

CFAC Minutes
July 13, 2009

Present: Len, Terry, David, Millie, Carol, Ruth, Evelyn, Katie, Inez, Sammy, Sandra, Patrick, Sandy

Guests: Sonia, Patrick III

LME: Mike

Division: Novella

Evelyn called the meeting to order.

Introductions: Sandra introduced Sonia as a guest and “dear friend”. Everyone then took turns introducing themselves.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Carol announced she would not be able to serve on the ECBH Quality Improvement Committee.

Evelyn announced the Edward will resign from the CFAC.

Gaps in Service: There is no count of psychiatrists in the catchment area but it is known there is a shortage. There are enough therapists mostly in Greenville, New Bern, Washington, and other large areas of population. Substance abuse services outside the Greenville and New Bern areas is ‘near impossible’ to procure, according to Mike. These facts are reflected in the needs assessment. The general assembly funded for more psychiatrists. There is an ongoing process to hire new psychiatrists that have completed residency. Areas covered include the nine counties of ECBH LME and the Nash county area. Windsor, Greenville, Wilson, New Bern are also included. There are satellite services available for the Pamlico County area.

Katie asked about the Second Mile program and its progress. ECBH is currently training staff from Cherry Hospital on recovery (WRAP) so they can connect people with the community. Also the STR line is available for those coming out of the Walter B. Jones center and some other centers for follow up services.

Patrick asked about suicidal consumers. Mine responded that if a person is suicidal then they are kept in the hospital. He added that it is ‘against the law’ to release a person that is suicidal. Mobile Crisis is available in many of these cases and they should be able to respond 95% of the time within 30 minutes. Also tele-psychiatry and emergency rooms can be used as needed. If a person is suicidal they have to have a first evaluation. They are kept until conditions change (and they are deemed no threat to themselves).

Previous minutes: Terry made a motion, seconded by Patrick to accept the June minutes with 3 minor corrections. The motion passed by consensus.

Action Plan: Mike, Len, Evelyn, and Novella will meet to talk about the CFAC action plan for the coming months.

CFAC Orientation Packet: It was decided that the action plan needed to be reviewed and finalized. Katie and Evelyn are doing this. Katie reported having additions based on input from the previous month. Katie and Evelyn will present this during the August meeting.

Sandra asked if this orientation packet could be used for recruitment. Millie responded that some of it could be used for that purpose.

CFAC budget: The CFAC budget was reviewed for June. To date, \$16,134.86 has been spent out of a \$25,000 budget. Terry made a motion to accept the CFAC budget. This was seconded by Len. The motion passed by consensus.

LME support for CFAC: Mike stated that, due to the loss of the CFAC offices, additional supports were being offered such as making copies, providing minutes, and other similar services. Terry questioned if this could be tied with the LEG work. Len tabled this for later consideration.

Committee updates: Sandra presented several possibilities for a new CFAC logo. She said she 'got away' from the NC map and alternative pictures as they make the logo look 'busy'. Terry made a motion to accept the logo form. This was seconded by Len. The group approved the logo design by consensus. The group agreed to decide on colors for the logo at the next meeting

Human Rights & Web Design reports: These reports were deferred to the next meeting due to Marvin not being able to attend the July meeting.

Novella announced that Implantation Update #58 was now available on the Division website.

Albemarle Mental Health: Mike announced that ECBH was asked on May 29 to provide management of Albemarle MH. They had a 30 day window to transition services. He reported that 'things' have gone well overall. The Division stabilized the Albemarle budget beginning in October 2008. ECBH has since then shored up services. ECBH will be involved with Albemarle for 12 months only. After this it is up to each county to vote on joining ECBH or seeking affiliations outside ECBH. There are 10 counties currently being managed by ECBH within the Albemarle catchment area. Mike stated that the first job in assuming management was to stabilize psychiatry. For example, those counties that were previously a part of the Tideland MH system partnered with Tideland Psychiatric. Dare county services were divested to Health Services Personnel. The remaining counties are receiving services from Port Human Services. Targeted case management went to the ARC. He added that there was almost no interruption of services. Reductions in force (RIFs) went out to about 100 people. Many of these got jobs with private providers or retired. Mike stated that the call volume increased about 400% since ECBH took over on

June 22. Pressure points include after hours calls, emergency departments, mobile crisis, and guardianship of 60 individuals. Mike suggested that the ECBH CFAC invite the Albemarle CFAC to participate in mutual concerns during the December 2009 timeframe.

Mike stated that overall there was a 12% cut in funding over last year in human services. There are, therefore, probably more people on various waiting lists.

ECBH continues to cull poor providers. In the appeal process available to providers, ECBH has been upheld in its decisions to pull the endorsements from providers that do not meet mandated requirements. ECBH asked the Division to review procedures used to cull providers. Mike thought that ECBH will have a positive review.

Relational Agreement: The CFAC needs to sign the relational agreement before the August meeting of the ECBH area board.

Sandra expressed appreciation to Inez and Millie who served as moderators last year.

Discussion on the called meeting in May was tabled.

Evelyn adjourned the meeting.

Agenda Items for August:

- QIC appointment
- Presentation of CFAC orientation packet
- CFAC logo
- Human Rights Committee report
- Web design report
- Relational Agreement