

# Steering Committee Meeting

September 12, 2011

## Downtown Community Center, Anaheim

Facilitator: Sharon Browning

### Item 1: Local/State updates – Mark Refowitz

1. \$48 million VLF reduction for Orange County was a part of the approved State budget.
  - a. BHS funding will be cut \$1.5 million this year, which will be annualized to \$3 million in FY 12/13.
2. AB 109
  - a. This will start in October 1, 2011.
  - b. AB 109 will affect both HCA and Probation. Chris from Orange County Probation Department is the principle architect.
3. EPSDT
  - a. The allocation has been realigned with State funding.
  - b. The details are still being worked out, but we know that the County will have to meet many requirements.
4. AB 3632
  - a. This is the final year of transition. Every school district (except one) has sent us a letter regarding an MOU. We do not expect every school district to contract with us next year.
5. The Executive Director of the JPA will be here in October.
6. The State might be holding back some funding that should go toward improving transportation services.
7. A mental health assessment is mandatory for any child entering the foster care system.
8. Question: Is there a program to make sure individuals continue to take their medicine after moving out of the Correctional system?
  - a. Answer: No. However, there are options that can make it easier for an individual discharged from the criminal justice system to continue their medication, including patch, timed-release, injections, and phone reminders.

### Item 2: MHSA Updated – Bonnie Birnbaum

1. November 7, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. an informational meeting will be held for Steering Committee members only. Lunch will be provided. The purpose of this special meeting is to discuss options for a sub-committee structure.
2. There is uncertainty at the state level about whether the Department of Mental Health may be split into two departments: institutional care and substance

abuse/mental health. Many functions currently performed by DMH will be moved to Dept. of Health Care Services.

3. We have started working with RDA to establish methods for evaluating the Innovation and PEI programs.
4. Volunteer to work will be implemented by a contract agency.
5. Community cares is up and running.
6. The Disparities Conference is scheduled for Oct. 31 – Nov. 1.
7. The Cultural Competence Summit is scheduled for Nov. 2-3 in Ontario.
8. We are still trying to finalize the ribbon cutting ceremony at the 401 Tustin Facility. It will probably be in December.
9. The Mental Health Board wants to know which current PEI programs address the mental health issues of older adults.
  - a. Jenny: the Board recently approved three providers:
    - i. Council on Aging
    - ii. MECCA
    - iii. Didi-Hirsch.
      1. The Contract with Didi-Hirsch will have capability of addressing older adults.
10. Introduced Sheryl Curl who will be handling supervision of mental health professional staff and will help develop a spirituality conference to be held in 2012.

### **Item 3: PEI presentation – Chip Pope and Theresa Renteria**

1. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual PEI Participant/Family Celebratory Carnival Event.
  - a. This event provided an opportunity to honor the achievements of participants and their families who have graduated from P&I county-operated programs. The event was held at Centennial Park in Santa Ana on June 4. There were 184 attendees (participants and their families).
2. Steering Committee members requested that the presenters provide some context for the programs and explain the acronyms.
3. In response to a question from another member, Chip provided a quick update on PEI programs currently in operation. It was noted that good peer mentors with lived experiences could contribute to PEI programs.
4. Jenny Qian mentioned to the committee that her team updates the resources often on the PEI website.

### **Item 4: Pacific Clinics Presentation – Steve Bush**

1. Presentation of the Consumer training program.
  - a. The three components are:
    - i. Classroom Training – Paraprofessional Mental Health Worker
    - ii. Temporary Work Experience (TWE)
    - iii. Training of TWE supervisors and staff.
  - b. The classroom training component provides consumers/family members with 160 hours of “in-person” classroom training provided during a 14-week period.

- c. The 16-week Temporary Work Experience Program teaches skills related to working in the mental health system.
    - i. The trainees work 20 hours per week at \$11.50 per hour.
  - d. Pacific Clinics trains TWE Supervisors and Staff using philosophy, concepts, and skills necessary to enable consumers and family members to work as service providers.
- 2. Questions about the program from the Steering Committee:
  - a. Was there an employment goal?
    - i. The goal was to place 20 program graduates per year in jobs.
  - b. What was the breakdown of consumers and family members?
    - i. Approximately 90% of the students are consumers and 10% are family members.
  - c. What is the possibility of the graduates obtaining jobs?
    - i. Innovation will be a big help in finding employment as 8 out of 10 of the innovation programs will be required to hire some of the Pacific Clinics graduates.
  - d. Can the video shown by Pacific Clinics be put on the PC website or the MHSA website?
    - i. It is currently on YouTube, I don't know if the video can be put on the website due to copyright of the songs.

#### **Item 5 – Public Comments**

- 1. PEI programs for older adults are doing a tremendous job! Acknowledgment to the program managers and those who work to make this great.
- 2. On November 3, the Old County Courthouse in Santa Ana will host a Veterans Fair.
- 3. Phoenix House will be hosting a ceremony on September 13 in memory of those lost to substance abuse issues.
- 4. There is a request for a longer term assurance of jobs, not just a small band-aid.
- 5. How can Mark work to influence the distribution of funding?
  - a. Mark: I try and influence within my chain of command. We are all citizens, we all can write to our elected officials and vote.