



MEETING OF THE REGION 3 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

July 27, 2023

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introductions

Grace Mims welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were conducted.

- Sharyl Gilles, Family to Family Coordinator
- Grace Mims, Ph.D., UNK Counseling and School Psychology
- Jen Puls, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Kayl Dahlke, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Suzanne Davis, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Tiffany Gressley, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Kerry Slaymaker, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Jackie Klein, Family Member
- Stephanie Branham, Family Member
- Elaine Anderson, Vocational Rehabilitation

Tiffany Gressley said she was very appreciative for everyone attending the meeting today.

2. Review of Open Meetings Act

Tiffany Gressley reviewed the intent of the Open Meetings Act with the Behavioral Health Committee Members. She explained how the information was posted on the website ahead of the meeting and the public has an opportunity to participate in meetings and hear what is going on. Due to the Open Meetings Act, our committee has used our two Zoom meeting options for the calendar year and we will meet in person today and in October.

3. Comments from the Public

Tiffany said there is no public in attendance of this meeting, so there were no public comments.

4. Review of March 23, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Tiffany Gressley said there was not a quorum for the meeting today, so we will review and vote on the minutes at the October BHAC meeting. If you see any changes please email them to Jen Puls.

5. Regional Consumer Specialist Update

Tiffany Gressley said Tammy Fiala was unable to be here today and she said she will be at the next meeting to provide an update.

6. Region 3 Fiscal Report

- a. FY23 Network Expenditures Report

Kerry Slaymaker reviewed the Network Expenditures through June 30, 2023 of the fiscal year, listing all services through the state contract. Each service listed alphabetically shows the budgeted amount and the percentage paid out. Kerry explained how each service is either rate based, expense reimbursement, Medicaid eligible, which effects how much of their budgeted amount was paid to the provider through the budgeted funds. She said beginning April 1, 2023 with Medicaid unwinding, some individuals previously covered by Medicaid due to the preemptive eligibility are now being covered by Region 3 funds. Mental Health services have paid out 76%, this is typical across the state not Region 3 only. Tiffany said that another factor continues to be the workforce shortage and providers not being fully staffed. Kerry said Substance Use Disorder funds have been 66% paid. Kerry shared an example that Therapeutic Community budget amount used to be \$300,000-400,000 and this year was only budget for \$30,000 with only \$10,000 being expended. Tiffany said Beth Baxter had said that in the past, we would run out of money by December for the Therapeutic Community service. Tiffany said it would be interesting to see if there would be any change in the drawdown and data as Medicaid unwinding continues and providers hopefully become more fully staffed. Jackie said the important thing is people continue to be served no matter the funding source. Kerry reviewed each of the Other Reinvestment Projects, which includes ARPA grant fund money and is available through September 25, 2025, and is hard to capture on this fiscal year report. Recovery Supported Housing was implemented and first covered by Region 3 funds not by Division of Behavioral Health funding to help people who completed treatment transitioning to halfway houses. Tiffany described Contingency Management and how it is to help people keep engaged with their recovery and treatment journey with personalized/individualized incentives. Kerry said the Mobile Translation Devices for Providers were ordered to use and communicate with people to help get the ball rolling. Elaine asked what kind of feedback was received. Tiffany said some providers are going to buy more and the overall feedback was positive. Kerry said overall \$11.2 million paid out 72% of the budget, which was expected to be about that amount. She said the second half of the fiscal year paid out \$1 million more than what was paid out during the first half of the fiscal year.

b. Workforce Stabilization Grant

Suzanne Davis said the Workforce Stabilization Grant is a unique one-time relief grant to help stabilize the workforce by hiring to fill vacancies and retaining current staff. Twenty-one providers in the Region 3 service area were eligible to participate in the grant. Twenty providers chose to develop a work plan including strategies and submitted to the Division of Behavioral Health. With this grant, there will be quarterly reporting of open positions and the number of direct care staff employed at the agency. Suzanne said the goal is to decrease the number of open vacancies. She said as of this week 17 of the 20 work plans were approved by the Division. The remaining three work plans the Division had questions, which providers have answered and resubmitted to the Division of Behavioral Health.

7. Region 3 Quality Improvement

a. FY23 Network Quality Measures Report for 3rd Quarter

Kayl Dahlke reviewed the 3rd Quarter (January through March) outcomes of the FY2023 Network Quality Improvement Plan: Performance Measurement and Reporting document. Kayl highlighted the outcomes for consumer satisfaction measure, access measure, and performance measures. Access measures include Housing Assistance Program, Supported Employment, Short Term Residential, and Medication Management. Performance Measures include goals for stable living at discharge, consumer confidence, employment at discharge, Supported Employment, Housing Assistance Program, Crisis Services, Professional Partner Program, Crisis Stabilization Unit, Transitional Age Coordinated Employment, Vets4Vets, Co-Responder Program, Strategic Opioid Response (SOR), Network Management, Peer Support, and ValiData. He said red numbers meant the target was not met and the far column showed the number of

individuals for each goal. Kayl said he is hoping to complete the 4th Quarter report in the next few weeks.

b. Consumer Survey Results

Kayl Dahlke reviewed the Region 3 Adult Consumer Survey report, which is a comparison of every year's results for the past five fiscal years. The Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) contracts with University of Nebraska Lincoln to gather the survey information from people through, mail, text, and phone calls. Kayl said this new information for Fiscal Year 2022 received from DBH last month. He said they have had a hard time getting people to respond to the survey. Kayl reviewed each of the categories, stating the percentages are consistent over the years. Categories include access, quality and appropriateness, outcomes, participation in treatment planning, general satisfaction, functioning, and social connectedness. Tiffany Gressley said the hope is to see a more complete package or picture of the data combining the DBH report and ValiData information.

8. Networking and Other

Tiffany Gressley asked the committee members to share any trends or needs they had.

- ❖ Sharyl Gilles, Family-to-Family Coordinator, said they had a community impact meeting in Hastings and described the need for Families CARE support in the Hastings area. Tiffany said this is definitely an example of how vital and important Peer Support is for families and individuals. Discussion was held about lived experiences and new ways to help people become trauma informed.
- ❖ Elaine Anderson, Vocational Rehabilitation, said they have received a large number of referrals for Supported Employment and they are making changes for a quicker turnaround time. Discussion was held about the possibility of funding changes in the next few months for Supported Employment.

9. Date of Next Meeting:

The next Behavioral Health Advisory Committee meeting will be on Thursday, October 26, 2023 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in-person at Region 3 Behavioral Health Services, 4009 6th Ave Suite 65, Kearney, NE.

Tiffany Gressley described how there is a need for more individuals on the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee. Tiffany said the make-up of the committee is people with lived experiences and professionals with a passion for Behavioral Health. She said if you know someone that would be a good fit for the committee, please let her know.

10. Adjourn

Grace Mims adjourned the meeting.