

**Lincoln, Nebraska  
March 12, 2008**

**JUSTICE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMITTEE  
*MEETING MINUTES***

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The Justice Behavioral Health Committee (JBHC) of the Community Corrections Council (Council) met Wednesday, March 12, 2008, in Conference Room A, at Bryan LGH West, Lincoln, Nebraska. The meeting was open to the public and was preceded by advance publicized notice in the Lincoln Journal Star.

**Members Present:**

John Atherton  
Jerome Barry, Co-Chair  
Scott Carlson  
Dave Carver  
Cathy Gibson-Beltz  
Kathleen Grant  
Lori Griggs  
Randy Kohl  
Linda Krutz  
Joel McCleary  
Rick McNeese  
Deb Minardi  
Terri Nutzman  
Michael Overton  
Bruce Prenda  
Nancy Probst  
T. Hank Robinson  
Steve Rowoldt, Co-Chair  
Christine Salvatore  
Lee Tyson  
Dave Wegner  
Linda Wittmuss

**Members Absent:**

Michael Behm  
Robert Bell  
Roxie Cillessen  
Ellen Fabian-Brokofsky  
Julie Hippen  
Lee Kimzey  
Lewien, Barbara  
Dennis McChargue  
Mona McGee-Snyder  
Kathy Seacrest

**Council Staff Present:**

Nickette Allen  
Tia Bachman  
Jeffrey Beaty

**Others Present:**

Nicki Kennedy  
Kate Speck

## **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

Jerome Barry, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order and announced the meeting was subject to the Nebraska Open Meetings Act. Attendance is indicated above. Each member present introduced him or herself and gave a brief statement about their association with the committee.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Members reviewed the December 12, 2007 meeting minutes. A correction was made on page 7, Public Testimony: 'Toni Arntzen is the coordinator for gambling recovery services at First Step Recovery, one of two organizations in Lincoln who treat compulsive gamblers and family members.' Dr. Rick McNeese moved for approval of the December 12, 2007 minutes as corrected. Linda Wittmuss seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

## **MEMBERSHIP VACANCIES**

JBHC consists of thirty-seven committee members. Five member positions are currently vacant.

McNeese introduced Dr. Mark Weilage as the proposed candidate for the Department of Correctional Services (DCS) Behavioral Health vacancy. Weilage is the Assistant Administrator of Mental Health Services for DCS. A ballot vote was conducted and Weilage was elected as the representative for DCS Behavioral Health.

Krutz noted the Governor has not yet filled the two Council vacancies for behavioral health.

Joel McCleary introduced Thomas Glenn as the proposed candidate for the consumer position. Glenn is a recipient of Region V services and resident of Houses of Hope. A ballot vote was conducted and Glenn was elected to fill the Consumer position.

Steve Rowoldt, Co-chair, introduced Scott Helvie as the proposed candidate for the Criminal Defense Attorney vacancy. Helvie is a Public Defender for Lancaster County and a member of the Drug Court team. A ballot vote was conducted and Helvie was elected to fill the Criminal Defense Attorney position.

## **MEMBERSHIP ATTENDANCE REPORT / MULTIPLE POSITION ASSIGNMENTS**

In agreement with the committee, Barry, Rowoldt and Jeff Beaty will meet to review the Bylaws and propose a revised version at the June 11, 2008 meeting.

## **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Curriculum: Linda Wittmuss gave a report on the Curriculum Sub-Committee. Wittmuss noted the current members of the sub-committee are:

Dave Carver  
Dennis McChargue  
Monica Miles-Steffen  
Russ Smith  
Kate Speck  
Linda Wittmuss

Wittmuss stated the sub-committee has not met since the last JBHC meeting. Wittmuss will present a second draft of the Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (KSA's) at the next JBHC meeting.

Data: Dave Wegner said the Data Sub-Committee met on March 4, 2008. Wegner noted current members of the sub-committee are:

Mike Dunkle  
Julie Hippen  
Hank Robinson  
Marcella Short  
Linda Wittmuss

Wegner requested members evaluate their areas for personnel who would be candidates for the sub-committee. Lee Tyson requested to be added to the sub-committee.

Provider: Nancy Probst gave a report on the Provider Sub-Committee. Probst noted the current members of the sub-committee are:

Jerome Barry	Brenda Miner
Denny Crain	Paula Moritz
Martha Coleman-Heydenreich	Michelle Nelson
Jim Holmquist	Christine Salvatore
Janet Johnson	Kate Speck
Nicki Kennedy	Barry Tesch
Dennis McChargue	Lee Tyson
Rick McNeese	Pam Wells

Probst said the sub-committee met on February 14, 2008. Probst presented the second draft of the coordinated recommendation of evidence based practice/principles. Probst noted the bibliography was added as requested.

Kate Speck suggested the rough draft be titled ‘Standards of Practice’, and noted the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) publication as a reference material used to create three of the standards. Dave Carver suggested adding referrals for co-occurring major mental disorders or mental behavioral health issues as a standard.

Probst stated the next Provider Sub-Committee meeting will be held on April 17, 2008.

#### **EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICES AND PRINCIPLES DEFINITION DISCUSSION**

McNeese said evidence based practice is having tools that have shown through research to be effective. Carver said principles are theoretical and practices are things you can observe. Deb Minardi described the justice perspective of evidence based practice as composed of collaboration, organizational development, and principles of intervention.

Barry summarized evidence based principles to be overarching and evidence based practices as something to be measured. Barry requested the Provider Sub-Committee be as specific as possible when creating the practices required.

#### **PROVIDER FOLLOW-UP SURVEY**

Scott Carlson discussed the Provider Follow-up Survey. Carlson stated Zoomerang, a program which is an automated survey tool, was used to conduct the survey. Carlson noted 136 out of 487, approximately twenty-five percent, of providers responded to the email survey.

Barry said more providers approved of the Addictions Severity Index (ASI) and the Comprehensive Addictions Severity Index for Children (CASI) than originally believed. Hank Robinson stated the results from the survey are adequate to reflect the progress made since the Standardized Model was implemented. Wittmuss said the Curriculum Sub-Committee can utilize the peer review suggestions.

Wittmuss suggested resolving the issue of providers not receiving the Simple Screening Instrument (SSI) or probation forms. Robinson, Christine Salvatore, and Tyson will meet to prepare a list of recommendations based off the Zoomerang Survey and present them to the committee in June.

Barry said the Provider Follow-up Survey, or one similar to it, could be conducted in a year to assess the familiarity of survey tools used by providers.

#### **CO-OCCURRING MENTAL HEALTH / CRIMINAL JUSTICE DISCUSSION**

Carver stated Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors (LADC’s) have a responsibility to provide referrals for patients and stated providers should create a list of accessible professionals outside their scope of practice. Wittmuss suggested placing

referrals in writing. Carver said the standard should be modified to reflect referrals and stated it could then be evaluated during peer reviews.

Minardi said the justice system consistently overlooks the co-occurring disorders and addresses specifically substance abuse. Gibson-Beltz stated probation officers are not trained to deal with mental health issues. Robinson suggested the Provider Sub-Committee seek out planning grant funds to initiate a planning process to standardize Criminal Justice's response to mental health issues.

Krutz said a meeting will be held between Barry, Rowoldt, and Jim Harvey to address the issues of mental health in the justice system. Results of the meeting will be addressed at the June meeting.

### **COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS COUNCIL REPORT**

Krutz gave the Community Corrections Council Report and noted the Council meeting minutes from December 21, 2007 were included in the packet.

Krutz presented the Brochure that gives a history of the Council. Krutz discussed the development of the Council website and noted it will be introduced in May. JBHC studies, meeting minutes, and surveys will be available on the website.

### **UNIFORM DATA ANALYSIS FUND**

Mike Overton gave a report on the Uniform Data Analysis Fund. Overton discussed LB 959, the bill providing for deficit appropriations, presented to the Appropriations Committee. The Council has supported a request for an increase in spending authority of the Uniform Data Fund over the next fiscal year. Overton noted a pending contract for parole to create a Case Management System to mimic the probation system.

### **PROBATION ADMINISTRATION UPDATE**

Minardi gave the Probation Administration Update. Minardi stated the evaluation by the Public Policy Center on Probation related Drug Courts is almost complete. Minardi said Dr. Kathleen Grant will evaluate the Specialized Substance Abuse Supervision (SSAS) Program. Vera Institute of Justice (Vera) will perform a quantitative outcome study for specialized projects.

Minardi stated Probation will make use of a \$50,000 methamphetamine grant for juvenile treatment. Minardi said a meeting with the Joint Strategic Planning Committee was held to create a seamless continuum of sentencing and alternative sanctions.

Minardi said the management information system (MIS), an automated system of instruments to provide the tools to evaluate and gather data, was implemented on March

11, 2008. Carver stated the Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI), Proxy, and Level of Service Inventory (LSI) have been automated.

### **PAROLE ADMINISTRATION**

Cathy Gibson-Beltz gave the Parole Administration report. Gibson-Beltz stated parole officers completed a three day strategic planning meeting to determine how to increase the number of offenders successfully discharged from parole. Gibson-Beltz stated parole continues to improve the process of screening offenders for SSAS and scheduling treatment for offenders prior to being released.

### **JUVENILE REPORT**

Terri Nutzman, Office of Juvenile Services (OJS), gave the Juvenile Report. Nutzman stated the original opening date for the Juvenile Services Triage Center for Douglas & Sarpy counties has been changed from March 1, 2008 to April 21, 2008. Nutzman said a Juvenile Services Triage Center in Lancaster County is in the planning process.

Nutzman stated Edward J. Latessa, Professor and Head of the Division of Criminal Justice at the University of Cincinnati, evaluated the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center's (YRTC's) and made recommendations for programs that could be implemented. Nutzman said OJS is considering introducing Aggressive Replacement Training (ART), the EQUIP training program, and Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT).

Nutzman said OJS staff toured a Missouri Youth Correctional facility in January 2008. Nutzman stated OJS is conducting a cost analysis of YRTC Kearney to determine if renovations could be made to mirror the living units in Missouri.

### **NEXT STEPS / MISSION, VISION, & GOALS DISCUSSION**

The discussion on the Mission, Vision, and Goals will be tabled until further notice.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Tyson said the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) conducted a core technical review on the spending of federal block grant funds by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). CSAT recommended a Substance Abuse Needs Assessment be conducted on substance abuse services provided by DHHS.

Kate Speck, University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, will conduct the assessment. Speck stated a Geographic Information System (GIS) will be reviewed to determine the location of providers and clients. Speck stated services, support, ethnicity, and workforce will also be reviewed. Speck noted the assessment should be completed

by September 2008. Minardi requested the general substance abuse population be separated from the offender substance abuse population.

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

There was no public testimony at this meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, June 11, 2008, at 9:30 a.m., at Bryan LGH West Conference Room A in Lincoln, Nebraska.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Tia M. Bachman