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*Missouri Association of County
Developmental Disabilities Services*

Our Mission:

MACDDS is dedicated to the promotion of county initiatives in developmental disability services.

Minutes

Thursday July 22, 2010

Call to Order: Jennifer Wooldridge, President

Introductions/General Announcements/Celebrations of Success

- Meeting calendar was distributed for updates
- We discussed the number of members required for a quorum, one third of the membership which is seventeen. We had seventeen members present.

Discussion: Questions and issues for Bernie Simons

- Speak to Jeff Grosvenor about county rate differences, (making up the 2%) since as soon as the cut was announced deals began to be made. There will be a conference call held soon to discuss as a group.
- Discussed the rumor of withholding payment if a current person centered plan is not in place at the correct timeline. Three issues affect this, if the person centered plan is being prepared by a DDD case manager they are most likely not going to meet the timeline, if the plan is held up in the Utilization Review Committee, or if the plan goes to the appeals process. All are out of control of the county/provider.
- DDD organizational chart that was just published and other personnel issues.
- In some regions the MoCabbie is not the responsibility of case management any more, even though it is clearly listed as a case management function. This could have something to do with the eligibility issues that we have discussed previously.
- We will want to discuss with Bernie Simons the upcoming visits from Robin Cooper with NASDDDD to discuss waiver rewrites of services definitions, the TCM agreement status, SIS status, 2012 budget development issues, his upcoming regional road trips and meetings, dental insurance or adequate providers, DDD staff changes, and health care home terminology and impact.

Alecia Archer presented a TCM group request. They would like to meet every other month the morning of our Wednesday meeting starting in September. This should cause no extra charge as they will use a portion of the room already reserved. They would like to meet in September, December, January, March, May, and July.

- They would like to keep a list of issues/questions posted on the MAC website

Dedicated to the Promotion of County Initiative in Developmental Disabilities Services
www.macdds.org

- Would a facebook account make it more accessible to anyone who wanted the information?
- They are developing a survey to address specific TCM issues

Discussed the upcoming August 3 and 4th meetings. Jennifer Wooldridge requested members to attend both St Louis (August 3, 2010) and Kansas City (August 4). Volunteers were St Louis, August 3, 2010- Kelly Butler, Jennifer Wooldridge, Robin Peyton, Deb Miller, Jeff Richards, Brenda Rocoberto, Jim Casey

Kansas City, August 4, 2010- Stacy Harrison, Max Lytle, Ann Graff, Lynn Wells, Alecia Archer, Jake Jacobs, Peggy Kutchback

There was some discussion concerning the recent (July 26th) FY12 budget planning meetings by region and by invitation only. Questions and comments generated were

- What rationale would restrict people from hearing about budget cuts?
- Should a proposal be developed for legislators to have a line item to address rate inequities?
- This would not be an either or situation, rate equity would free up monies for services
- Additional time would have been great but the invitations went out relatively close to the event.
- Peg Capo attended the Mental Health Commission video conference. Keith Schafer was quoted as requesting input from stakeholders but in the end he will decide.
- Do the groups really have input into the plan or is it a waste of time?
- St. Charles Board is addressing this individually in a letter to the Mental Health Commission addressing some reasonable ideas and input, she will share with the membership.
- There have been reports of referencing our minutes out of context, and a way to keep that from occurring might be to send the minutes to the legislators.
- We do need to be represented in Jefferson City, all the time. How can we fund a voice?
- A quarterly newsletter would be a good way to summarize our activities and make them known
- We need to look at the whole structure of how we operate, and the Executive Committee is already working on that.

Lynn Wells moved that the Executive Committee look at our organizational structure while the Finance Committee looks at the budget and present recommendations in August. **Peg Capo** seconded the motion and the **motion carried**.

Discussion then continued centered around the 2% reduction. There are many different ways that counties may choose to look at this.

- Many counties are already supplementing rates for agencies
- Some counties may choose to make up the 2% for agencies
- Some counties are making deals to keep their rates the same if they are paying the full match
- With so many variations it must be difficult for the state to estimate their savings
- With so many rates below the actual cost it is difficult to serve people at all.
- Rates remaining the same with increased services requested will result in county boards being over encumbered.

Update & Dialogue: Bernie Simons

The TCM agreement is now at the DDD attorney office with a target of being out in a couple of weeks.

1. Meetings

- a. this coming Monday for the FY12 budget input from stakeholders/limit of 30 people
- b. August 12th is the Mental Health Commission retreat/meeting
- c. Health Care Home and the governor's Cabinet will have subgroups working on different portions
- d. August 3 and 4 meetings with Robin Cooper to define service categories for the waiver resubmissions coming up

2. DDD Org Chart and personnel changes

- a. Robin Rust is moving to Federal Programs
- b. Nancy Nickolas is moving to DDD Employment
- c. Additional candidates being sought for the KC Director position

d. Tec Chapman will be leaving August 13th

e. Other shifts within the Division

Jennifer Wooldridge asked about the role of UR Coordinator in regional offices, and it was explained that effective August 1st the UR Coordinator would have responsibility for UR with no additional caseload. That position will chair UR; look at benefits, eligibility etc. This should address the efficiency and speed up the process. They will fall under Consumer Relations.

Will District Deputies still review? Only the 11's and 12's, and Bernie Simons approves all 12's also. Asked about restrictions on caseload growth, Bernie Simons replied, not aware of any.

Bernie Simons reported that he did not review the contracts prior to Central Office sending them out earlier this year.

Began to look at our list of issues

- Although there was a visit to Chicago to CMS last week, there was nothing to report on
- Upcoming regional visits with SB40's started in St Louis last week. Allowing for regional variations, county differences and partnering
- Bernie Simons reported that there is no truth to DDD not supporting group homes; it remains a choice that is presented for people and families. He stated that up to 4 people in an ISL maximizes choice. The issue with empty beds in group homes is an agency issue, not marketing their agency as a place where people want to live.
- A conference call will occur next week to discuss the 2% reduction and how counties may provide funding to avoid the cut for matched services.
- Asked about the specific requirement for who does the MoCabbie. Bernie Simons reported that he had no idea what we were referring to. In the waiver manual it is listed as a case management function.
- Bernie Simons had a handout of waiver billing review, there are 1154 contracts overall in DDD. DDD plans to use the results of the billing review as a marketing and information tool.
- SIS update over 8,000 are completed. Will be asking for a group to look at this later on.
- There is a meeting scheduled around August 10th for dental carriers to look at preventative coverage for people with developmental disabilities. They would pay for the coverage out of their SS benefits
- We asked why the 2% cut didn't affect the Hab Centers? This is a question for Jeff Grosvenor.
- We asked about the rumor that no person centered plan within 365 days would equal no payment for services and Bernie Simons had no information about this.
- Asked about upcoming cuts, i.e., DESE is looking at a 10% cut; Bernie Simons had no knowledge of this in DDD.
- Bernie Simons had no news on the certification fee.
- Asked for additional information about services from CMHC's for DD consumers. Burrell specifically has stated that they do not have the training to serve our population. Someone should check the budget language for what they are paid to provide and to whom.
- The group asked Bernie Simons based on state revenue decrease of 20% over the past two years are there any "think tanks" that are considering new models nationally or regionally? Only in the confines of the health care bill that may allow states to pull down more federal dollars initially.

General Discussion: Task List and Issues

- Peg Capo spoke of cost neutral ideas for budget planning to be considered, as recapped in their letter to the Mental Health Commission, should be topics of conversation with legislators.
 - Fully fund the prevention waiver, certification fee
 - Work to be sure all dollars are spent/prioritized
 - Look at reprioritizing dollars so that needs are met even if non Medicaid eligible. Are we on a have/have not system?
- Jennifer Wooldridge reiterated that county boards should not be seen as another revenue source for the state, no county board could meet all of the needs of the people.
- Self Directed supports as another vehicle for people could create destabilized services and be the breaking point for providers.

- Don't most agencies already offered some kind of self directed services?
- Some families need 8 hours of something, could be oversight at least part of the time if the regulation changed to allow, isn't that self directing?
- Expand on the ACSP idea as a business model, get an annual allocation and spend it to provide the best services possible.
- In regards to the billing review shared today, yes there was recouped dollars, but how much did it cost to find those dollars? Reviews as a random sample or for cause would save more money and still give an overall idea compliance level.
- Why did Missouri get through so many reviews for so many years without the extra oversight now needed? These may be the kinds of questions to ask legislators and point them in the direction of possibilities.
- Federal reviews are only every three years, and then only a sample is reviewed.
- Since we officially chose option #2 last month to work toward equity, we should develop a position paper to take to legislators.
- We could use the DDD's own report to develop bullet points.

Ron Kruse moved that Les Wagner prepare an appropriation proposal to take to the legislative budget committee with endorsements from county boards using the funding equity option #2 and **Charlie Washburn** seconded the motion. The **motion carried**.

- PR training is possible using the extra money left over from the mid year training. Sarah Topp gave some suggestions last month. More information on this next month.
- Roger Garlich reported that questions on the prevention waiver from CMS may have caused the 90 day clock to start over.
- The Mental Health Commission meeting August 12th, asked for a list of who planned to attend. Currently Alecia Archer, Ann Graff, Peg capo, Lynn Wells planned to attend. Staci Harrison and Jim Casey are planning on attending the morning session only. The topic is primarily health care and health care home. It is important to watch this as it could be a fore runner to assigned case management. If you plan on attending and want lunch or just want to be on the email notification list email audrey.hancock@dmh.mo.gov.

There was a brief update on the status of the sound system, the model we have is no longer available and Jim Casey will continue to research.