



MEETING OF THE REGION 3 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 27, 2022

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introductions

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

- Sharon Sinkler, ASL Interpreter - Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Terri Tupps, ASL Interpreter – Linguabee
- Jen Puls, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Beth Baxter, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Nathan Canfield, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Helen Bockerman, Family Member
- Elaine Anderson, Vocational Rehabilitation
- Kayl Dahlke, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Kerry Slaymaker, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Tammy Fiala, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
- Jackie Klein, Family Member
- Grace Mims, Ph.D., UNK Counseling and School Psychology
- Sharon Price, Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Stephanie Branham, Family Member
- Melinda Dulitz, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services

Beth Baxter said we need two more members to make a quorum. Since there was not a quorum, we postpone the approval of the meeting minutes and the election of officers.

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 said there was no public comments for this meeting.

4. Review of Meeting Minutes

Since there was not a quorum, the review of the minutes will be postponed to the January 2023 meeting.

5. Election of Officers

Due to the lack of a quorum, the election will be delayed until the January Behavioral Health Advisory Committee meeting.

6. First Quarter FY23 Network Expenditures Report

Kerry Slaymaker said we've completed the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2023. Kerry provided an overview of the report including how the services were listed alphabetically, the percentage of time lapsed, and the percentage expended thus far. Kerry highlighted a few differences and explained how a budget shift had been submitted to allow for payment for services that exceeded the original allocated amount. Details were provided on the new services being provided, how individuals who had not been served before are now being served, Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) was the cost of a train the trainers in August so that we could expand our MHFA training cadre, and a few of the reinvestment projects will be rolling out in October. She said 16% of the budget has been expended through 25% of fiscal year. Kerry asked if there were questions or comments. There were none.

7. Region 3 System Enhancement Plan Service Development Update

Tiffany Gressley was not feeling well so Beth Baxter provided the report. Beth said many services are in the works and moving forward. Due to Medicaid Expansion, which freed up money for other services, Region 3 has developed a reinvestment plan and is in the process of development and implementation. We worked with the Division of Behavioral Health to redirect the funds focusing on recovery and enhancements. Beth highlighted the services including the current stages of development and how they got to where they are. Beth described the challenges of the workforce shortages and delays this has caused for implementation. Beth asked if there were any questions and there were none. Beth said in December 2022 we will start looking at the next fiscal year.

8. Network Update

a. FY23 Agency Audit and Review Report

Melinda Dulitz said a Service Purchased Verification Unit Audit is completed on an annual basis, and in-depth programmatic audit is completed every three years with the last one was completed in 2021. Melinda provided an overview of the report: which compares FY21 to FY22 scores for each agency by service and overall for the provider. Melinda said Region 3 contracts with agencies that are also in the Region 4 Network; therefore, they share their audit information with us instead of completing two audits over the same information at one agency. Melinda said if the agency scores less than 95% a corrective action plan is written, then a re-audit is conducted for the same timeframe. She said she sends a letter in the fall letting each agency know of the upcoming audit. Melinda said she and Tammy Fiala co-audit the agencies that provide Peer Support services with Tammy specifically reviewing the Peer Support services including the Wellness Recovery Support Plan. Melinda said service definitions, Network Management Policies and Procedures are the framework for the audits. Melinda asked if there were any questions. There were none.

b. Denials and Ineligibles Annual Report

Beth Baxter showed a diagram and explained how the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health, Region 3 Behavioral Health Advisory Committee, Regional Governing Boards (County Representatives), Region 3 Behavioral Health Services and the system worked together and where the Region 3 funds come from including the money we payout to our Provider Network. Beth asked if there were any questions since we had many new committee members. There were none. Melinda Dulitz said every 6 months she shares the gaps and barriers through the denials and ineligibles report. Melinda said every month providers send in the information to her. Melinda provided an example of when a provider is at capacity. Melinda asked if there were any questions. There were none.

9. Regional Consumer Specialist Update

Tammy Fiala said she is helping Beth Reynolds all next week with the CIT training, which includes panels of experiences people have gone through, role playing scenarios, and officers are evaluated to hone the skills they have on handling instances. They explain why it is important to bring this training to Region 3. Tammy said most peer supports audits are complete. She shared about the October 20th Global Peer Support celebration day where she had created stickers that said “I thanked a Peer Support Specialist.” Tammy said the Department of Health and Human Services had a place on their website for people to write how peer support effected their life and the list will be compiled. Tammy said she has also been lining up coalition meetings, presentations and speakers.

10. FY22 Annual Capacity and Utilization Report

Nathan Canfield said the waitlist is due to the lack of capacity of a service. Nathan reviewed the Fiscal Year 2022 Region 3 Waitlist Report from the CDS. He highlighted 84% of the waiting list was Short Term Residential. The Primary Funding Source was Medicaid, which was 68.2% of all funding. He said 79 individuals were on the priority waitlist, with 51 individuals being Intravenous Drug Users. The average wait time was 17.7 days for priority population and 22.7 days for non-priority population. Nathan said 56% of the people were in services within 40 days.

Beth Baxter said the waitlist is based on the limited access or capacity for a service. She explained how service providers cover the whole state and have contacted for certain number of people from each region. Surprisingly the waitlist is not higher and there currently due to the lack of workforce across the Network. Nathan stated that the wait time for Region 3 is lower than Region 1 and Region 2. He reviewed the reasons for removal on an individual from the waitlist. Beth said the Centralized Data System (CDS) is utilized by all regions. This information feeds into the Electronic Billing System (EBS). Nathan said before the CDS the information we looked was only Region 3 funded services, now we are able to look at an expanded picture of the services.

11. Region 3 Quality Improvement Report

a. FY22 Region 3 Performance Measures Annual Report

Kayl Dahlke reviewed the FY22 Network Quality Improvement Plan: Performance Measurement and Reporting providing the number of individuals served in the figuring of each measure. Kayl said the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2023 is due October 31, 2022 and he will have a new report in the next few weeks. Grace Mims asked Kayl how you figure a target for each measure. Kayl said the Division of Behavioral Health sets the statewide targets, providers send data to Region 3, and information can be pulled from the CDS. Kayl said in FY2023 there will be new goals for ValiData Outcomes: Post Discharge Tracking project and Peer Support.

b. Region 3 Active Individuals Served Trended

Kayl Dahlke reviewed the point-in-time report from information pulled from the CDS at the beginning of each month, which shows the total number of active individuals served in the past seven months for mental health and substance used disorder services. He highlighted each graph and he said the information is consistent with the total number served.

12. Region 3 Training Partnership

Beth Baxter reviewed the Annual Training Report. She said this training partnership has been developed over the years. Region 3 partners with BHECN (Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska, Kearney) covering Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, and requests from Lincoln and Omaha, trainings

include specific topics. Beth said 2,028 individuals participated in 70 training workshops, 888 of these participated in trainings supported by Region 3's training partnership. She said many of the trainings focus on trauma. The trainings had been both onsite and virtual to reach the number of people interested in the trainings. Beth said BHECN has asked to expand the number of trainers and the topic areas in the future.

13. Region 3 National Accreditation Report

Beth Baxter said we have completed the CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) site visit. Beth said Region 3 has been accredited since 1998 within the CARF International Behavioral Health field. She explained when a site visit occurs there are three possible outcomes a 1-year, 2-year, or 3-year accreditation. Beth said she that is pleased to report since the first accreditation, Region 3 has maintained a 3-year accreditation during each national accreditation survey. Beth said there were 1,625 standards reviewed by three surveyors, of which 1,597 standards were met, which gave us a 98.28% compliance rate. Our site visit was completed virtually. We are in the process of developing a Quality Improvement Plan. Beth asked if there were any questions. Grace Mims said congratulations and asked if other regions complete the others at the same time. Beth said everyone has a different schedule. Region 3 is accredited for Case Management for the Professional Partner Program and Emergency Community Support and Network Providers. Three of the six regions, (Region 3, Region 5, and Region 6) have gone through the Network Provider Accreditation process, as it is not required. Beth said the downside of virtual site visit was the surveyors were not able to drive through Kearney and see part of our state.

14. Networking and Other

Grace Mims said this is the time to share plans and events going on.

- ❖ Elaine Anderson, Vocational Rehabilitation, stated that VR is working on outreach plan to focus on minority populations including ethnicity and gender. If you are working with someone in the minority population who may need vocational support services to please contact her.
- ❖ Beth Baxter asked if anyone has had experience-using 988, the system has not been live very long. There was nothing shared.

15. Date of Next Meeting:

The next Behavioral Health Committee Meeting will be on Thursday, January 26, 2023 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

16. Adjourn

Grace Mims adjourned the meeting.