



The Mental Health / Developmental Services Collaborative

Carlos Flores, Chair

May 26, 2010 Minutes

In Attendance:

Keith Penman (phone)	Lisa Rosene (phone)	Jeanie Thurston	Lon Russell
Jo Ellen Fletcher	David Riestler	Beth Meyerson	Stephen Mouton
Peggie Webb	Carlos Flores	Eliana Lois (phone)	Kathy Lee
Olivia Balcao	Renee Carnes	Irma Castaneda (phone)	Ann Christen
Rick Ingraham	Tricia Howell	Camille Giometti-May	Claire Sallee
Dori Riggs	Amy Urbanowicz	Kathleen Kasmire (phone)	

- I. Introductions: Meeting called to order by Chairman Carlos Flores. Carlos announced that the Collaborative had received notification that Mr. Michael Kennedy from Sonoma County Mental health has agreed to be the new Co-Chair. He will begin attending at the next meeting.
- II. Approval of Minutes/Agenda: Minutes of the February 3, 2010 meeting were approved by consensus.
- III. Report from Consultants David and Beth gave a report on the 3rd and 4th Summits which were held in the East Bay and the Central Valley. Attendance was over 100 at each. The next Summit will be in Ontario on July 29th or perhaps in August. The final Summit in the Los Angeles area will be in September. David asked that a planning committee composed of all the members of the Collaborative who are based in Los Angeles be established as he and Beth are somewhat at a loss of how to tackle the Los Angeles area given its size. Joey reminded the consultants that the grant requires a web page for all of the materials presented at the Summits. This information will be discussed by ARCA staff and addressed.
- IV. Budget/Legislative/Policy Update: There was no update since both Bob Baldo and Patricia Ryan were attending critical budget hearings and could not attend.
- V. Old Business:
 - A. Update on San Diego's Solutions Building Collaborative. Peggie Webb spoke about different trainings in San Diego. She also provided training at the new Priorities program in Yuba City. She hopes to have the Dual Diagnosis courses on line by early 2011. The representatives from SELPAs thought this training would be very useful for school personnel and it was suggested that they work with Peggie to set something up. Peggie also reported that they are trying to figure out how to continue funding the Support, Assessment, and Treatment program for the "difficult to serve."
 - B. Resource Development
 1. Willow Glen Priorities Project. The program is open but not at capacity. Lisa Rosene mentioned that there were some problems with their first referrals. In response, more training was provided to the staff on how to

work with this population. Alta Regional is willing to provide local expertise and consultation. Lisa said she would work with her staff to encourage them to try again with new referrals.

2. **Telecare Projects.** Ann Christen spoke about the 15-bed Mental Health Rehabilitation Center (MHRC) in Sanger near Fresno for clients of Central Valley, Kern, and Tri-Counties Regional Centers. It should be open in November 2010. Telecare is planning to break ground in June on an MHRC on the property of Fairmont Hospital in Alameda County. Construction is expected to last 18 months.
3. **California Psychiatric Transitions.** David Riester reported that the new 45-bed forensic and competency restoration facility in Delhi will serve regional center clients with serious mental illness and with some involvement in the criminal justice system.

C. JoEllen Fletcher asked for feedback on the use of short-term crisis managements facilities. 23-hour Crisis Stabilization Units were discussed.

VI. **New Business: Needs Assessment/Strategic Planning:** Carlos provided handouts to guide the discussion on strategic planning for the future of the Collaborative. He began by giving the historical background of the creation of the Collaborative, the statutory requirement for the MOUs, and the financing of staff support for the Collaborative. David and Beth spoke about their focus during their first year or two which was primarily resolving disputes between regional centers and mental health departments. They noted that the need for dispute resolution/mediation has all but ceased in the last two years.

The members agreed to the purpose of the Collaborative as follows:

- To improve communication/collaboration between agencies, and
- As a result, to improve services for persons who are dually diagnosed.

Carlos asked the group to brainstorm the successes experienced by the Collaborative over the years. An impressive list was developed:

- “Administrative Days” are, for the most part, no longer an issue.
- There are more resources, i.e. residential options.
- Less of a dependence on Developmental Centers or Psychiatric Health Facilities
- The “Difficult to Serve” dollars granted by DDS really helped identify who this population was, what they needed. Mental illness, substance abuse and forensic involvement were the primary categories of difficulty.
- Got buy-in from mental health that persons with a developmental disability can and do have co-occurring serious mental illness.
- Helped regional center system understand that MH priorities do not always include RC clients – it is a very small sub-population.
- Nonetheless, there are 57 MOUs signed (all but one) and many local collaborative efforts.
- Saw the success of the early collaborative programs
- Invited new partners to the table – i.e. schools (SELPA’s) and CA Hospital Association, provider/vendors.
- Money became available for cross-training.
- A bridge was created between the two systems’ cultures – hiring two consultants – one from each discipline – was a good decision.
- Braided funding has led to improved services.

The discussion then focused on where the Collaborative should go from here. Following are some of the ideas:

- Development of Treatment Models which reflect evidence based practices and which are replicable.
- We are on the cutting edge of this field.
- More braided funding
- Support training of all stakeholders to equip them with skills needed to overcome fear of working with this population.
- More outreach
- Create a resource database available to all agencies with the ability to sort – primarily residential options.
- More information needed on how to serve persons with autism/mental illness.
- Acknowledge the overlap with issues discussed by the Forensic Committee.
- Help establish structures for regional partnerships
- Need secure settings for both forensic and non-forensic populations and for all age groups – youth, TAY, and adults. Do the 6500 definitions need to be expanded beyond mental retardation?
- Don't lose the momentum on developing partnerships – need to maintain successful models.
- Continue Summits.

The focus of the next meeting will be to further develop the strategic plan. There will also be a 15 minute discussion regarding the development of secure facilities by Telecare. Ann will invite Ross Peterson to attend.

VII. Schedule Next Meeting Time & Place –

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 19, 2010, 10-2, at the following location:

Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza
300 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 446-0100

VII. Meeting Adjourned