



Eastern Iowa MH/DS
Regional Advisory Committee Meeting
January 13, 2020

I. Introductions:

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 pm by CDS Bopes.

Members Present: CDS Eskildsen; CDS Tischuk; CDS Bopes, Rich Whitaker, Holly Parmer and Melissa Peterson

Members Absent: LuAnn Gredell, Lynne Hilgendorf and Susie Ruchotzke

Three vacancies-Scott, Muscatine and Cedar

Guests: Todd Lange-Amerigroup Representative, Todd Noack-Life Connections, Ed Murphy and Matt Adamson-Peer Support Staff Representatives from Life Connections.

Quorum not established

II. Review Agenda:

No action today as quorum not established. Guest Todd Lange asked about what the representation is/where from and how the terms are managed.

III. Approval of Minutes submitted by CDS Tischuk from the meeting on October 21, 2019. No corrections were noted to be made.

IV. Approval of FY 19 Annual Report:

No action taken as no quorum. Request made to send report electronically to Todd Noack of Life Connections.

V. Discussion about the Financial Status of the Region:

CDS Bopes gave a brief overview of the financial status of the Region as CEO Elam not present. Upon her return at 2:04, Elam mentioned we are proceeding with cost containment measures including ending vocational sheltered workshop services, starting waiting lists for individuals with DD/BI diagnosis and working with RCF's to move individuals into community based placement. Noack asked about the financial picture in the event Muscatine were to leave the Region.

VI. Discussion on FY 20 and FY 21 Budget:

CDS Bopes gave brief overview of the current status of the budget along with projection of the FY 21 Budget as CEO Elam not present. When Elam returned, this topic was again reviewed and she stated in the FY 21 Budget, we are not planning on budgeting to create an Access Center or Intensive Residential Service Home however, there are dollars in the budget for a Children's Coordinator and training.

VII. Legislative Update:

This was tabled until CEO Elam could be present. When she returned, she mentioned she is having ongoing conversations with legislators and receiving mixed messages. Governor Reynolds has proposed a tax relief bill along with Farm Bureau's stance that property taxes should not be going to fund mental health. Questions arose in the event the economy does not do as well as predicted and she is hopeful some of those solutions will be addressed in any proposed legislative bill.

VIII. Discussion about HF 690 Children's Mental Health System:

CDS Bopes gave brief overview of the current status of the pending Children's Mental Health System. Noted a Transition Plan is due to the State of Iowa by 4/1/2020 to outline the Children's Services. We also need to create Children's Advisory Board and add members to board along with updating the 28E in preparation for the Children's Services.

IX. Todd Noack-update on Peer Support:

Noack noted a meeting is scheduled March 19th at ISU Campus in Tipton from 9-11 am in coordination with the EC Region. He noted he has been busy going to various Board of Supervisor meetings and information has been well received. Data was provided to the group noting he has served 107 individuals since October of 2018. Todd Lange from Amerigroup also provided an update from the East Central Region and commented he is compiling money's spent in the Peer Recovery Chart of Accounts to better educate us as a committee to what needs may be. The EC Region is hoping to host a peer academy in the fall of 2020. CDS Bopes noted he had been in Jackson County giving a presentation to the County Board of Supervisors the previous week with a good reception.

X. Update on Crisis Services:

CDS Bopes informed the group Mobile Crisis is up and running in all 5 counties. Rhonda's House, Iowa's first Peer Run Respite Home in Dewitt continues to receive referrals. Also, along with the continuum of care model, the Region has a Crisis Residential Stabilization home available in Davenport which is managed by Vera French CMHC. The challenge, she noted, will be sustaining the level of services for FY 21. CDS Bopes commented we did end the Warm Line earlier due to budget cuts and the Crisis Line is being absorbed through *Your Life Iowa*. This is a state wide and state funded crisis hotline run by Foundation 2 but managed by IDPH. Todd Lange asked about law enforcement and mobile crisis and how well it was received. Bopes noted in Jackson County, referrals are mostly coming from self referrals however the process to make a referral is easy.

XI. Other Items:

Todd Noack of Life Connections said the Warm Line may be something their agency would be willing to absorb. They are also seeking support from Anthem/Amerigroup and other grants to help sustain the services. Todd Lange mentioned changes in leadership at DHS including Director Schultz's retirement. He mentioned the plan is to have 1 person in charge of facilities and 1 person in charge of community services and planning. CEO Elam had met with Director Garcia recently. She had lots of questions and Elam is hopeful she will get involved in solving funding issues within Regions.

XII: Public Comment:

No comments

XIII: Dates for next meetings:

Scheduled for Monday, April 20th, 2020 from 1-3 pm

XIV: Adjournment:

Bopes adjourned the meeting at 2:23 pm.

Respectfully Submitted-CDS Eskildsen, Clinton County

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Eskildsen", written in a cursive style.