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**November 12, 2008**
**Regional Advisory Committee Meeting**
**Region 4 minutes**

Members Present: James Barnes, Joan Barnes, Tassie Cook-Brown, Janette Day, Suzette Driscroll, Michael Dickson, LaDessa Foster, Vern Garrett, Krista Green, Sandy Jones, Jeff Morrell, Miguel Mouw, Greg Munson, Julie Riggins, Landis Rossi, Darren Richman, Sandy Rumple, John Sweeting, Laura Thomas, Gina Westcott, Tom Wilson, Deborah Woodall, Jean Woodward and Carolyn Hiatt (scribe).

**Treatment / Recovery Support Services Providers Subcommittee Meeting 8:30 a.m.**

**Update from Central Office – Health and Welfare** – Jean Woodward, H&W Central office staff and Suzette Driscoll, Business Psychology Associates staff.

**Management Service Contract Update**

Please see 11 05 08 Provider update from Bethany Gadzinski, posted on the RAC Web page, www.rac4.dhw.idaho.gov under the Misc Documents banner. This document provided the majority of information presented. It was noted that less than two weeks have passed since contract was signed and some information may change, specifically dates as plans are further developed.

The contract with BPA was signed at the end of October. The implementation team is now in the process of fine-tuning a performance matrix, processes and other details that will be forthcoming.

Suzette noted that the changes in the new contract period are positive changes focused quality of care and the ongoing focus for data collection.

**Budget Update**

Director Field met with Governor Otter to present the Interagency Committee on Substance Abuse (ICSA) budget recommendations for the next legislative session the first week of November. We expect a report at the ICSA meeting November 19.

Vern Garrett shared the concerns of AACT, that the Legislature may be hard pressed to add any funds that are not requested in the Governor's budget. AACT Idaho is asking for concerned citizens to write letters of support to the Governor to include the one time increase in funding for substance abuse services in the current budget year to be part of the ongoing base. AACT has prepared a fact sheet to help with drafting letters (see minute attachments). They encourage a positive, respectful tone with a thank you for the support to date and including facts of how these dollars save tax payers in the long run.

**GAIN Issues Update**

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GAIN WITS training is this Friday, 11/14, and next Friday, 11/21, for Regions 3 and 4 on the Boise State University Campus. There is a GAIN I training December 1-2, 2008 at the Region 3 offices for region 3 and 4 providers. Interested providers need to contact John Kirsch kirschj@dhw.idaho.gov and Michelle Buskey buskeym@dhw.idaho.gov to register staff for these trainings.

A single agreement with Ada County has been initiated for GAIN assessments in the jail. Ada County staff will conduct GAIN assessments for incarcerated clients. Vouchers for GAIN assessments with clients at Ada County are still valid and the provider is expected to perform that service. Providers should contact Suzette if they have questions or need to pursue having a client's voucher re-assigned to Ada County staff.

**Additional Issues**

The Misdemeanant Protocol has been determined. There is limited funding for this population. However, the current population is receiving service.

Case management training will be coordinated by BPA in the new contract. A question about case management forms was discussed. The current forms are available at the DHW website: Substanceabuse.idaho.gov

Medicaid Case Management criteria is clarified in the update document. Discussion occurred about workforce capacity issues.

Providers are concerned about the workforce issues that may present themselves around case management. There is some fear that with the standards being set as they are it will be difficult to recruit and hire qualified staff and providers are already experiencing these issues. This is especially concerning with the requirement that all IDOC participants receive case management. Some suggestions included exploration around 1) on the job training, 2) counting school credit hours and internships towards the 6 months of experience required, 3) allowing providers to have interns working in the field to help build the capacity. This could be a big issue and we might see providers begin to compete for qualified staff much like IBI professionals in the DD field.

**Co-occurring Capable Project Update**

Laura Thomas indicated that all state funded providers (treatment and recovery support) should have received an invitation to send one staff person per agency attend a 12-hour, three-part series for TIP 42 training. The training will happen over three different days, November 20, December 18 and January 29. If you have questions, please contact Laura. Co-occurring capable will transition to BPA in the new contract. More details will follow.

**Subcommittee adjourns to convene meeting of full RAC (10:00 am)**

Laura Thomas facilitated and welcomed the group in Melanie Curtis' absence.

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The agenda was approved. Minutes were posted from September 10, 2008 meeting on the web page. No changes were made and the minutes they were approved.

**Interagency Committee on Substance Abuse Update –**
The focus of the last ICSA meeting included the WICHE report, committee reports and review of the budget request. Director Fields talked about outcome-based data being review and how it will be a focus area. It was added that data collection is most important tool for the office of drug policy to have. The next ICSA meeting is November 19 in the second floor conference room of the Borah Building (the old Post Office near the capitol).

**Regional Director Update – Landis Rossi, Regional Director**

Previous provider concerns have been addressed at the bureau level. Clarifications around recovery support services are being addressed. Some provider GAIN concerns are still outstanding. Issues around case management and work force capacity have also been noted to Bethany. New social workers have not been given the opportunity of mandatory hours necessary to provide case management has been discussed. Follow up on issues will continue.

1% holdback for all state agencies. There has been a concern that the 1% holdback would have an effect on providers; the treatment is effected but it is minimal. There is no anticipated effect on people being able to access treatment. Currently, we are not at our spending level.

**Prevention Update – Greg Munson, Benchmark**

Greg Munson passed out a snapshot of Region IVs Prevention Program and reported that Every year Benchmark does a prevention plan for each region. The report is posted on the RAC Web page, www.rac4.dhw.idaho.gov under the Misc Documents banner.

Greg noted the information is from the State Department of Education (SDE) collected student surveys. Region 4 is fully contracted and noted that he believes there is a good mix of providers in the region. Every county in Region 4 now has some level of primary prevention services in place.

Greg further reported on prevention intervention program funded through the state of Idaho, noting that it is not region specific. The program targets those youth in the gap between prevention and treatment diagnosis. It has the potential for expansion throughout the state. Outcomes are measuring the client's change in attitude and knowledge. Project Toward No Drug Abuse is being used with additional counseling and group services.

**Nominations for Community Service Award and Patricia Kempthorne Award**

Legislative Event to present this award is February 18, 2009 Laura noted that she has not receive any nominations for the Patricia Kempthorne Award to date.

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A nomination for the Community Service Award was received. Marsha Tennyson, founder of Chrysalis Women's Transitional Recovery was nominated. After reading the nomination letter, Laura asked if there were other nominations. Award decision was for Marsha Tennyson.

**Networking reports**

James Barnes - Three Oaks Transformation is in the process of launching a new program focus on teens in crisis. The provider runs a couple different programs. Life Hurts, God Heals, the teen program of Celebrate Recovery, and Christ Centered Change, a program developed by James. Contact information is james@3oakstransformation.org 880-3788

Gina Westcott Region 4 DHW - Mental Health programs continue to work towards co-occurring capability and have hired Claudette Thor (has expertise in co-occurring issues) to help achieve the DHW co-occurring capable plan.

Deborah Woodward - Ada County Drug Court's next graduation date is November 19th. They are working on moving into their new facility which is housed with other government offices.

Sandy Rumple - Boise Schools is currently conducting a "Challenge Day" at Boise High and Fairmont Junior High schools this week. Parenting classes will begin again after the winter break.

Jean Woodward - shared that as part of Re-entry she will be part of the Ada County and Department of Correction Work Force Development training team. A team of 12 local professionals who work with the prison population will be trained through a national grant and training program. The team will bring the information and training back to our local community and state.

Secondly, there is a housing issue specifically housing appropriation for sex offenders. There are very few opportunities, but the reality is that they are in the community and need to assistance in the recovery process. One of the questions we are trying to address is if these cases are eligible for DHW/ MH services. There might be an opportunity for collaborative work.

We are researching other opportunities in the federal realm to bring a resource to the table. For example, looking at HUD, one grant provides brick and mortar on a Section 8-11, which is geared toward an individual with disabilities and with substance abuse issues qualify for. Jean stated that she would follow-up with the group after she has more information.

John Sweeting - Ten Mile Christian Church is in the process of facility approval for Recovery Support Services and hopes to open soon.

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Jeff Morrell - Redmont Health Services is a new provider. They will offer a 48 bed residential facility for adults and adolescents by July 2009. They will be located at intersection of Blackcat and Ten Mile Road. They plan to partner with Regions 3 and 4.

Vern Garret - Vern restated his concerns mentioned in the provider meeting in reference to the budget. Due to the economic concerns of Idaho, he urged everyone to write to the governor about our provider concerns.

Miguel Mouw Alta Addiction & Mental Health Services is currently revamping their policy and procedures to implement by January 1. They are working to expand services to the Payette and Fruitland areas.

La Dessa Foster Women and Children's Alliance - they provide services to families impacted by sexual violence.

Tom Wilson Tom Wilson Counseling Center offers a batterers treatment program, with some alcohol education. Tom noted that 60-70% of their clients can be defined as co-occurring, usually having behavioral problems and/or mental health issues along with their addiction. The Counseling Center also offers an Integrated Parenting program and is self funded.

Tom added that he also has a DUI division utilizing a cognitive self- change model with early intervention. The focus is to prevent repeat offenders. He has an internet training program has been added to service remote under-serviced areas in Nevada.

Laura Thomas Region 4 is currently conducting a service gap analysis for Boise, Elmore and Valley counties. Copies of a survey were distributed to complete if anyone has information on those counties.

Increase in Newly Identified HIV Cases Leads to Call for Increased Testing, Treena Clark, H&W Central Office staff

Treena reported her membership of Idaho Council for HIV and shared what is going on in the state of Idaho. Substance abuse population was addressed as a high risk population, even when the population is currently heterosexual. Treena distributed information that reported the current populations. Focus group identified current barriers.

The next provider subcommittee meeting will be Tuesday, December 16 at 9 am in room 119 of Region 4 offices.

The full RAC meeting will be Wednesday, January 14, 2009 at Region 4 offices.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:44 a.m.