

CENTRAL FLORIDA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NETWORK
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
June 25, 2021 Meeting

Members: Clara Reynolds, Chair
Brena Slater, Vice-Chair
Dr. Ayesha Johnson, Secretary
Dr. Jerome Jordan
Craig Latimer, Treasurer
Deputy Stephanie Krager
Guy Blanchette
J. Scott Eller
Josh Dillinger
Nancy Hamilton
Nathan L. Scott
Pastor Douglas Walker
Ray Fischer
Ray Gadd, Past Chair
Robert C. Rihn
Tracey Kaly
Thomas Stormanns
Victoria Scanlon

Members Absent: Kathleen Peters
Terri Cassidy

**Board of Directors'
Attorney:** John Bakas

CFBHN Staff: Linda McKinnon, President and CEO
Alan Davidson
Carrie Hartes
Julie Patel
Larry Allen
Laura Gross
Mary Wynhoff
Stephanie Johns

CFBHN Guests: April Lott, Directions, RC C6
Jennifer Branham, Carisk Partners (Community member)
Joe Rutherford, Gracepoint
Patricia Overway, DCF
Robin Ragan, DCF

1. TOPIC: Call to Order/Introductions/Announcements

- The meeting was called to order at 10:00a.m.
- FAME 2021 Legislative Report
Senate Bill 96, though relating mainly to the child welfare system, also includes changes in the managing entity board ethics requirements. A Governance committee will be created specifically to work on the changes that will need to be implemented.

A Commission on Mental Health and Substance Abuse has been established consisting of appointees by Governor DeSantis, Senate President Wilton Simpson, and House Speaker Chris Sprowls.

Clara Reynolds and Ray Gadd have both applied to serve on the Commission and there is still time for others to apply. If interested, reach out to Linda and she'll get you the application as well as a sample letter.

2. TOPIC: Consent Items (Routine Business/Committee Recommendations)

Discussion

& Decisions:

The Board approved:

- April 23, 2021 BOD Minutes
 - February 2021 – March 2021 Financials
 - FY21-22 Budget – included in the Board Packet.
 - The schedule of funds has not been received yet.
 - Non-recurring funding received for FY20-21 was removed for the new fiscal year with the exception of the CARES Act funding that ends in December this year but can be carried over.
 - Network Service Providers (NSP) should start receiving their FY21-22 contracts with their base recurring funding. Once the schedule of funds is received, CFBHN will be adjusting NSP subcontracts.
 - SOR funding will be returning & contracts will be amended when funds are received.
 - A brief overview of the FY21-22 budget summary was provided.
 - The new budget summary was approved by the Finance Committee. A second was made to approve the FY21-22 budget and it carried.
 - Julie, her finance team, and the finance committee were all thanked for their efforts and hard work in completing the new budget summary.
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3. TOPIC: Action Items (Items Requiring Presentation, Public Comment & Discussion Prior to Action)

Discussion

& Decisions:

None

4. TOPIC: Information Items:

Discussion

& Decisions:

CEO Report

Board elections will be coming up this fall and members will be receiving a communication from Laura to inquire if they wish to remain on the board.

Elections for some of the Regional Council chairs will be coming up this summer. In some cases, this has already occurred.

SB96 requires that any subcontract or vendor contract with a board member must be reviewed & approved by the full board by 12/31/21 to ensure there is no conflict of interest. It was asked whether an MOU relationship is included in this law. It's not thought that it is but an MOU is considered a contract.

By recommendation of the Executive committee, a Governance Committee will be created with members that are not contracted with the network due to the ethics nature. If any board members who are not NSP are interested in serving on this committee just for this special project, please reach out to either Linda or Laura to let them know. If necessary, the network will reach out to some board members to request their help with this temporary committee membership.

HB945 that was signed into legislation 7/1/2020 has been rolled out to 10 counties with 4 more to go. Each county will have 3 meetings. An MOU or other signed document needs to be completed with each county soon and the goal is to have this done by the next (2nd) meeting in August and/or September.

The salary survey was received and will be sent out to NSP as requested by the board. Everyone is reminded that the salaries are specific to duties within each specific job description and may not be an exact fit for each agency's job descriptions.

Based on the survey results, it would take approximately \$400K to bring network staff up to the minimum threshold of where they should be to be competitively paid. These funds are not immediately available so a 3-part plan has been created to address this.

- Tier 1 – to implement a salary adjustment for a few vital positions, particularly contracts staff, to bring them up immediately to the minimum of where their salary should be.

- Tier 2 – to implement a salary adjustment for the next set of position needing to be brought up to within 10% of the minimum threshold.
- Tier 3 – for positions less out of line, including management positions, the network will be working to address these salary adjustments as the funding is currently not available.

The funds to implement tiers 1 and 2, approximately \$112K, are available. Also, due to a couple IT contracts ending, there should be some funds available to provide a one-time merit later in the year.

There are concerns about how NSP already struggling with funding will be able to not only adjust their position salaries if needed and also start implementing the minimum wage salary increase. This was referred to the finance committee who intends to create a sub-committee to address these issues. Without additional funding, there will be a great need for legislative advocacy.

FASAMS – DCF sent a memo out to all NSP and IT Committee relating to invoicing data. The Network intends to pay invoices based on data beginning 7/01/21 though the data isn't due until 8/10/21. Due to issues with version 14 of FASAMS, NSP continue to test the system and the network staff are working with the state. The network will work with NSP to get invoices for data paid in full.

A new EHR called SAFE will be rolling out effective 8/01/2021. The network's clinical staff will be training provider program staff on registering waitlist clients.

5. TOPIC: Committee Reports

Executive Committee:

Ethics SB96 was discussed as well as the salary survey.

Governance Committee:

Currently being scheduled

Finance Committee:

Minimum Wage Survey Results– NSP who responded were thanked. Some of the questions asked were confirmed by COVID being a big factor in lapsed dollars due to less staff providing services.

The lapsed dollars tie into the vacancy rates as retaining staff has been a challenge for NSP and also for the network over the past couple months.

Final Cost Increase chart was presented –\$15/hr. minimum wage increase – due to some difficulty in condensing some of the narrative, the results will be shared if requested.

Julie will reach to some NSP to get a representative from each circuit for the finance subcommittee mentioned earlier. Joint meetings with the legislative committee may be needed as well.

Bob Rihn mentioned external factors such as food services, insurance, replacement maintenance costs, etc. will have an additional financial impact on certain NSP within the network.

It was asked if there has been any consideration for immediate plans to look at rate evaluation for numbers served in order to ensure there is sufficient staff to provide services to those who need it most.

The network met with the Department earlier this year after obtaining feedback from NSP relating to numbers served and some were reduced. The network will again reach out to NSP early in the new fiscal year for their feedback on numbers served and then present to the dept. again for additional amendments, if possible.

In terms of rates across the network, a 3% rate increase was provided at the beginning of last fiscal year and then due to COVID, some rates were increased, max up to 17%, and adjusted where possible. Rates are being left where they are at the moment but may go back to the 3% to see where things stand. This particular piece hasn't been done yet but Julie will be working on it when she can. The CPI (consumer price index) needs to be looked at as it allows for an automatic price increase if there is an increase for this year.

Clara encouraged board members to join the finance subcommittee to help brainstorm and tackle these financial issues. Bob and Scott would both like to join.

2021-2021 ME Desk Review 2nd Quarter Financial Monitoring was reviewed.

A sampling was reviewed that included a few agencies that have provided different schedules/documentation for monitoring than what was provided for their audits. This could result in additional paybacks. Emails have been sent to CFO's requesting that the same schedules provided to CFBHN at the end of September for reconciliation, be included in their audits.

Diversity Committee:

No report.

Quality Improvement:

Presented in Department Directors Report –an equity report will be presented at the August meeting.

IS Strategic Committee:

Presented in Department Directors Report

Legislative Committee:

Carol Eloian, Director of Consumer & Family Affairs, is working on report relating to Peer Specialists and that should be ready to present at the August meeting.

6. TOPIC: Regional Council Reports

Circuit 6 Pasco:

Overdose spikes continue in spite of all the collaborations with the Sheriff's office, NSP, and schools. 19 overdoses, 4 being fatal, were reported last weekend.

Baycare applied for a Criminal Justice Reinvestment Grant and Implementation, but were not awarded the grant.

FACT funding is shifting, Medicaid recipients will be billed through ACHA. This will begin 7/1/2021. Statewide meetings are occurring to provide guidance and review the funding implications. The next regional council meeting is 7/22/2021.

Circuit 6 Pinellas:

Work continues on the Wellness Connection & gathering data to unify all aspects. Officers have been chosen. Maxine Booker is President; Barbara Daire is VP, April Lott is the Secretary & Treasurer.

Linda suggested a brief piece be put together relating to the data being collected & present that to the board at an upcoming meeting. They've already done a presentation for the BOCC (Board of County Commissioners) & much of the data is presented on a monthly basis at their Behavioral Health SOC (System of Care) meetings. April will get with Laura to arrange for this.

Circuit 10:

Winter Haven housing initiative to have a 73-unit to be built on a 5 acre property with Heart of Polk County as partner. Tri-County will have social services wrap around for building and the community.

Tampa Bay Thrives shared their insights & TCHS to become part of their future mobilization efforts. Further discussion on the Mom/Baby program, currently on hold. The property, just south of Mulberry is up for auction and Tri-County is seeking partnership.

Peace River Center (PRC) is opening a drop-in center in Haines City due to the county offering a building. Tri-County also awarded a building in Lakeland that will be used for a residential program. Both buildings are about 7,000sq feet each and hurricane safe.

Tri-County: Developing a 5-acre Auburndale property to be a duplex-type structures with 20 units of supportive housing. Construction will still need to be done but waiting for costs to come down.

Circuit 12:

Academy of Glengarry is in the process of purchasing a 7,500sq foot building to open a Clubhouse in Manatee County.

CASL responded to the network's RFP (request for proposal) to negotiate for drop-in centers in Desoto and Sarasota counties. CASL will be partnering with Charlotte & NAMI.

Circuit 13:

Met on 6/22 – covered a variety of issues, particularly navigation of services. Safe & Sound Hillsborough to take on family navigation. United Way is focusing on navigation & care coordination.

Child Welfare – new teen provider Thompson Family Center in Hillsborough County will be focusing on getting 50 teens stabilized.

Law enforcement & behavioral health collaborations– Deputy Krager is a Crisis Center board member. Tampa Police Dept. is adding a behavioral health unit within the city of Tampa who has partnered with 4 NSP.

Tampa Bay Thrives has contracted with Vibrant Emotional Health out of New York in a navigation project starting 7/19. They're launching an 800 number that will be used in Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, & Polk counties with the goal of helping individuals navigate behavioral health services.

HB945 meetings to be occurring within their Acute Care environment. Lots of activity with the Hillsborough public schools; they're implementing their MRT. The next meeting will be in August

Circuit 20:

Met in June and also had an acute care meeting facilitated by the network & relating to staffing challenges, especially in Lee county. Downsizing nursing staff at SalusCare caused a crisis. Their census has returned to normal but there's still an acute care demand.

Behavioral health & law enforcement collaborations are in place and they're hoping to expand. DLC talked about their model and they'll be starting a partnership with law enforcements and EMS. The next regional council meeting will be in August.

Clara mentioned that 911 is still a 'catch all' for everything and it's hoped to be able to have calls related to behavioral health routed more appropriately. About 50% of 911 calls are behavioral health related with many of the callers just needing someone to listen to them. There are other hotlines that should be utilized for these calls and 911 is abiding by their policy which requires that someone be dispatched to the location. Need to focus on high utilizers.

7. TOPIC: **Open Agenda**

Thomas mentioned a new provider that he founded called True Health Center for Emotional Wellness for adolescent services. They just opened their first office in West Chase and another location will be opened in south Tampa by the end of the year.

Scott Eller shared that they're closing on the land on 7/14 for & construction will begin building immediately. This development will take a few phases. The first will be 84 units & the next about 90 units & they'll be focusing on families.

Pastor Walker will be working on an initiative with the Clearwater PD, DJJ, and Safe & Sound to work with adolescents getting ready to enter the adult system using the wraparound model.

Clara commended Joe Rutherford on a very nice eulogy for Guy King, MHC board chair for 15+ years, who tragically suffered a heart attack the same day that Joe had been in a Zoom meeting with him. He was a major asset to the provider, the community, and Tampa as a whole and will be missed tremendously.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 27, 2021.

8. TOPIC: **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:18a.m.

Approval

The minutes of this meeting were approved at the Board of Directors' meeting. A signed copy of the minutes may be requested in writing to: Dr. Ayesha Johnson, Secretary - CFBHN Board of Directors via email to lgross@cfbhn.org, via fax to 813-740-4821 or via written request.

Dr. Ayesha Johnson, Secretary
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Respectfully submitted by _____ - Dr. Ayesha Johnson, Secretary