

CFAC Meeting Minutes

August 16, 2007

Present: Virginia, Leslie, Shira, Gwyn, Megan, Cheryl, Heather, Edward, Allen, Steve, Bradley, Marcus, Vicente, Suzanne, and Michael

Minutes: The minutes of the July meeting were amended to reflect the attendance of both Allen and Cheryl, and approved as amended.

REPORTS

Update from CFAC Chair: Virginia requested volunteers to make a presentation on DBT (Dialectical Behavioral Therapy) to NAMI-Orange County on Saturday, November 10th. Edward, Heather, and Megan volunteered, and Cheryl and Allen also indicated possible interest.

Update from OPC CFAC Liaison: Since Virginia had been unable to attend the August Board meeting, Michael attended and reported on that meeting. He noted that the OPC Area Board passed an amended version of their By-laws which adds a dedicated CFAC position as a voting member of the Board. He clarified that because voting members of the Area Board must be sworn in, only one CFAC member could assume this seat on the Board. Virginia was selected by consensus. In addition, Michael let members know that no action had been taken on the Relational Agreement because it references the new sub-committees of the Board, which at this point are only recommendations. The Board's By-laws must now undergo a second revision that includes the new sub-committee structure. Similar to CFAC, the Area Board's By-laws require that members complete a first and second reading of amended By-laws before taking a vote. This means that the revised By-laws will likely be approved in October. Presumably, the Relational Agreement will be signed at that meeting as well. Michael reported that George Gregor-Holt, Chair of the OPC Area Board, asked him to communicate to CFAC that the Board agrees with the concepts included in the Relational Agreement, and that the delay in voting to accept it should not be interpreted as a lack of commitment on the part of the Board.

Michael noted that while he was sending out the OPC Annual Report for FY 2006-2007, he discovered a document that included CFAC accomplishments for a previous fiscal year, and asked whether members were interested in seeing a report of CFAC accomplishments for the last Fiscal Year. Members agreed that this would be useful.

Update from State CFAC Liaison: Suzanne noted that Communication Bulletin #77 (regarding updates to the LME complaint reporting system) had been issued very recently. She will provide a report to CFAC members. Suzanne also requested volunteers to participate in the non-Medicaid appeals process. She explained that the Review Panel includes professionals and Division staff, and that they need consumer and family member representatives as well. Rhonda is already serving as a member of the Review Panel, but more volunteers are needed. Members who are interested should contact Suzanne or Michael.

Chapel Hill Transit announcement: Allen reported that Chapel Hill Transit is seeking volunteers for an Advisory Committee to review its "Demand Response Division," which includes services such as EZ Rider and Shared Ride. He passed around an article printed from the internet that includes a phone number (919-969-4900) as well as an e-mail address (transportation@townofchapelhill.org) for anyone who is interested. CFAC members shared some of their experiences and concerns with the bus system, and several members indicated they would be interested in joining this Advisory Board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Adult MH/SA Committee

No one from CFAC was present at the August meeting.

AQIC

Neither Rhonda nor Pam was in attendance at tonight's meeting, and Michael noted that he had not been to the last AQIC meeting because he was out of town.

PSW (Peer Support Workshop)

The Committee met earlier this afternoon with some of the presenters, including OE, TROSA, and Family-to-Family. Brochures were distributed to CFAC members at tonight's meeting and members were asked to give their registration forms to Edward or Michael. Volunteers are still needed for the day of the workshop itself (Sept. 21). Edward explained that at the end of the workshop, participants will have an opportunity to give feedback regarding the direction we need to take regarding Peer Support.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of Officers

Michael noted that, although the current slate of officers was elected in January, the By-laws actually say that officers will be elected in September. This means that either the By-laws need to be amended, or the elections need to be held next month. Edward moved that the By-laws be amended to read that election of officers would take place in January. Leslie suggested that perhaps it would make sense to hold the elections in July, so that the terms would coincide with the fiscal year. There was some discussion about whether this would cause problems for the development of a budget, but this would not be the case since the CFAC budget is prepared prior to the end of the fiscal year. Concerns were also expressed that there might be too much confusion at the beginning of a fiscal year. Having elections in January would allow new CFAC officers to get acclimated to their new positions prior to the budget development process. Gwyn seconded Edward's motion to hold elections in January, and the motion passed in a unanimous vote. Michael will present the revised By-laws at the September meeting, and CFAC can vote to approve them in October.

Issues to Bring to Judy Truitt

Virginia and Leslie requested input from CFAC members for issues they should bring to their next meeting with Judy Truitt, which is scheduled for September 11. These could be questions members would like to have answered, or issues that simply need to be brought to Judy's attention.

- Virginia noted that they continue to be aware of an interest in starting a Drop-in Center, but Edward suggested postponing this discussion until after the PSW workshop, since several people will have input into a discussion the following Saturday about what direction makes sense now for a Peer Support Initiative.
- Another topic suggested was the limitation of services for consumers who do not qualify for Medicaid. This can limit the amount of services a consumer can receive, or in some cases prevent them from getting a service at all. Suzanne suggested that it would be appropriate for CFAC to ask how allocation decisions are made, as well as to ask at what point during the process does CFAC have opportunity for input. There were questions posed regarding whether one can even get a service if they do not need the maximum number of hours, but this is not an issue. LMEs do not insist that a consumer needs the maximum amount in order to authorize state money (IPRS) for the service to be provided. In fact, because of limited state funds LMEs cannot authorize the maximum amount in all cases. As discussion continued, there was some general agreement that people are unsure what services are available, and how one goes about accessing them. Michael noted that consumers may speak to their existing providers or call the OPC STAR (Screening, Triage, Access, Referral) Unit number (913-4120), whichever they are most comfortable doing.
- Finally, members asked whether providers use a sliding fee scale for consumers who are uninsured, and whether OPC expected them to do so. This was particularly of interest regarding CFN, since they took over OPC's clinics where this had been the practice.

OLD BUSINESS:

Recruitment

Michael drew members' attention to a bright green copy of the new CFAC flyer, which will be mailed to providers who will be asked to post it in a conspicuous place. They will also receive multiple copies of the updated brochure, and will be asked to make that available to their consumers. We will target D.D. and S.A. providers, particularly those serving Person and Chatham Counties. Michael will bring recruitment materials to the next meeting.

Check-in and Proposed Agenda for August Meeting:

CFAC requested that members who are interested in the Chapel Hill Transit Advisory Committee make a report on the committee's activities next month.