

CFAC Minutes for September 8, 2008

CFAC Present: Inez, Millie, Terry, Evelyn, Edward, David, Debbie, Patrick, Ruth, Carol, Marvin, Len, Sammy, Sandra.

CFAC Absent: Danny, Katie, Queenie, James, Donna, Phyllis

Guest: Kelly

ECBH Staff: Cindy

Division Staff: Novella

Inez opened the meeting. The committee agreed to move Cindy to the top of the agenda so she could review the Consumer Benefit Plan required by the Division. To update the CFAC, Cindy:

- Advised that the ECBH budget was about \$17 Million. Some of the money was “pass through” money that went to organizations like PORT. The rest of the money is for the benefit plan.
- Reviewed authorization patterns occurring recently. She said that developmental therapies (targeted case management) increased 300% in one month. This was due to some providers changing diagnoses to continue providing services (misusing community support). She added that there were five offending providers.
- Stated that the IPRS is now a closed network. No new providers will be allowed in unless there is a need for additional services, to be determined by ECBH.
- Stated that endorsement was withdrawn for 41 providers, mostly community support, for failure to meet the 25% benchmark or for failing to meet the accreditation benchmark. Mike will give a breakdown next meeting of those providers who lost endorsements.
- Said ECBH continues to “clean up” the provider network. Currently there are about 150 providers in the network including the 41 losing endorsements. There are currently 20 providers that are nationally accredited.
- Advised that there is a new ECBH organizational chart which will be reviewed at a later time.

Cindy’s review of the Benefit Plan:

- There are 4 levels of care. They are:
 - Basic – including outpatient treatment, individual and group services, medication management and evaluation and assessment/intake services
 - Enhanced – including adult mental health, child mental health/child substance abuse, developmental disabilities including targeted case management, and adult substance abuse
 - Residential – including a variety of residential services and respite
 - Inpatient – in participation with 6 facilities in eastern NC.

Specialized benefits and programs were also briefly mentioned such as MAJORS and Community Capacity.

Corrected September 13, 2008

Also mentioned by Cindy:

- Six or seven of the hospitals in the area each receive \$100,000 per year for staffing for crisis services. ECBH is also purchasing day/beds space (new this year) to keep consumers out of Cherry Hospital.
- With the enhanced level of care, ECBH is making sure that all consumers are applying for Medicaid to assure that they receive all benefits to which they are entitled. With Medicaid approval, consumers also get physical care. ECBH can now review Medicaid status.
- For child community support all requests for more than six hours per week must be accompanied by additional documentation for the need.
- Best practices have shown that ADHD is best controlled through medication. To be approved for community support consumers must first get therapy and medication. If it is determined that community support services are needed, best practice has shown the greatest improvement with group therapies.
- Enhanced benefits total between \$10 and \$15 Million.

Cindy then asked for CFAC's "blessing" on the reviewed Benefit Plan. CFAC approved the benefit plan by consensus and no objections were expressed.

Cindy presented "Second Mile" which is a proposal from ECBH to support adults to transition successfully back to the community after a psychiatric hospitalization in a state operated facility. This program has been approved by the Secretary of DHHS. Cindy also said there is a liaison assigned to Cherry Hospital for the nine counties of ECBH. In addition, ECBH will teach WRAP at Cherry with peer teachers.

In other business:

- The CFAC application was approved
- CFAC minutes from the August meeting were approved
- Evelyn agreed to serve on the ECBH QIC committee
- Position papers were discussed regarding "Tropic Thunder" and Cherry Hospital. Evelyn, Sandra, and Debbie will work on this.
- A motion was passed to pay \$0.33 per mile to Inez help defray the costs of attending non-medicare appeals panel in Raleigh.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
David A. Hendrickson, CFAC Secretary