

DATE: October 14, 2014

LEADER: Ben Maas

TIME: 4:00-6:00 p.m.

RECORDER: Lisa Gjerde

COUNCIL MEMBERS			LIAISON MEMBERS			GUESTS
Name	P	A	Name	P	A	Name
Caroline Beise	√		Alene Chelman		√	
Sam Deweese		√	Melissa Hanson	√		
Christine Dondlinger		√	Gary Norman	√		
Lisa Gjerde	√					
Lisa Inman		√				
Sue Kunitz	√					
Ben Maas	√					
Sue Maki	√					
Rod Sawtell		√				
Twyla Sawtell	√					
Becky Sorenson	√					
Eddie Tipton	√					
Virginia Wright	√					

Agenda	Activity/Discussion	Decision/Action/Conclusion
Call to Order	Ben called the meeting to order.	Approved by consensus.
Approval of Sept. Minutes	Ben and Virginia made motions to approve the minutes.	Approved by consensus.

<p>Approval of Oct. Agenda</p>	<p>According to the September minutes, we agreed to add to future agendas Christine’s idea of including time to decide on the following month’s agenda topics. Sue M. seconded the motion to approve the October agenda.</p>	<p>Approved by consensus.</p>
<p>November meeting date</p>	<p>Because the second Tuesday of November is Veterans’ Day and First Street Center will be closed, we voted on moving our meeting date to November 18, 2014.</p>	<p>Approved by consensus. Lisa G. will send an email to the Council notifying everyone of the date change.</p>
<p>Roundtable Discussion</p>	<p>Eddie is working on a letter to area therapists regarding what they see current mental health needs are, especially in the realm of transportation. It is also a way to provide the therapists with information about We Cab that they can share with their clients. Ben suggested revising the letter for clarity.</p> <p>Eddie gave us a brief update on We Cab’s progress to expand its services. They have drivers, dispatchers, brochures, etc. Sue M. noted that it’s imperative to have the cities’ permission to run the transportation service in their area.</p> <p>Sue M. said a mental health taskforce has been set up on the topic of hoarding. Her church, Mount Olivet in Victoria and Minneapolis, sponsors mental health topics to provide resources for individuals. She also reminded LAC members about the upcoming mental health conference at Temple Israel in Minneapolis on Oct. 19th.</p> <p>Ben said that there will be a fundraiser to benefit returning soldiers who are experiencing mental illnesses.</p> <p>Gary told us about the new Veterans’ Court in Carver County, a diversion court to provide alternatives to jail time. Judge Janet Cain is leading this initiative.</p>	<p>Council members will email Eddie with editing suggestions, and he will bring the revised letter to the November meeting.</p>

<p>Discussion cont.</p>	<p>Virginia mentioned that there is a state task-force looking into the several high-risk cases of children being sent home from foster care too soon. She asked Gary where the county is on this concern, and he said we might be able to get a guest speaker to come in and discuss this with us.</p>	
<p>Speaker Melissa Hanson</p>	<p>Melissa Hanson, the Adult Mental Health manager at First Street, gave us a presentation on the services that First Street provides to adult clients. In order to be eligible for the Community Support Program (CSP), a person must have a serious and persistent mental illness (SPMI), which usually includes schizophrenia, bipolar, major depression, borderline personality disorder, and schizo-affective disorder. The eligible person must have had two or more hospitalizations in the preceding two years, and have a written opinion from a mental health provider that he/she needs services. Referrals can also come from the patient, a hospital, or a family member.</p> <p>CSP provides clients with weekly activities, Tues-Fri, from different social outings to coffee groups.</p> <p>The case managers at First Street have no more than 30 adult clients (if full-time) and 15 child clients (if full-time). Some case managers also do pre-petition commitment screening. Currently, First Street has 10 case managers, not all of whom are full-time. A case manager will generally check on the client and help with ensuring the client has access to other services, such as employment, housing, or ARMHS.</p> <p>A state nurse is contracted by First Street and she does home visits in order to set up meds, give shots, etc. As far as housing is concerned, there are various subsidies and programs which a case manager can help a client receive. CSP clients also work on crisis assistance (more</p>	

<p>Guest Speaker (cont.)</p>	<p>like prevention) to help them become aware of their triggers and develop tools to manage potential crises in the future.</p> <p>There is no financial means test for CSP services, but there often is reimbursement through Medical Assistance (MA). Otherwise, costs are absorbed through grant monies.</p> <p>Sue K. asked if persons with a SPMI can ever work full-time. Yes, they can, as long as they comply with their treatment program. Ben asked if there is a procedural path out of the case management program. Melissa said there isn't one currently, but DHS is working on legislation in this area. Every three years, participating clients need to have a diagnostic assessment in order to stay eligible for services. Ben then asked how does First Street know if it's being effective if they don't have a procedure for closing cases. Melissa said they need to determine what it is they want to know, and that progress is often slow.</p> <p>Becky asked about the number of participating clients. There are 220 clients enrolled in case management, but the numbers are lower for CSP activities. Sue M. asked about the credentials of case managers. Not all are licensed by the state because they're county employees, but every two years, they need 30 hours of continuing education credits.</p> <p>Ben asked what have case managers noticed as unmet needs in the mental health community. Some of the main concerns are housing, transportation, and employment. Sue K. asked about the possibility of utilizing donations and volunteers for CSP. The county cannot accept donations, but clients can go to other organizations such as Love, INC. CSP does have a volunteer who helps with crafts. Eddie said that Victoria has a full-time volunteer coordinator.</p>	
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<p>Guest Speaker (cont.)</p>	<p>Lisa G. asked if First Street were considering a Peer Mentoring program; there isn't one now, but it might be something to look into in the future. Sue M. said her church has a caregiver program in which a person volunteers to befriend a person with a mental illness. In regards to Peer Support Specialists, DHS is not supporting placing them in Adult Mental Health programs like First Street.</p> <p>The number of times case managers meet with clients varies greatly depending on individual clients' needs. The minimum contact is once a month; clients who need more help may be seen several times a week. Sue M. suggested it would be a good idea to encourage satellite offices in the county to provide more services than only mental health.</p>	
<p>Member Comments</p>	<p>Eddie said the Hoarding Taskforce has monthly meetings and he has volunteered to be a member. He suggested we have a guest speaker come; Ben said we could keep that in mind for a future meeting.</p>	
<p>Adjourn</p>	<p>Ben made the motion to adjourn. Sue M. seconded.</p>	<p>Approved by consensus.</p>