



Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare
Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes
September 4, 2024

Advisory Members Present:

Jeff Leach
Cameron Soester
John Brady
Chris Kelly
John Sheehan
Michealle Vega-Hernandez
Medjine Desgraves
Amy Zimmer
Julie Nielsen

Advisory Members Absent:

None

Region 6 Staff Present

Patti Jurjevich
Taren Petersen
Crystal Fuller
Melissa Schaefer
Ramey Stillman
Jennifer Sanders
Miles Glasgow

Recorder:

Bev Jackson

1. Welcome

The regular monthly BHAC meeting was called to order at 9:00. Jeff Leach, Chair, welcomed new member Julie Nielsen.

2. Roll Call

Roll call of the members determined that there was a quorum.

3. Approval of both the June 5, 2024 and July 3, 2024 Meeting Minutes

John Sheehan made the motion to approve both the June 5, 2024 and July 3, 2024 meeting minutes.

Medjine Desgraves seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously upon voice vote.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Amy Zimmer made the motion to approve the September 4, 2024 agenda.

John S. seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously upon voice vote.

5. Update on the Settlement Funds Feasibility and Impact Analysis Meeting – Jennifer Sanders

Jennifer shared a printout, a copy of which was included in everyone's packet, which gave an overview of the meeting held on August 30, 2024.

Jennifer stated that during that meeting, stakeholders developed priorities for a grant application process to disburse opioid settlement dollars. Meeting participants reviewed and refined the categories that were developed during the Opioid Settlement Funds Summit in May.

Categories of focus for funding utilization were refined into 9 categories.

The next steps will be that Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare staff will use the priorities for the development of a grant application process. It is planned that the grant application review process will include members of the BHAC, Region 6 staff, and potentially subject matter experts in the community. As has been done in the past, the review committee recommendations will be presented to the BHAC for review, with the final decision by the Region 6 Governing Board.

John S. asked how much funding is available, Jennifer replied that Region 6 was initially allotted \$5,750,549.09. Moving forward, there will be an annual allocation of 1.3 million to Region 6. There were no further questions or comments.

6. Update on the Crisis Counseling Program–Immediate Services Program (CCP-ISP) Grant – Jennifer Sanders

Jennifer shared a printout, a copy of which was included in everyone's packet. This handout included agenda items 6 & 7, the update of the ISP portion and the funding and budget narrative for approval of the Regular Services Program (RSP).

Jennifer shared that Region 6 has hired 4 crisis counselors that have received training and are visiting communities within Douglas and Washington Counties impacted by the recent tornados to provide outreach. Outreach activities includes helping disaster survivors understand their current situation and reactions, reducing stress and providing emotional support. They also will promote the use or development of coping strategies and connect survivors with other people and agencies who can help them in their recovery process.

Michaëlle Vega-Hernandez joined the meeting at 9:13.

7. Crisis Counseling Program–Regular Services Program (CCP-RSP) Grant – Jennifer Sanders

Jennifer referred to the printout that was included in everyone's packet and was referenced in agenda item 6. On the second page was the budget and plan for the RSP part of the CCP .

a. Review of Funding and Budget Narrative

The amount of funding available is \$276,448.63, with a deadline of May 21, 2025.

Jennifer then broke down how the dollars will be utilized.

b. BHAC Recommendation to the Regional Governing Board

John Brady made the motion to recommend to the Regional Governing Board.

John S. seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was done, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chris Kelly did not vote as he had previously stepped out of the room to take a phone call.

8. Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) - Jennifer Sanders

Jennifer directed everyone to the printout that was included in everyone's packets, for reference.

a. Review of Funding and Budget Narrative

Jennifer stated that Region 6 received \$200,334.00 from Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, with a term of October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025. These funds are to be used for services to persons with a serious mental illness, including those with co-occurring substance use disorders, who are experiencing homelessness or are at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

Region 6 will, in turn, contract with Community Alliance, who will provide these services. Jennifer shared that there are 450 organizations providing PATH services across the country and that Community Alliance is 1 of 3 agencies in Nebraska.

b. BHAC Recommendation to the Regional Governing Board

Cameron Soester made the motion to recommend to the Regional Governing Board. Medjine seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was done, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chris Kelly did not vote as he had previously stepped out of the room to take a phone call.

9. System of Care (SOCII) Grant, Year 4 – Ramey Stillman and Melissa Schaefer

Melissa introduced herself and the new System of Care Project Director, Ramey Stillman.

a. Review of Funding and Budget Narrative

Melissa and Ramey presented a PowerPoint that gave an overview of the goals and key objectives and then followed up with the accomplishments that have been made in the previous 3 years of this grant. This will be the 4th and final year of the grant. Ramey then proceeded to present the activities that are planned and the proposed budget for year 4.

Amy asked on the number of baseline interviews, why are the number of discharged lower? Ramey answered that would be because they are still participating.

Cameron stated that this program has been quite substantial and has made a huge impact in his school.

b. BHAC Recommendation to the Regional Governing Board

Medjine made the motion to recommend to the Regional Governing Board.

Cameron seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was done, and the motion passed unanimously.

10. Update on the Partnership for Success (PFS) Final Workplans and Budget – Crystal Fuller

Crystal shared a handout, a copy of which was included in everyone's packet for review.

Request for Letters of Interest (RFL) for High-Risk Priority was released to seek qualified coalitions to implement the high-risk drinking objectives. Project Extra Mile and Coalition Rx were selected and approved to move forward to the PFS Planning Summit to identify strategies for implementation.

Crystal then shared the final budgets and workplans that DHHS approved for implementation through September 20, 2025.

There were no questions or comments.

11. Overview of the Suicide Among Males Grant Project – Crystal Fuller

Crystal shared a handout, a copy of which was included in everyone's packet for review.

She then stated that The University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, in collaboration with the Nebraska State Suicide Prevention Coalition, have received a four year CDC grant to implement and evaluate a comprehensive public health approach to suicide prevention to reduce suicide morbidity and mortality, with specific attention to one or more disproportionately affected populations. The target population for this grant is males in the ages between 25-64.

Crystal gave an overview of the statistics FY25 budget allocations. Grant activities include evidence-based education, mechanisms to reduce access to lethal means, support and

expansion of the local LOSS teams, targeted media campaigns, promotion of Zero Suicide initiative, mental health provider suicide intervention training, and enhancing use of telehealth in crisis response. Each Regional Behavioral Health Authority received an allocation to implement one or more of these grant activities. The funding allocated to Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare for year 1 is \$8,333.00.

There were no questions or comments.

12. Update on the Crisis Stabilization Center in Sarpy County – Miles Glasgow

Miles stated that there were meetings held starting back in 2021 in regard to interest in a voluntary crisis center. Then an RFP was issued and was awarded to Heartland Family Service (HFS). The center will be accessible to all 5 counties, and it opened on August. 1, 2024. At this point, only law enforcement and emergency services may drop off consumers, but services are available all 24 hours.

Miles shared that as of the current date, 14 consumers had been served.

John S. asked where it is located, and Miles stated that it is in the HFS office in Papillion.

Miles said that it will eventually become a walk-in center. John B. asked if law enforcement personnel drops off a consumer, how long would the officer be there for the admitting. Miles said that it is usually only 7-10 minutes.

Amy Z. asked if law enforcement has been educated on the availability and procedure and Miles replied that yes, the center has been working with them.

There were no further questions or comments.

13. Status Reports for Period Ending July 31, 2024

Reports were included in the packets for everyone’s review.

a. Contract Service Report - Taren Petersen

Taren gave an update of the July 2024 Contract Service Reports. This is the start of the fiscal year 2025., and the drawdown target is expected to be at 8.33%. Mental Health is at 5.82% and Substance Use is at 7.58%.

She then drew everyone’s attention to the additional Contract Drawdown Sheet which gives the information at a quick glance.

Taren also shared that she anticipates that Region 6 will draw down all of the SU dollars in FY25.

There were no questions or comments.

b. Emergency Service Report – Miles Glasgow

Miles gave everyone an update on the current progress in the emergency systems. A copy of the report was included in everyone’s packet for review.

Miles stated Emergency Protective Custody (EPC) is at 151.

He also shared data updates in Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES) and Mobil Crisis Response (MCR).

The Focus Page this month was on Acute Psychiatric Hospitalization. Miles broke the data down further and shared that there had been a loss of bed capacity because of flooding in 2 of the centers.

There were no questions or comments.

14. Election of 2024 Interim Co-Chair

John Sheehan stated that he would be willing to serve as the Interim Co-Chair until the end of the year.

A roll call vote was taken, and John Sheehan was unanimously voted to serve as the Interim Co-Chair until December 31, 2024.

15. Public Comments

Jeff wanted to make sure that discussion of the location of the Annual Christmas Luncheon was added to the next month's agenda.

John S. asked about the new MH Center for Children, and if Region 6 was asked to give input.

Taren replied that often input is not requested if we are not paying for any of the service.

There were no further public comments.

16. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Cameron.

Medjine seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously upon voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17 AM.

Prepared By: Dwery S. Jackson Date: 10-2-24

Approved By:  Date: 10/2/24