

Behavioral Health Services Workgroup October 5, 2011

Governor's Large Conference Room Pierre, SD

Members Present: Phyllis Arends, Deb Bowman, Terry Dosch, Ellen Durkin, Amy Iversen-Pollreisz, Senator Elizabeth Kraus, Steve Lindquist, Kim Malsam-Rysdon, Eric Matt, Lt. Governor Matt Michels, Betty Oldenkamp, Scott Peters, Carol Regier, Dr. Somapalli, Tom Stanage, Dr. Matt Stanley, Gib Sudbeck, Lynne Valenti, Pam VanMeeteren, and Tiffany Wolfgang.

Lt. Governor Matt Michels welcomed workgroup members, and Kim Malsam-Rysdon provided a recap of the September meeting.

Alan Solano, CEO of Behavior Management Systems in Rapid City, presented information on the development of crisis care services in that community. Alan shared that the Black Hills Mental Health/Substance Abuse Collaborative has developed a 24-hour crisis care center that is lead by BMS but includes a variety of partners (Vucurevich Foundation, Rapid City Regional Hospital, Pennington County, the Community Health Center of the Black Hills, the Rapid City Police Department, various mental health and substance abuse providers, and the Cornerstone Mission). The crisis care center is designed to provide immediate assistance to individuals experiencing a mental health and/or substance abuse crisis thereby reducing inappropriate admissions to the hospital, jail, and detox and improving service integration and access to after-crisis follow up services/treatment.

Statute revision update

Lynne Valenti provided an update regarding the Commitment Laws Subcommittee. As discussed at previous meetings, the strategy for this session is to address those areas that are more easily identified as needing improvement, while working towards more substantial changes during the 2013 legislative session.

Amy Iversen-Pollreisz discussed the Administrative Statute Review Subcommittee and recommendations for changes during the 2013 legislative session. These changes would repeal many unnecessary/outdated regulations; however, it would not result in a change to current services or practices.

Drafts of both sets of statute changes will be shared with the workgroup as they are finalized. The talking points provided to workgroup members will also be updated to reflect the proposed statute changes for use by the group. Finally, the workgroup discussed that education and support from other stakeholders will be

needed once the draft changes are completed. Courts, mental health boards, counties, and county law enforcement agencies were mentioned in this regard.

Discussion of possible behavioral health regions

The workgroup continued the discussion of the regional concept to behavioral health care. It was noted that the map outlining the regional approach does not change or eliminate any services but rather helps in identifying needed services. It was determined that further analysis should be conducted on the services identified in each region. This analysis should consider things like the capacity of the services; any issues with access to services (waiting lists, distance, etc); and key services that are missing in each region (access critical facilities/key services that must be available). In addition, things that deal with characteristics of the population must be identified (demographics, etc.) and population to capacity types of comparisons need to be made (e.g. number of people with mental illness versus number of psychiatrists).

Discussion of possible behavioral health goals

The workgroup had further discussion on the goal related to defining the role of the Human Services Center. Through this discussion, workgroup members agreed that geriatric admissions to the state hospital needs more in-depth study and review. Because this topic must include a broad array of stakeholders, including community nursing homes, a subcommittee consisting of members of the Behavioral Health Services Workgroup and other key stakeholders will be created. Membership of this subcommittee will be determined by Secretary Malsam-Rysdon and the group will commence before the 2012 legislative session.

Next Steps

A conference call will be held November 17th to review the proposed statute changes, and an in-person meeting will be held in early January.