

Eastern Iowa MH/DS
Regional Advisory Committee Meeting
October 21, 2019

I. Introductions:

Meeting was called to order at 1:00PM by CDS Lynn Bopes

Members Present: CDS Bopes, CDS Elam (arrive at 1:31PM), CDS Toppert, CDS Tischuk, CDS Eskildsen (arrive at 1:50PM), Susie Ruchotzke, Melissa Petersen, Richard Whitaker (arrive at 1:17) and Jack Willey-Gov Board Representative

Members Absent: LuAnn Gredell, Lynne Hilgendorf, Holly Parmer

Three vacancies- Scott, Muscatine and Cedar

Guests: Christine Hamilton – Vera French Peer Support Committee Representative, Todd Noack, John Juhl-Peer Support Staff Representative from Life Connections, Barbara Robinson- Lagarde-DHS TCM Representative

Lynn asked if Susie Ruchotzke would give an update on what service area she covers through Imagine the Possibilities. Susie shared that she oversees the HCBS ID program and covers DeWitt, Davenport, Clinton, Bellevue, Preston, and Maquoketa. Lynn also asked Barbara Robinson-Lagarde from DHS TCM to share what service area they are covering. Barb let everyone know they provide HIP (3rd party Insurance) services for Eastern Iowa up to Buchanan County. There are 850 HIP cases statewide. She said that the Davenport office has had to downsize from the 850 cases that they had in their office alone to much smaller caseloads for a few workers now. Barb said that depending on eligibility their caseloads fluctuate.

II. Review Agenda: no action taken due to not having a quorum available.

III. Approval of Minutes from the meeting on July 15, 2019. No action was taken due to not having a quorum available.

IV. Discussion on the Financial Status of the Region:

CEO Lori Elam was running late due to a previous meeting and was not present to give an update regarding the financial status of the Region. Lynn Bopes let everyone know that Lori may give an update when she arrives and they are also welcome to stay for the Governing Board of Directors meeting following this meeting to hear from David Farmer, Region Fiscal Agent, regarding the finances. Lynn let everyone know that he has a power point presentation that will be shared.

V. Discussion about HF690 Children’s Mental Health System.

CEO Lori Elam shared that the rules for the Children’s Behavioral Health System are in draft form and are in notice currently. Lori shared that DCAT is mapping children’s services in the Region to help identify what the counties have in place for services and what some of the

gaps are. The Region is trying to learn more about Children's services throughout the Region. The issue that the Region is currently facing is trying to implement this system by 7/1/20 that there is no funding attached to the system. The Region is facing financial difficulties and are having a hard time getting through FY20 as well as implementing new services in FY21. Lori shared that the Region is responsible to manage and provide services to just the Serious Emotional Disturbance diagnosed children. The first group of services that the Region already has much of the services in place that are to be implemented by 7/1/20 and the second group of services are implemented by 7/1/21. A coordinator for the system should also be in place by 7/1/20. Lori reviewed the handout with everyone and will keep everyone up to date when the rules are official and what the Region's transition plan will consist of.

VI. Todd Noak – Peer Support Committee Update:

Todd shared the CDS Eskildsen participates in the Peer Support Committee held each month as a liaison from the Region. Todd is working closely with the East Central Region to develop a tracking system of the peer support services and warm line being utilized. They also hope to expand the peer support committees across the state and have regular communication regarding peer support services. Todd would like to give a presentation to the Governing Board to update them on what the committee is doing. Todd also shared that John Juhl has passed the International Training Certification and is able to offer training with DHS in Iowa regarding peer support. Todd and another person are also WRAP trainers and are offering classes in January 2020 to 15 people. The class offers WRAP I, a facilitator charge and manual for \$500.00. Todd let everyone know that after the training, there will be 4 people that can provide training in the Region. 2 of the 4 are Vera French Staff. Todd continues to push for Medicaid reimbursement for peer support services. He and others from the East Central Region are also meeting with Legislators to get the message to them that peer support services are valuable and needed across the state.

VII. Update on Crisis Services:

CEO Lori Elam let everyone know that mobile crisis services are in all 5 counties now. Foundation 2 is using the crisis number to dispatch mobile crisis. The service is able to give rides to those in need to get to a safe place, they can transport to Rhonda's House, they can call the Crisis Stabilization home and help to get a person in there and the Region is working on increasing the usage by educating and marketing the service to the five counties in the Region. Lori shared that there are now three peer drop-in centers in the Region they are located in Muscatine through MCSA, at Carroll Center through Vera French and at Life Connections Wellness Center. The Department of Public Health and DHS are now contracting with Foundation 2 for a statewide crisis line and our number rolls into that line. The Region is cutting bridge appointments the end of December 2019 due to usage and being able to get medications if needed through other means. Peer Ride along services will not be started due to financial issues the Region is facing and there has been a pause on providing training opportunities in the Region due to financial concerns.

VIII. Other Items: None

- IX. Public Comment: None

- X. Set dates for Future Meetings- January 20, 2020 is a Holiday and February 17, 2020 is a Holiday:
Everyone felt that the meeting dates can be adjusted to when the Governing Board sets their meeting dates and to let them know what dates they choose to have the meetings.

- XI. Adjournment: 2:09PM

Respectfully Submitted-CDS Tischuk, Cedar County