

**Lincoln, Nebraska  
September 9, 2009**

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

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The Justice Behavioral Health Committee (JBHC) of the Community Corrections Council (Council) met Wednesday, September 9, 2009, in Classroom 2, 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:**

Bonnie Brown  
Dave Carver  
Carol Coussons de Reyes  
Eleanor Devlin  
Vickie Frizzell-Pratt  
Kathleen Grant  
Lori Griggs  
Anne Hansen  
Jim Harvey  
Scott Helvie  
Linda Krutz  
Dennis McChargue  
Deb Minardi  
Bruce Prenda  
T. Hank Robinson  
Brenda Rohren  
Steve Rowoldt, Co-Chair  
Julie Scott  
Kathy Seacrest  
Barry Walker  
Dave Wegner  
Mark Weilage  
Linda Wittmuss, Co-Chair

**Members Absent:**

Scott Carlson  
Thomas Glenn  
Troy Greve  
Mike Overton  
Nancy Probst  
Mike Tolley

**Others Present:**

Sue Adams  
Peg Barner  
Julie Fisher-Erickson  
Brenda Miner  
Rick Thomas

**Council Staff Present:**

Tia Bachman  
Jeff Beaty

## **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

Linda Wittmuss, Associate Regional Administrator, Region V Services and Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. and announced the meeting was subject to the Nebraska Open Meetings Act. Attendance is indicated above. Each member introduced him or herself and gave a brief statement about their association with JBHC.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Members reviewed the June 10, 2009 meeting minutes.

*A motion was made by Kathy Seacrest and seconded by Brenda Rohren to approve the June 10, 2009 minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.*

## **MEMBERSHIP VACANCY REVIEW**

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

Vickie Frizzell-Pratt, Licensed Independent Mental Health Provider (LIMHP), Licensed Mental Health Provider (LMHP), and member of the LMHP Licensing Board, was nominated to fill position 13 of the bylaws; Two Licensed Mental Health Providers – one must be on the LMHP Licensing Board. *A ballot vote was conducted and Vickie Frizzell-Pratt was elected as the representative for the LMHP Licensing Board.*

Barry Walker, Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor (LADC), and member of the LADC Licensing Board, was nominated to fill position 14 of the bylaws; Two Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors – one must be on the LADC Licensing Board. *A ballot vote was conducted and Barry Walker was elected as the representative for the LADC Licensing Board.*

## **UNIFORM DATA ANALYSIS FUND / DATA SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT**

Dave Wegner, Deputy Probation Administrator, Information Systems, gave an update on the Uniform Data Analysis Fund and the Data Sub-Committee. The Data Sub-Committee met on September 3, 2009 and revised the sub-committee charge statement to read:

To facilitate, coordinate, and make recommendations on issues regarding data and automation relative to the needs and goals of Justice and Behavioral Health. This may include but is not limited to: Standardization; Data Sharing; Report Generation; Other Related Projects.

Beaty suggested removing “Other Related Projects”. Minardi said the incorporation of the Standardized Model and the collection of uniform data was the

original intent of the sub-committee. This included gathering data and automating the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) and Comprehensive Adolescent Severity Inventory (CASI) and sharing data between agencies.

The sub-committee identified 13 projects that could be completed in the future. Four of the projects have been identified as short term goals: identify justice clients between systems, develop unique identifiers of justice clients, contribute to the evaluation of the Standardized Model, and develop standard data elements. Minardi suggested that entering information from providers into an automated system be at the top of a prioritized list.

At the next JBHC meeting, the sub-committee will present a prioritized list of projects to be completed and provide the old charge statement and the new statement to be reviewed and adopted.

### **COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS COUNCIL REPORT**

Linda Krutz, Executive Director of the Council, gave an update on the activities of the Council since the last meeting. The minutes from the August 14, 2009 meeting are included in the packet. Scot Adams, Director of the Division of Behavioral Health, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), was elected as Chair, and John Icenogle, District Court Judge, was reelected as Vice-Chair.

An evaluation proposal was created by Council staff that indicated the need for outcome evaluations on programs from Probation, Parole, Department of Correctional Services (DCS), and Problem-Solving Courts (PSC). The evaluation policy will be presented to the Council at the next meeting on September 18, 2009.

### **PROBATION ADMINISTRATION UPDATE**

Deb Minardi, Deputy Probation Administrator for Community Based Supervision, Programming and Services, said Probation is collaborating with DHHS for judge and officer training, as well as, improving opportunities for continuing education for providers.

The Supreme Court is currently reviewing a draft submitted by Probation for a process in which a provider who has been removed from the registered provider list has the opportunity to appeal the removal.

Julie Scott, Justice Treatment Systems Specialist, Probation Administration, will present a year-end report on the Fee For Service Voucher program at the December 9, 2009 meeting.

Wegner said Probation had recently completed a three year study on the collection of the one-time enrollment fee and the program fees probationers are ordered to pay monthly. These fees contribute to the Offender Fee Fund that is used for substance abuse

services. Minardi said the instances of judges waving the fees for probationers had decreased with the availability of Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitor (SCRAM) in county courts.

## **PAROLE UPDATE**

Anne Hansen, Deputy Parole Administrator, said training will be conducted on the Program Information Management System (PIMS). Parole field staff have voiced that they are not adequately trained to deliver substance abuse programming for the sex offender population.

## **REMOTE RECOVERY PROJECT**

T. Hank Robinson, Juvenile Justice Institute, Department of Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska at Omaha, gave an update on the Remote Recovery Project being conducted in partnership with Probation in response to the findings from the Methamphetamine Treatment study.

There are 33 counties in Nebraska that do not have a doctor, the sheriff is the only law enforcement, and the population is under 1000. The communities within those counties can be affected by the absence of an individual when incarcerated. In light of this, judges may be more sympathetic and willing to sentence an offender to probation; yet adequate services are not available, compelling the judge to send the offender to prison where they can receive treatment.

Three districts and approximately 100 offenders will be studied to improve the level of supervision on remote offenders and the treatment outcomes. Telehealth and teletherapy are being considered as options. An advisory group of treatment providers will be created to determine options for the best fit available to offenders.

## **PROVIDER SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT**

Brenda Rohren, LIMHP, gave the Provider Sub-Committee Report. Registered Providers were sent the Provisional Criminal Justice Substance Use Disorders Standards of Practice (Provisional Standards) and were given the opportunity to provide feedback by June 30, 2009. The sub-committee reviewed all feedback and discussed the noted concerns.

Dennis McChargue, Associate Director of Clinical Training, Department of Psychology, University of Nebraska Lincoln, suggested all registered providers be accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) and said CARF regularly audits their accredited providers. Beaty suggested the quality assurance auditing of providers can be modeled after Medicaid's system.

The sub-committee will identify some ideas to address the concerns about quality assurance of services provided by the registered providers raised by Judge Doyle, Dawson County District Court, and present them at the next JBHC meeting.

Wittmuss, Steve Rowoldt, Probation Administration, and Krutz will compose a letter to Judge Doyle outlining the action being taken towards his concerns and sent along with the Provisional Standards.

#### **CURRICULUM SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT**

Wittmuss gave the Curriculum Sub-Committee report. Changes to the Performance Assessment Rubrics for Addiction and Criminal Justice Professionals (Rubrics) were noted. Items highlighted in yellow were suggestions by Dr. Don Belau, a facility psychologist at the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center at Geneva (YRTC-Geneva).

Beaty will present the Rubrics to Denny Macomber, Jail Standards, Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, to review. Mark Weilage, Ph.D., will review the psychology portion of the Rubrics and provide written feedback to Wittmuss.

#### **2010 PROPOSED MEETING DATES**

The following meeting dates were approved for 2010: March 10, 2010; June 9, 2010; September 8, 2010; and December 8, 2010.

Kathy Seacrest recommended changing the start time of the meetings until 10:00. Recommendations for future meeting locations can be emailed to Tia Bachman, Council Administrative Assistant.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 9, 2009, at 9:00 a.m., at Bryan LGH West Classroom 1 in Lincoln, Nebraska.

There being no further business, at 11:52 a.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Tia M. Bachman