

**Community Service Network 1 Meeting  
Aroostook Community Action Program, Presque Isle, ME  
February 28, 2008**

**Approved Minutes**

**Members Present:**

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annette Adams, Acadia Hospital (via ITV)</li> <li>• Greg Disy, AMHC</li> <li>• Christopher Morse, Care &amp; Comfort</li> <li>• Mary Louise McEwen, DDPC (via ITV)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Care, David McClusky (via ITV)</li> <li>• Trish Murray, Houlton Regional Hospital</li> <li>• Deborah Gray, Life By Design</li> <li>• Blair McCartney, Life by Design</li> <li>• Danielle Perry, New Day Counseling Services</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Craig Fournier, Northern Maine General</li> <li>• Kristie Bouchard, Northern Maine General</li> <li>• Patricia Michaud, Northern Maine Medical Center</li> <li>• Ralph McPherson, TAMC</li> </ul> |
|--|---|--|

**Members Absent:**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allies, Inc.</li> <li>• ACES</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cary Medical Center</li> <li>• Harvest Inn Social Club</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NAMI-ME Families</li> <li>• Transition Planning Group</li> </ul> |
|--|--|---|

**Alternates/Others present:**

- Christine Y. Brown, AMHC

**Staff Present:**

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Don Chamberlain, OAMHS (via ITV)</li> <li>• Scott Kilcollins, OAMHS</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Darren Morgan, OAMHS</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scott Bernier, USM Muskie School</li> </ul> |
|---|--|--|

Agenda Item	Discussion
I. Welcome and Introductions	Darren Morgan initiated introductions.
II. Review and Approval of Minutes	Minutes were reviewed and approved with no changes.
III. Budget/Legislative Update	<p>Don reported on the budget situation. Since last month, the state budget has gotten worse. Originally, there was a projected \$90 million shortfall in the budget. Now, it's an additional \$90 million (\$180 million total) due to the CMS Rule change (\$40 million) and the poor economic climate (\$50 million). As of today, there has been no conclusion from the Governor. DHHS wants more information (the rest of the picture) before it acts on its share of the shortfall.</p> <p>DHHS had a meeting earlier in the week and came up with three items to save money:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eliminate Intensive Community Integration (ICI) service due to the CMS Rule Change re: case management.</li> <li>• Don explained that OAMHS proposed consolidating crisis services to one provider per district, which would provide both adult and children's crisis services. This would have been done through an RFP (Request for Proposal) process and would save approximately \$1.1M. Provider organizations recommend having current crisis and crisis stabilization unit providers work together to find the \$1.1M in savings, formalizing their agreements through MOUs (Memorandums of Understanding). Since only one agency in Aroostook County (AMHC) provides crisis services to both adults and children, no change is anticipated in this CSN.</li> <li>• Change outpatient services by opening it up to private practitioners and setting a standard rate. There is a concern that the projected savings may not occur.</li> </ul>

Agenda Item	Discussion
IV. Impact of APS Healthcare Billing Process	<p>Deb Gray had asked for this agenda item early to discuss the impact of the new billing system. She suggested this be tabled for a few months more until everyone has used the new system for that time period. APS has been good at answering questions so far.</p> <p>Greg raised a concern that APS has redundancy with the RDS enrollment process. He felt this was a significant issue of time that could be better spent with clients. Don answered that DHHS is moving to have APS do it all, and at present is waiting for the court master to sign-off on the contract. The Court Master is waiting until after the hearing with Justice Mills, which has been postponed twice and not yet rescheduled.</p>
V. Attendance at Harvest Inn Social Club	<p>Don summarized—what we heard from a member of the club last fall was a concern on the limit of who could attend. That member wanted to reach out to a broader group of people. SSI recipients and/or food stamp recipients as examples. The Department's perspective is that you don't need to be mentally ill to join—i.e. low barrier. The Office of Consumer Affairs has worked with a social club in Kittery that has opened up to other people (non-mentally ill) to normalize activities. AMHC agrees with this approach. Greg followed up with the manager of the social club. She felt it was not something that needs to be pursued here.</p> <p>Those present agreed to remove this from future agendas.</p>
VI. Consumer Council Update	<p>Tabled until the March meeting as Vicky McCarty was unable to attend this month.</p>
VII. Other	<p><u>Section 13 Targeted Case Management Rule Changes</u>  Q. Are there any updates on case management CMS rule change implementation?  A. It is in discussion. CMS has agreed to some delay. State needs to submit a work plan. The rule change has been postponed until July, except child protection portion, which will be implanted on March 3rd. There is a meeting next week to work on this. We're trying to postpone it as long as we can. On the Rehab Option rule, it is on a bit of a hold—it is of less immediate need to respond to then case management.</p> <p><u>Community Integration Services Consolidation Proposal</u>  Q. Is the plan to carve case management out of services and put it out to RFP?  A. That's still the plan if it survives the legislative process.</p> <p>Greg brought up that he had received a copy of a letter from Helen Bailey in response to a meeting with Dick Brown regarding the Consent Decree Plaintiffs' reported support of this consolidation plan. Don clarified that this was part of the work of a CSN 2 subcommittee formed to work in opposition to the plan. He explained that Dick Brown of Charlotte White Center is a co-chair of the CSN 2 subcommittee, and that Helen Bailey is the attorney for the Consent Decree Plaintiffs.</p> <p>Greg read the last paragraph in Helen's letter to the members present, which states that while they support independent community integration workers in principle, saying that the plaintiffs are in favor of the proposed plan is an overstatement. They have too many concerns about the plan that have yet to be addressed.</p> <p><u>TAMC Referral Issue</u>  Ralph explained that when they are referring patients to a psychiatric hospital, sometimes the person making the reference isn't a doctor. The psychiatrist at the other end questions the medical background of the patient. We then have to go back to the hospital to get this information. It is a very tedious process. We are not licensed to give medical consultations. Would it be possible for us to do direct doctor-to-doctor consultations to speed up the process?</p>

Agenda Item	Discussion
	<p>The group discussed the logistical difficulties in getting doctors at both ends to consult and the disagreements that sometimes result in these consultations.</p> <p>Don asked if using nurse-to-nurse consultations could speed up the process? Ralph answered that nurse-to-nurse is already in place, but the patient is still caught in the middle. If there was a way to do more doctor-to-doctor, it could save time and money.</p> <p>Don suggested that this question be taken up at the spring CLASS hospital meeting.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Don will invite Ralph to the spring CLASS meeting.</p> <p>Q. Can you talk more about the CLASS group getting back together? A. There are several issues/questions that need to be brought to the CLASS group including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACT team issues—we don't know what is driving the problem</li> <li>• Gatekeeper update</li> <li>• Want to meet with crisis providers on other issues</li> </ul> <p>Don expects the meeting to be held in April after the budget issues have been resolved.</p> <p><u>Darren Morgan's Resignation</u> It was announced that Darren is leaving DHHS as of next week. Susan Lauritano will be Acting Mental Health Team Leader for Region III until a permanent replacement is hired. She has been supervising the ICM program and also works part-time as a consulting clinician with Acadia.</p> <p>The group acknowledged Darren's excellent work and will miss him.</p>
VIII. Public Comment	There was no public comment.
IX. March Agenda Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consumer Council Update—Vickie McCarty</li> <li>• Changes to CI Services</li> </ul>