



The Mental Health / Developmental Services Collaborative

**Keith Penman
Alternate Chairs**

October 21, 2009 Minutes

In Attendance:

Bob Baldo	Keith Penman	Lisa Rosene	Jeanie Thurston
Jo Ellen Fletcher	David Riester	Beth Robey	Stephen Mouton
Tom Keenen	Irma Castaneda	Andrew Russell	Peggie Webb
Kathy Lee	Ken Carabello	Olivia Balcao	Renee Carnes
Ann Christen	Andrew Cavagnaro	Nicole Weiss	

I. Introductions

Meeting called to order by Alternate Chair Keith Penman. It was announced that Carlos Flores had a last minute family emergency and Leslie Tremaine a work-related emergency and were unable to attend. Lon Russell also sent his apologies for missing the meeting. Introductions were made. Beth acknowledged that some individuals may not have received the meeting announcement due to the loss of her data on her computer.

II. Approval of Minutes/Agenda

Minutes of the June 3, 2009 meeting were approved by consensus.

III. Report from Consultants

David and Beth gave a report on activities since the last meeting with most of the discussion focusing on the first Children's Summit which was held on August 6, 2009 in Sacramento. The Summit was for all of the counties in the Alta and Valley Mountain service areas. Over 100 people registered and nearly every county was represented with the worst representation ironically being from Sacramento. The Mountain counties were very well represented. Included in the packet was a synopsis of the comments on the post-Summit evaluation form. Overall the comments were very positive. The next Summit will be for the counties in the Far Northern and Redwood Coast Regional Centers service areas on October 28, 2009 in Redding. There were approximately 70 registered for that event. Given the success of the first Summit, the same format will be used: A panel of representatives from a regional center, mental health department, social services department, SELPA, probation department, and First Five to make a brief 5-10 minute presentation on their mandates, limitations, and current challenges. Next, we present models of working programs to inspire the crowd. Given the small size of

most of the counties, at the Redding Summit we will feature the Colusa Children's Multi-disciplinary team and a new program we learned about at the first Summit – the Friendship Pre-school from Tuolumne County. In the afternoon, the participants divide into smaller groups to discuss what is currently working well in their respective counties, what are their challenges and barriers, and what steps come next. Included in the packet for the members of the Collaborative was a summary of how the first Summit attendees answered these questions. There was discussion about the third Summit which will be in the Bay Area in February and would include the service areas of North Bay, Golden Gate, East Bay and San Andreas Regional Centers. Lisa Rosene said that the Bay Area Chief Counselors would be meeting later in the week and could identify some possible dates. David reported that the next Summit would be in the Central Valley, Kern, and Tri-Counties Regional Center areas, followed by Inland, Orange and San Diego, and finishing with the 7 regional centers in Los Angeles County. The plan is to have all of them completed by June 30, 2010. Jo Ellen Fletcher made a suggestion that we conduct a follow-up survey in 6-12 months to see if things have improved as a result of the Summits and to ask the attendees what type of Summit/training they would like for future years. All agreed this was a great idea. Beth and David noted what a wonderful job ARCA staff member Anh Nguyen had done in making all the arrangements for the Summit and setting up the electronic registration process.

David then reported about a meeting of the Chief Counselors which he attended. There was discussion about the DDMI wing which has a high cost but a no rejection policy. An evaluation of the facility had been completed and the counselors wanted to know if the facility had made any changes as a result of the findings. David was pleased to report that numerous changes were made. There are now more behavioral services, a community garden, some physical improvements, and dialectical behavioral therapy training for all staff. The adolescent unit is now 75% full and the average length of stay is 2-3 months. They are also considering establishing a forensic program for competency training. Lisa Rosene shared a problem they had with a client placed at DDMI whose sugar levels were not well controlled. Kathy Lee asked about information sharing between the local and DDMI doctors and Steve Mouton talked about their state-of-the-art video conferencing capabilities.

IV. Budget/Legislative/Policy Update

- A. **Developmental Services** – Bob Baldo reported that the financial situation is looking even worse for next year and that there will likely be more mid-year cuts. In the meantime, there are 700-1000 fair hearings underway for individuals who received Notices of Action (NOAs) about declining services. The State is overwhelmed with the number of these cases. Individuals continue to receive benefits until a case is heard and settled. Therefore there is not likely to be the big savings anticipated by the State. As a result of the elimination of some children from Early Start, a Prevention Program has been developed to track these children to see if autism manifests. In addition, in response to the elimination of social recreation services, an Individual Choice Budget program is being developed. Finally, there was some discussion about the MediCal optional benefits which were eliminated and the likelihood of a second injunction (the first being on the IHSS cuts). Regional Centers are already getting pressured to pay for dental care services.

- B. **Mental Health** – Patricia Ryan was unable to attend. Beth mentioned that throughout the State, mental health programs are now preparing for a gearing down on MHPSA programs as revenues are expected to decline significantly over the next few years with FY 2011-12 expected to be the worst. Some counties are expanding their definitions of “full service partnerships” in order to pick up more clients. More and more of the indigent care is being shifted to the FQHCs.

V. Old Business:

- A. **Update on San Diego's Solutions Building Collaborative.** Peggie Webb talked about Phase II of their project which involved the implementation of a certificate program in dual diagnosis. The classes include: 1. Understanding Dual Diagnosis, 2. Dignity and Respect, 3. Clinical Diagnosis, 4. Support and Treatment Strategies, and 5. Cross Systems: Making a Difference. They still conduct once-a-month clinics where folks can make referrals. Of the 28 referrals in the original program, 4 were transferred to the Development Centers, most are now stable, and 9 continue to have monthly reviews.
- B. **Resource Development**
 - 1. **Willow Glenn Priorities Project.** Olivia Balcao reported that the facility is ready to go – they are just waiting for Alta’s fiscal manager to approve the rate of \$500/day. The facility will bring in behavioralists, psychologists, nurses, art/recreation therapists as needed based on the needs of the clients. It was changed to a 15 bed facility so it would not be impacted by the waiver. It is for adults 18 and over and can be a step down from a locked institution or a step up from a residential setting to avoid hospitalization.
 - 2. **Telecare Projects.** Ann Christen spoke about their new ACT program in Yolo County and the construction of a 15-bed MHRC in Sanger near Fresno. They are also constructing an MHRC on the property of Fairmont Hospital in Alameda County. Finally, they are planning to use MHPSA capital improvement dollars for the down payment on several residential properties in San Mateo County.
 - 3. **California Psychiatric Transitions.** David Riester reported that the 50-bed forensic and competency restoration facility in Delhi is built and is just waiting for its final licensure.
- C. **Update on DDS Projects:** Renee Carnes provided the following report:
PROJECTS ALREADY BEGUN:
San Andreas Regional Center
The Santa Clara County Infant Family Early Childhood Mental Health Certificate Program began September 24 and runs through June 24, 2010. San Andreas Regional Center will also convene a Year 2 certificate program.
San Diego Regional Center
Beth and David provided update on Regional Summits project
San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center
Dr. Stephen Mouton provided an update

PROJECTS BEING PLANNED:

Golden Gate Regional Center

GGRC is developing a training focusing on infant mental health (relationship-based preventive intervention practice). Dates for the training/event will be announced soon.

Westside Regional Center

WRC is collaborating with North Los Angeles County Regional Center to convene *Los Angeles Mental Health and Dual Diagnosis Education Program*.

The regional centers are developing a series of cohort-based trainings, coaching, and follow-ups. The cohort-based trainings have two rounds scheduled for April 2010 through June 2010 and October 2010 through November 2010. The cohort will be followed by a statewide area conference scheduled for May 2011.

San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center – Infant

The project focuses on best strategies for working with and supporting the children and families of young consumers at risk for trauma and abuse.

Additional training will focus on families, consumers, and providers who work with adults and adolescents who are dually diagnosed. Scheduled for October 2010

Harbor Regional Center

The event *Promoting Optimal Service Delivery to the Dually Diagnosed Individual and Cross-Systems Collaboration* is scheduled for October 2010.

The project descriptions are on posted on DDS' website under the "What's New" Section. DDS is working to get the dates of events posted on DDS' Training and Event Calendar. A more complete progress report will be provided at the next Collaborative meeting.

VI. New Business

- A. Systems Costs for Persons with a Dual Diagnosis – Andrew Cavagnaro led a discussion on how difficult it is to find literature on measuring the prevalence of dual diagnosis or quantifying the cost. He found articles from other countries but none from the United States. Peggie Webb provided Andrew with some suggestions of other places to look for data. Beth talked about how difficult it was to collect meaningful data because of the siloed state data systems. Andrew Russell commented that adding to the difficulty of meaningful data is the lack of consistency in the categorization of problematic behaviors. It is also difficult to find literature on best practices.
- B. Best Practices of Medication, Treatment, and Monitoring of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities training update – Stephen Mouton reported that their program for county psychiatrists is going very well. Three to six doctors at a time see live patients and observe the subtle differences in evaluating folks with developmental disabilities and how to do functionality testing. They have a waiting list of doctors interested in participating.
- C. Sutter Center for Psychiatry . David reported that they have an interest in developing a DDMI-type program in the North.
- D. Closure of Sierra Vista and Transition Project at Porterville DC. Jeanie Thurston reported that this facility will close at the end of February 2010. the census is currently at 29. Of these individuals, 5 are slated to go to Developmental Centers and 6 to supported living. About ten regional centers had clients at Sierra Vista.

VI. Schedule Next Meeting Time & Place –

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 3, 2010, 10-2, at the following location:

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

VII. Meeting Adjourned