

EXECUTIVE-PERSONNEL-FINANCE COMMITTEE

***October 23, 2006 - 4:00 p.m.
Michigan High School Athletic Association
1661 Ramblewood Drive
East Lansing, Michigan***

MINUTES

PRESENT: Dan Alonzi, Chair; Brian Calley; Brad Densmore; Ross Fulton; Robert Johnson; Gail Mahoney; Robert Showers; Jean Golden; Debbie DeLeon

ABSENT: Ken Ponds; Ralph Tillotson

STAFF: Robin Reynolds, Executive Director; Mary Kronquist, Assistant Director; Gerrie Roeser, Finance Manager; Lori Griffin, Executive Secretary; Jill Gawronski, Finance Assistant; Jeanne Diver, Quality Assurance Manager; Melinda Young, Quality Assurance Administrative Assistant; Kim Thalison, Prevention Assistant; Joel Hoepfner, Community Mobilizer

GUESTS: Bruce Hindenach, CDRS; Chris Swope, CEICMHA Board of Directors; Judy Jove, FSCA; Barbara O'Connor, Bridgeway Center; Steve Manchester, CEICMHA Board of Directors; John Roy Castillo, Cristo Rey; Michael Brashears, CEICMHA Board of Directors; Patricia Wheeler, NCA/LRA; Jim Paparella, Child & Family Services; Joe Kuchenbuch, Psychological Consultants; Jessica Murray, Community Action Agency; Kelsey Winston; Scott Schmidt; Gerald McCullough, McCullough Vargas & Associates; Mike Vennekotter; Judi Cates, CEICMHA-SAS; Ericanne Spence, CEICMHA-House of Commons; Gale Beach, Pride Youth Programs; Bill Dilts, Mid-Michigan District Health Department; Roger Myers, Lenawee CMHA; David Blankenship, Victory Clinic; Donald Wolosuk, Jackson County; Sara Lurie, EISD/PPS; Carol Patterson, Cristo Rey; Mike Blanksma, ESAP; Robert Sheehan, CEICMHA Executive Director; Joanne Sheldon, LifeWays; Diane Rancin, LifeWays; Brad Casemore, Venture Behavioral Health; Marci Scalera, Washtenaw WCHO; Mark Howe, Ionia County Administrator

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Alonzi called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2006

Mr. Fulton moved approval of the Minutes of September 25, 2006 as presented. Mr. Densmore supported the motion. The motion carried.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Added under New Business, Item F, HIV/EIP Communicable Disease Services.

Mr. Johnson moved approval of the Agenda as amended. Ms. Mahoney supported the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Fulton moved approval of the Minutes from the teleconference meeting held September 25, 2006 as presented. Ms. Mahoney supported the motion. The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

A. PIHP Dialog

Ms. Reynolds stated the PIHP representatives were invited to share their perspectives on integration of substance abuse and mental health services in the region.

Mr. Sheehan spoke first, stating there are four PIHP's in the Mid-South region; CEI-CMHA, Venture, LifeWays and Washtenaw, and noted discussions had been ongoing for two years on how to possibly integrate services. He noted the administration of Medicaid is difficult as the dollars pass through the CMH and back to the coordinating agencies, and that the data pieces are difficult to do. He added that 70-80% of the CMH's business is Medicaid while only 20% of the CA's business is Medicaid. Mr. Sheehan stated all four of the CMH's have a very good relationship with Mid-South. He stressed this discussion is a beginning on how to integrate, and that all are committed to integration at some level. Mr. Sheehan stated what is desired is administrative costs reduced and efficiencies increased. He also added that a plan for partnership between MASACA and MCMHBA is part of an integration plan.

Ms. Sheldon also stressed there has been an excellent working relationship between LifeWays and Mid-South, and her attendance is from a point of view of the consumer. She also stated the signed appropriations boilerplate act indicates more commitment to integration of mental health and substance abuse services, and that various white papers written by various groups discussing partnerships also point to integration. Ms. Sheldon stated she was pleased to have a chance for this dialog, and that LifeWays has a spirit of partnership with Mid-South and wish to move forward into such a partnership.

Mr. Casemore stated Venture currently works with three coordinating agencies, and echoed previous statements. He added that the Medicaid waiver, public health code and mental health code are in conflict. He stated all clients are Michigan citizens and all want them to have access to the best services possible. Mr. Casemore also stated Calhoun County Commissioners have indicated through a Resolution that they want Summit Pointe for their coordinating agency, and they have secured Resolutions from Barry and Branch Counties as well. He added this has nothing to do with the way Mid-South operates or out of anger, but from a belief that with the amount of funds, use of those funds and what is the best geographic alignment.

Mr. Sheehan referenced Senate Bill 1083, which includes recommendations on what integration would look like. He also noted, as the Mid-South Board has heard in the past, that the State has publicly said there is no plan for integration.

Ms. Scalera spoke on behalf of Washtenaw WCHO, stating the Washtenaw CA is integrated in the PIHP and contracts with Mid-South and SEMCA. She stated this has been a great opportunity to join forces and the community benefit is good. It is a positive experience all around. She added that almost half of the CAS are PIHP's now and it works well in most cases.

Questions & Answers.

Q: Bob Johnson: If this integration should happen, how would it transpire?

A: Mr. Sheehan: All models are different, but CEI's view is a belief in local control and each county would need to determine local service delivery and services they would want.

Ms. Scalera stated her organization has an Advisory Council who makes recommendations to the PIHP and each county has a separate committee so local issues are addressed.

Mr. Brehler noted the CMH and PIHP are two separate entities, and statute talks about integration into the CMH and not the PIHP. He added that PA 368 states a CA is not allowed to provide direct services, thus the talk for integration into a body that does provide direct service is not appropriate.

O: Gail Mahoney: With substance abuse as under funded as it is, what would be the benefit of coming together? How will integration get more attention in the community or the legislature? Will it bring more dollars or an increased viewpoint?

A: Mr. Sheehan responded there are two sets of administrative overhead currently; one would automatically be eliminated, and consumers would benefit from the savings.

Q: Gail Mahoney: How would integration assure substance abuse consumers get the services they need:

A: Mr. Sheehan: One layer of administration would be eliminated. Substance abuse and mental health compete for the same dollars.

Mr. Casemore: There would be a policy shift from a government focus to one focused on population/consumers and what they need. He added all of the PIHP's share the same approach. They have over the last three years materially funded other counties and consumers with Medicaid dollars, and they are happy to do it within the limits of the waiver. He also added non-competitive planning and execution of programs could happen. Mr. Casemore stated the purpose is not to put the CAS out of business—there is a respect for PA 368, but it can be done more efficiently by different expert technical people.

Q: Dan Alonzi: If integration takes place, how would substance abuse be represented on an already established CMH Board?

A: Mr. Casemore: If and when Summit Pointe achieves designation, there is a two page plan whereas governance and management of the CA would be aligned with appropriate PIHP's, with Summit Pointe as the legal governing body for Medicaid. The CA is required to have an Advisory Council whose model would be county commissions that would have direct authority to appoint members.

Mr. Sheehan: There are models in eight counties with power in each county to make their own decisions. CEI would have back door responsibilities.

Ms. Sheldon: LifeWays' is simple as they serve only two counties, with their approach of wanting to develop a transition plan, but unsure of how a Board issue would be worked out. She also noted that they do not want to get into a discussion with the impression that they would take over

substance abuse immediately—they do not have a strong knowledge in this area and they respect the expertise Mid-South staff possesses.

Mr. Sheehan added Mid-South's expertise is needed as the PIHP's could not provide substance abuse services for several years.

Q: Gail Mahoney: Calhoun County has tried to leave the Mid-South region and the state has not let it happen—where is the support at the state level for integration?

A: Brad Casemore: There is no guarantee it would be approved. Venture has the consumer's best interests in mind. He stated he did not agree that the state did not let it happen; stated there are still discussions taking place at the Executive and Legislative branch levels. Nothing will happen until after the election. In the last four months, three counties have agreed to join with Venture.

Mr. Sheehan: there would be clear fire walls and dollars would not cross paths. There needs to be a clear demarcation of roles and responsibilities.

Ms. Scalera: Dollars are clearly designated and the two operate financially as distinct systems. Everything, funding, approval of contracts for substance abuse and approval of PA2 funding is distinct and separate. From a substance abuse standpoint, mental health dollars are larger and wherever they can, they tap on some other areas for co-occurring.

Q: Joe Brehler: With regard to referring clients to providers we currently have, where is the improved access.

A: Mr. Sheehan: From increased dollar savings on the administrative side.

Q: Brian Calley: What is the plan; would the local community mental health authority contract with the PIHP?

A: Mr. Sheehan: One model would have the CMHA as the CA or the CMHA would contract with the CA.

Q: Joe Brehler: The Mid-South staff has talent the CMHBA can not replicate. Other than utilities and rent, the same administrative staff would be retained to do the functions they currently do, so where are the savings? Would improved access be down the road?

A: Ms. Sheldon: LifeWays has two separate access points in the same building. It would be easier from a client perspective to not wonder which door to go through, or have one number to call. There would need to be staff cross-training as many clients have both substance abuse and mental health disorders.

Q: Gail Mahoney: There are a significant number of dual diagnosis clients, and Mid-South works with CMH to serve these clients. She is also leery of the possibility of the state letting this occur, which will be where the proof will be. There have been talks of joining for several years but it has not happened yet.

A: Mr. Casemore: Mid-South has been one of the largest and best CAS in the state, but needs to think about the changing environment on the Medicaid side. The Feds are not willing to mess around with Medicaid requirements. Venture believes the county or clients can not be put at risk. We get paid to administer Medicaid, understand it is very complex. Also can not wait for the system to be fixed.

Q: Dan Alonzi: What is expected of the Mid-South Board?

A: Mr. Sheehan: We just want to let you know what is going on. Each county makes their own decisions. It is important for everyone to take control of their own destiny. Eight CAS are already PIHP's so we should be proactive locally for what needs to be done.

Mr. Alonzi thanked the PIHP representatives for attending this dialog session. He called for a five minute break.

Mr. Alonzi reconvened the meeting at 5:04 p.m.

B. Treasurer's Report for September 2006
Community Grant and PA2

Ms. Roeser reported the Bills to be Approved were reflected in general checks 14349 through 14483, and payroll ACH 587 through 611 and totaled \$697,513.66. She reported other totals for the month as follows:

Total Revenues of \$1,281,310.86
Total Expenses of \$1,479,764.01
Net Income of \$(198,453.15)
Total Assets and Liabilities & Capital of \$4,839,954.24
Net Increase in Cash of \$624,932.13

Medicaid

Ms. Roeser reported the Bills to be Approved, reflected in checks 3433 through 3460 totaled \$183,125.44. She reported other totals for the month as follows:

Total Revenues of \$159,734.41
Total Expenses of \$303,322.29
Net Income of \$(143,587.88)
Total Assets and Liabilities & Capital of \$319,851.77
Net Decrease in Cash of \$(24,247.67)

Ms. Roeser reported the following on the PIHP Report:

CEI September balance of \$(63,235.91); Total excess of \$223,121.84
LifeWays September balance of \$91,216.31; Total shortfall of \$185,784.70
Venture September balance of \$(2,593.31)
Washtenaw September balance of \$611.93

Ms. Reynolds commented on the letter from CEI stating Mid-South can not use their savings for LifeWays' shortfall. She stated LifeWays has been asked how to handle this situation. Ms. Reynolds noted that CEI has the option to use pooled funding to help the others, but they have their own needs, which means LifeWays is at risk for their shortfall. She added they (LifeWays) may have some Medicaid dollars to cover their overage, as well as an ISF. Ms. Reynolds also noted there may also be lapsed block grant dollars, but they would be limited.

Mr. Showers moved to recommend to the full Commission approval of the Treasurers Report for September 2006 as presented. Mr. Fulton supported the motion. The motion carried.

C. Executive Director Position Update

Ms. Reynolds reported resumes are coming in for the Executive Director position and that she and Mr. Alonzi will review them and present appropriate ones to the Executive Committee to select interviewees. She added that of the 20 or so received, not many have substance abuse experience. Ms. Reynolds also reported that if someone is not hired by the time she leaves, some Board members will be asked to provide oversight and technical assistance to the Assistant Director in the interim period.

D. Appeal - Jim Gallant

Ms. Reynolds stated all issues contained in Mr. Gallant's appeal have been addressed. Ms. Kronquist reviewed the document.

Mr. Densmore moved to recommend to the full Commission approval of the appeal response to Mr. Jim Gallant. Mr. Showers supported the motion. The motion carried.

E. Human Aid

Ms. Reynolds reported Human Aid has provided notice they will be closing at the end of December. She stated as there will be no provider in Gratiot County or Ionia County, both will be put out for bid to secure services.

F. HIV EIP Communicable Disease Services

Ms. Reynolds stated three responses were received for this RFP and were scored. She reported one did not meet requirements. As a result of scoring by the Review Committee, the recommendation is to award the contract for HIV EIP services to LAAN.

Mr. Fulton moved to recommend to the full Commission, to award the contract for HIV EIP Communicable Disease Services to LAAN. Ms. De Leon supported the motion. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business brought before the Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Judy Jove addressed the Committee, stating that as all agencies are centric in how they operate, having Mid-South as the CA as opposed to a CMH does not achieve the same balance. She added that as a member of Mid-South's provider network, her hope is the Board will be able to find as strong an advocate and as passionate a person as Ms. Reynolds in a new director.

Mr. Jim Paparella spoke as the Ingham County adolescent provider, stating his agency works well with both CEI and with Mid-South, and his concern with integration is that it will cause the loss of a very good working relationship with Mid-South. He stated staff has always helped his agency to combine various dollar streams in the agency. He also expressed apprehension with Ms. Reynolds' departure and of everything she and the staff have built.

Mr. Mark Howe, Ionia County Administrator spoke, stating Ionia County was previously affiliated with another CMH Board, and they have enjoyed a good working relationship with Mid-South, due in large part to Ms. Reynolds. He stated he would miss her, and wanted to go on record saying that.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.