

System Updates
Monday, September 13, 2010
Administrative Office - Europa Center

1. Critical Access Behavioral Health Agencies (CABHAs)

Debra Farrington shared information on the status of CABHAs across the state, as well as in the OPC catchment area.

- i. As of the beginning of September, 76 CABHAs have been certified – 30 of the certified CABHAs have completed Medicaid enrollment and 14 others are in the process.
- ii. According to July paid Medicaid claims, there are 10 CABHA providers serving consumers in Orange County, five in Person, and seven in Chatham.
- iii. Staff from OPC have participated in both the site reviews and clinical interviews of providers who are interested in becoming a CABHA.
- iv. Effective January 1, 2011, CABHAs will be the only type of provider eligible to provide Case Management, Community Support Team, Intensive In-Home Services and Day Treatment. The Division of MH/DD/SAS has established several benchmarks for providers who will not become a CABHA to transition consumers currently receiving those services to CABHA certified agencies. Providers will be submitting consumer transition plans to OPC beginning October 15th, and OPC will be monitoring the process to facilitate a smooth transition for those consumers.

2. Independent Assessment

- a. Debra Farrington shared information on the Independent Assessment pilot project. The goal of independent assessments would be to assure that consumer need is correctly matched to the service array. The assumption is that this would decrease the Medicaid dollars spent on unnecessary high cost services. DMH & DMA expect to have a savings of \$7.7M on mental health services by utilizing independent assessors. This is becoming a new state-wide initiative.

3. OPC Agency Work Plan

- i. Ms. Truitt talked with Board members regarding the SFY10-11 agency work plan and described how the plan has evolved over the last few years. In an attempt to more actively engage staff in the process Management Team made several significant changes this year, including identification of priority goals to include the following:
 1. Position the agency to respond to state and federal reform initiatives
 2. Strengthen the agency's financial position
 3. Strengthen our provider community
 4. Strengthen appropriate consumer care and participation in our system
 5. Strengthen the LME's presence in our communities
 6. Strengthen and maintain a qualified, stable work force
 7. Strengthen agency operations specific to:
 - a. Confidentiality
 - b. Diversity
 - c. Risk management
 - d. Operational management
- b. Management Team will be finalizing the work plan for Board review.

**Minutes of the OPC Area Board
Monday, September 13, 2010
Administrative Office - Europa Center**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Tom Vanderbeck, Richard Edwards, Lynn Ikenberry, Amanda Blanks, John Stewart, Heather Nash, Mary Cay Corr, Mike Rosenthal, Carol Mitchell

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Commissioner Bernadette Pelissier, Commissioner Jimmy Clayton, Bill Gentry, George Greger-Holt, Sue Schwartz, Rachel Winstead

STAFF PRESENT

Judy Truitt, Dave Jenny, Lynne Hamlet, Donna Prather, Ivy Williams, Debra Farrington, Michael Norton, Janine Reda

GUESTS PRESENT

Gwen Harvey, Orange County Assistant Manager

CALL TO ORDER

OPC Board Chair Richard Edwards called the Board meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Edwards opened the floor for public comment. There were no comments.

READING OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Tom Vanderbeck motioned to approve the August 2010 minutes of the OPC Board meeting. John Stewart seconded the motion. The motion carried with board members voting in favor and none opposing.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Edwards opened the floor for public comment. There were no comments. He deferred the remainder of his time to Judy Truitt.

AREA DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. Budget Update

- a. The Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) has been instructed by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Secretary to reverse the proposed rate reductions that were effective September 1, 2010. Notwithstanding any further directives, the rates in effect as of August 31, 2010 shall remain in effect on September 1, 2010, and thereafter.
- b. OPC continues to be cautious in planning for services and LME administrative funds. While area authorities have been assured that there will be no further reductions this fiscal year, OPC is managing a very tight benefit plan which will be adjusted as the year progresses.

2. LME Strategic Planning

- a. Ms. Truitt updated Board members on discussions that have been initiated by the Alamance & Caswell County Managers regarding a possible merger of AC LME with another LME. Alamance & Caswell have initiated discussions with four LMEs

- Centerpoint, Sandhills, Guilford and have now included OPC. She provided an overview of the negotiations which occurred in 2009, as well as the current situation at Alamance Caswell LME.
- b. County management staff have reported that AC LME did not select a viable merger partner by the July 1st deadline and they (county managers) have now gotten involved in the negotiations. DMH has issued new times which require that a potential partner be identified by November 1st. The county managers will make their recommendations to the AC LME Board at their August meeting and will let area directors know the decision.
- c. The OPC Board agreed they would like to investigate the options and agreed to consider an altered Board schedule for strategic planning purposes.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

Dave Jenny presented the Financial Activity Report:

- Work continues on de-bugging Cardinal Innovations (CI). We asked that all old, non-current consumers be added to the data base to aid in reactivating consumers who come back into service. Development continues on the interface between CI and our accounting system. Monthly provider training offerings continue.
- The DHHS auditors were here again August 10 through August 13 to finish the audit of SFY's 2008 & 2009. They still have a couple of days work to finish the audit.
- LarsonAllen was here August 16-18 to continue the audit of SFY 2009-2010. All work is completed except for a couple of Balance Sheet entries. No exceptions have been noted.
- The sale of White Oak closed on August 20 as scheduled. We have been notified by the State that the proceeds should be forwarded to them.
- Contract negotiations for TASC are underway with the new management entity for Region 2. Also, proposal for office space for TASC is being considered.
- Mr. Jenny also reviewed the August Financial statements with the Board.

Mr. Stewart motioned to approve the Finance Report and Commissioner Vanderbeck seconded. The motion carried with all Board members voting in favor and no one opposing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee:

The Finance committee had no further information beyond Mr. Jenny's report.

Human Resources Committee:

The HR Committee is currently meeting on an as-needed basis.

Client Rights Committee (CRC):

Amanda Blanks reported that the CRC met during the past week and have a new committee member, a person who is a family member of a person with a Developmental Disability. They are still in need of a Substance Abuse Professional. Ms. Blanks thanked Michael Norton for his diligence in drafting new members.

The committee reviewed incident reports and data on incidents and complaints from the Area Quality Improvement Committee (AQIC) Annual Report. There was an increase over the past year

in the number of unintentional confidentiality violations involving OPC staff. OPC has already begun retraining staff on the statutes governing confidentiality, as well as training on proper encryption of PHI in electronic formats. It was also announced that the UNC Center for Excellence will be holding a consumer friendly provider training for group home staff. The CRC next meets on October 5, 2010.

Consumer & Family Advisory Committee (CFAC):

Heather Nash shared the events of the August CFAC meeting. There was no quorum and the group discussed: rotating members, how Medicaid consumers will be receiving letters about changes in their services and how CFAC is attempting to go green by cutting down on paper use. At the next meeting they plan to discuss no-cost methods for recruiting more members. CFAC next meets on October 21, 2010 at 6 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business at this time.

Board Meeting:

The next OPC Board meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2010. The Finance Committee will begin at 6 p.m. The Finance Committee will disband at 6:30 p.m., the System Updates conversation will be from 6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., and the Board will officially convene at 7:15 p.m.

Adjournment:

Mr. Stewart motioned to adjourn the OPC Board meeting and Commissioner Vanderbeck seconded. The motion carried with all Board members voting in favor and no one opposing. The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Blanks
Secretary