Flex funds is \$155. Ms. Sewell further expressed concern that families may have needs that are not being met due to the lack of these funds. Mr. Joiner will compile information regarding this issue and work with Ms. Sewell and will report back to Mr. Williams before the next meeting.

Mr. Ford acknowledged DePelchin for their contribution to Independent Flex funds.

VI. CLC/Training Report

Mr. Brown reported that he has been working with an intern to complete the CLC assessment. Three tasks have been completed and another three are on track to be completed. Mr. Brown reported that contracts are now in place to provide multi-language translation. It was also reported that Mr. Brown is working with Ms. Schaffer and Ms. Thomas to provide wraparound training to partner agencies. The first training will take place with the Cups 7 unit of Juvenile Probation in June on Systems of Care and wraparound.

VII. Program Services Report

Ms. Shaffer provided a statistical report for the month of April. The program is working with 112 youth and 97 families. Currently there are seven cases pending team assignment. While the cases are pending the program is ensuring that they are being linked with services and contact is being maintained.

Mr. Joiner announced that he is glad to be back in a new capacity. He and the care team supervisors are working on closing cases that are ready to transition. To date 11 cases have been transitioned freeing up space for new families.

Dr. Richardson asked what the time frame between orientation and case assignment. It was explained that the time varies depending on the families' schedule. Mr. Joiner reported that he is working to streamline the process.

VIII. CQI Work Team Report

Ms. Johansson gave an update on the work team's progress. Based on work done with Technical Assistance (TA) team one item from the charter has been removed. Currently the team is looking at trends from CRCG referrals and reports are forthcoming. Ms. Johansson reported that the plan is still in a pilot phase and reviewing results compiled so far. The team has been advised by the TA to not use the National data in their reports. To that end a satisfaction survey using themes from Systems of Care values is being created. While some questions may be duplicative, this survey is not limited to families in the National study.

A CQI progress report was handed out which indicates a positive performance score for the program.

IX. Evaluation Report

Dr. Runge submitted an Evaluation Team Productivity Report as of May 13, 2009. The report shows 68 families enrolled in the National Evaluation Outcome study. Dr. Runge introduced the newest member of the evaluation team, Ms. Kendra Jackson. Ms. Raneri and Ms. Bourne gave a presentation on Family Functioning and Relationships. Copies of the slides were handed out in the board packets.

X. Youth & Family Report

Ms. Foster presented a report on activities for the month of April and May. Ms. Foster attended several community events and handed out information on Systems of Hope and children's mental health. It was reported that the program is in the process of finalizing two family mentor contracts with Ms. Harrison and Ms. Montejano. Ms. Foster was happy to announce that Family Enrichment Time is now taking place in geographical areas. PEG members are stepping up to support the care teams and families in this effort.

Mr. Escamilla and Ms. Bates reported that the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) has been busy working with Dr. Benny on their strategic plan and sustainability of their group. Several members of the YAC attended the Children's Mental Health Awareness day event at the Juvenile Justice Center on May 7th. Prior to the event the group participated in a Nation wide stigma busting exercise. Signs with anti-stigma messages were displayed and bubbles representing mental health stigmas were blown and busted.

Dr. Benny reported that she has been working with the YAC developing leadership skills.

XI. Social Marketing Report

Mr. Puder reported that the Children's Mental Health Awareness day event was very well attended and generated several media opportunities for the program. Art work from "Youth Expressions" was displayed and winners were announced on May 2nd.

XII. Wording For By-laws Regarding NAMI

A discussion regarding the correcting word for NAMI in the by-laws was had. Ms. Cord reported that three groups will be meeting in June with a professional facilitator in attempt to come to a consensus. Dr. Mooney made a motion to table the discussion until the meeting has taken place. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion. The motion passed with eight in favor and two against.

XIII. Meeting Schedule for Executive Committee

The group discussed the need in having a standing Executive Committee meeting. Dr. Mooney made a suggestion that the committee only meet if an issue is pressing. Everyone agreed with the suggestion. Ms. Bane will direct requests for a meeting to Mr. Williams.

The group also discussed a standing meeting date and time for the Financial/Sustainability work team. Ms. Bane will poll the group for a date and time.

XIV. Announcements

A copy of Houston Style magazine was available highlighting National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day. Copies of the article will be in the next board packet.

Ms. Bates announced that she is graduating in June.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.