



MEETING OF THE REGION 3 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

July 28, 2022

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introductions

Beth Baxter welcomed everyone one to the meeting and introductions were conducted.

- Tammy Fiala, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Diana Hurlburt, Garfield County Governing Board Representative
- Kamke Rathjen, Family Member
- Amber, ASL Interpreter - Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Jen Puls, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Beth Baxter, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Karen Bredthauer, Hall County Governing Board Representative
- Karla Bennetts, Families CARE
- Sharon Price, Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Sharon Sinkler, ASL Interpreter - Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Shannon Hopson, Consumer
- Jackie Klein, Family Member
- Suanne Davis, Consumer
- Kayl Dahlke, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Kerry Slaymaker, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Melinda Dulitz, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Stephanie Branham, Family Member
- Helen Bockerman, Family Member

Beth Baxter said we have a variety of items to review in our packets.

2. Review of Open Meetings Act

Beth Baxter reviewed the Open Meetings Act with the Behavioral Health Committee Members. She asked if there were questions. There were none.

3. Comments from the Public

Beth Baxter provided an overview of the Open Meetings Act, which allows the public to come to the office for the meeting and comment. There was no public at this meeting so there are no comments.

4. Election of Officers

Beth Baxter explained how a few members from the committee who are no longer able to participate today. Brenda Miner from St. Francis Alcohol and Drug Treatment had been the

Chairperson/Substance Use Disorder and retired. The Mental Health Representative, Susan Henrie, has also retired. Discussion was held about the positions/roles of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and how to proceed. The decision was made to delay the election until the October meeting by consensus of the present Behavioral Health Committee.

5. Review of Meeting Minutes

Beth Baxter said the March meeting we did not have a quorum so we will have two sets of minutes to review.

a. January 27, 2022

Beth asked if there were any questions, changes, or additions. There was none. Karen Bredthauer made a motion to approve the January 27, 2022 Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes. Karla Bennetts seconded the motion. Diana Hurlburt abstained. Motion passed favorably.

b. March 24, 2022

Beth Baxter asked if there were any changes. Diana Hurlburt motioned to approve the March 24, 2022 Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. Karen Bredthauer seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

6. Region 3 Fiscal Report

a. FY22 Recap of Network Expenditures/Contract Drawdown

Kerry Slaymaker provided an overview of our State Funded contracted services, which ended on June 30, 2022. Mental Health funds paid out 80.2% and Substance Used Disorder funds spent 78.5%. She said the amounts included the one-time behavioral health workforce emergency funds. The State approved 15% Emergency Funds for the services billed January through June, the payments do not include flex or federal funds. Kerry explained how the FY22 funding year was unique when reviewing services utilized in FY22 and since 2020 Medicaid Expansion started in October 2020. Region 3 is the payer of last resort. Services may have switched to Medicaid Coverage, which has caused utilization issues along with the workforce shortage. Beth Baxter expanded on what Kerry presented and stated that several of the past years Region 3 has drawn down all funds with a few years needing additional funds to cover the higher utilization demand than normal. Medicaid Expansion and the lingering COVID-19 pandemic which has caused a downward trend in utilization and also has impacted the availability of the behavioral health workforce which negatively impacts access. Kerry asked if there are any other questions. There were none.

b. Region 3 Network Expenditures – FY22 Final Report

Kerry Slaymaker said this report shows all the services we contracted for July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, the services in the report are broken down by Mental Health, Substance Use Disorder, and listed alphabetically. Kerry said the numbers in this report are different, than previously reviewed report as they include county funds, some services were paid on a unit rate and some were reimbursed on approved expenses. Kerry said primarily the differences are from the changes through Medicaid Expansion. Beth said one of the roles of the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee is to present a budget in March that starts in July. After hours of preparing using current and previous years information a detailed report is provided and presented to the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee including figures from the current Fiscal Year, the recommended budget plan, and the differences in between the two numbers. During the March meeting, the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee discusses the budget plan and formulates a recommendation to Regional Governing Board (RGB) for passage or changes. The BHAC plays key role in budgeting and Beth said she is

pleased to have new members on this committee who will have the opportunity to participate in the Region 3 budgeting process.

c. FY22 One-Time Emergency Funding for Providers

Kerry Slaymaker said emergency one time funding comes in two waves first payment was in June for January through May and the second payment is this week for June services. Kerry said the difference was \$691,392.61 for Region 3. Beth Baxter asked if there were any questions. There were none.

7. Regional Consumer Specialist Update

Tammy Fiala provided an overview of trainings and events provided by Region 3. She said the second LEAP training was held for 22 participants. Raising an awareness of Opioid Overdoses and Recovery Month coming up. She said Region 3 and stakeholders have two upcoming events to enhance awareness. One event is September 3, 2022 at Quality Inn, Grand Island and the second event is scheduled for September 18, 2022 at Harmon Park, Kearney.

Tammy continues to participate with Melinda Dulitz conducting Peer Support Audits. Tammy said she is part of the Region 3 Trauma Informed Care Team and has a goal to be more trauma informed at Region 3. She is working with consumers and families to make artwork to update the environment.

Tammy reported that the Consumer and Family Coalition completed a project that focused on the perceptions of behavioral health challenges and discussion of the various “mask” people put on relevant to their experiences. The outside of the masks is how others see you and the inside of the masks is how you see yourself. These masks are professional displayed at Region 3’s office in Kearney.

Tammy shared about Crisis Intervention Training (CIT), which has roots in NAMI, and is specifically geared toward Law Enforcement. The CIT training will be held October 31, 2022 to November 4, 2022 at the Grand Island Law Enforcement Center. The training will include engagement of people with lived experience and panels with family members and consumers. Tammy will send additional information to the people who expressed an interest in participating in this event.

8. Region 3 Quality Improvement Report

a. Y23 Region 3 Network Quality Measures Plan

Kayl Dahlke reviewed the draft version *FY2023 Network Quality Improvement Plan: Performance Measurement and Reporting* document. Kayl highlighted the different areas of quarterly and semi-annual review: consumer satisfaction measure outcomes, access measure outcomes, and performance measures. Access measures include goals for the 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, Vets4 Vets, the Co-Responder Program, Strategic Opioid Response (SOR), Network Management, a new goal for Peer Support, and ValiData. Kayl provided detailed information about the changes and new goals. He said at the Regional Quality Improvement Team (RQIT) meetings we review this report and brainstorm how to improve the measures.

Beth Baxter said we are gearing up for our national accreditation site visit in August and this Network QI Plan demonstrates how Region 3 meets some of the National Standards. The review is over a three-year period FY19, FY20, and FY21 where these reports are important to the process.

b. Region 3 Active Individuals Served Trended

Kayl Dahlke reviewed the point-in-time report, which is ran at the beginning of the each month. He said the report shows the total served in the past seven months for mental health and substance used disorder services. He highlighted each graph.

9. Crisis System Update

a. Crisis System Update

Beth Baxter said the 988 System is up and running on a dedicated line that specializes in Behavioral Health. We're assisting with promoting the new 988 National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline so that individuals, friends and/or family members are experiencing a mental health crisis they know to reach out to 988 operated by Boys Town as the first line of defense to address the crisis over the phone. She said over 80% of crisis calls are resolved over the phone, when it warrants a face to face meeting, Boys Town helps with a warm handoff to the appropriate Crisis Response service. The 988 system provides a more direct and specific response to the crisis. In Region 3 service area, we have not required law enforcement involvement in a crisis, although some have had direct involvement with law enforcement. We are trying to ensure an individual's crisis can be addressed without law enforcement involvement. Beth shared the flow chart to show the process and the numbers that can help when people are experiencing crisis. We are currently in transition but making progress. Beth Baxter said Beth Reynolds-Lewis, our Emergency System Specialist, recently met with the Furnas County Sherriff who has used the 988 System and it was a smooth process and positive experience.

b. Crisis Response RFP – Community Response to Crisis

Beth Baxter reported that Region 3 has issued a Crisis Response RFP (Request For Proposal) with a letter of interest due tomorrow. One letter of interest was received so far, with the proposals due by August 23, 2022. There will be a recommendation given to Regional Governing Board on August 26, 2022. Beth said the approval of the provider and service will be contingent upon approval from the Division of Behavioral Health Services. Beth said given the nature of and need of the project, fair and appropriate process, we are hoping to have new provider selected and up and running soon.

10. Region 3 Updates

a. Regional Administrator Transition Process

Beth Baxter said she is retiring June 30, 2023 after 33 years at Region 3 and 30 years as Regional Administrator. Beth shared the internal process Region 3 has begun working with the Leadership Team has created a timeline that is subject to change. Beth's motto is "over prepare and go with the flow". She said the position Network Project Director (NPD), which ties into leadership of the Region, has been created through the network enhancement and reinvestment plan with reinvestment/redirected funds. Beth said the focus on the reinvestment funds are strictly internal with Regional Behavioral Health System. We are unique with many tenured staff and opened the position internally as an opportunity for advancement of staff and utilization of experienced staff. Beth said the after Network Project Director is hired this will begin the succession process. Beth said the person selected would need to be the right fit for the organization and for the person, as well. She

said looking around May 1, 2023 after the handshake to help individual acclimate into the position and we will be working on the leadership transition.

b. Region 3 System Enhancement Initiative

Beth Baxter shared the information in detail of how to reinvest money in additional needed services and supports. These opportunities create new staff positions Network Project Director, Justice Behavioral Health Specialist, and 988/Suicided Prevention Coordinator. The Justice Behavioral Health Specialist would work with stakeholders, law enforcement, providers, court, and Lincoln Regional Center (LRC) and be supporting involved in the Justice System. The 988/Suicide Prevention Coordinator position request was submitted to the Division of Behavioral Health Services in January received approval in May. Beth said through our reinvestment strategies there is about \$1.6 million to keep in the system, utilizing research in Evidence Based Practices, our system would benefit.

11. Networking and Other

- ❖ Karla Bennetts, Families CARE, said they are holding parent support groups on zoom for Region 3 and Region 4 this fall. She said they focused on the youth support groups this summer along with Parent Leadership training.
- ❖ Sharon Price, Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, said they have funding specifically outside of Lincoln and Omaha for rural areas through their agency. Informational handouts had been sent with the meeting items, providing details about reimbursable expenses.

12. Date of Next Meeting:

The next Behavioral Health Committee Meeting will be on Thursday, October 27, 2022 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Beth Baxter said we would determine if the meeting would be conducted virtually through Zoom or at the Region 3 Kearney office.

13. Adjourn

Beth Baxter adjourned the meeting.