

Eastern Iowa MH/DS  
Regional Advisory Committee Meeting  
Scott County Administration Building  
April 1, 2015

I. Welcome and Introductions: The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by CEO Bopes. Absent were Tieso, Hahn, York. The Committee reviewed agenda with no comments.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Moved by Hawley and seconded by Ruchtozke. All ayes.

III. Budget Information: CDS Elam reviewed a document including a brief summary of funding for FY 15-FY 17. DHS has a proposal for FY 16 to allocate money from the State to the Regions. This would involve Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) and Community Mental Health Center (MH) block grants going to the Regions. We would stand to gain \$2.4 million in our Region however, it would take away funding from our mental health centers (of which there are 3 in this Region). Additionally, SSBG and MH funds are federal funds which require extensive tracking on how they are spent. Our Region has concerns with this proposal as 7 Regions in Iowa have already reduced levies for FY 16 and don't need any additional monies and Regions that are possibly going to be cash strapped for FY 16 won't get any extra.

The Community Services Association (CSA) recommends a Property Tax Relief fund (kind of like the old "risk" pool fund) and then Regions would simply need to apply.

FY 17 is looking grim. No long term solution to funding. The per capita funding of \$47.28 ends on 6/30/2016. One idea being discussed at the ISAC level is to simply allow Regional Governing Board of Directors and County Supervisors the ability to unfreeze the capped dollar amount set in 1996 thus giving us local control. There would be a couple of caveats such as no more than 25% fund balance and nothing levied above the \$47.28.

CEO Bopes commented "you" could advocate with legislatures to encourage them to review the CSA proposal. She also added "we are long overdue for a stable funding mechanism." Jack Willey, Governing Board Chair noted "remove the cap and let us do what we need to do."

IV. Legislative Information: 3 bills of importance to the Regions: HF 440 signed by the Governor, is the interstate Contract to allow sheriff's to transfer individuals under a mental health court commitment across state lines. The rationale for this bill is to give us more "bed" availability in the State of Iowa. Regions are also watching HF 468 which is the court mental health advocates bill. These positions are currently approved by the judicial district but paid by counties. Proposal would be for counties to manage the court advocates position. SF 463 is a "clean" up bill for language in old bills as, for example, CPC is referenced along with Boards of Supervisors in certain sections of the code.

V. Advisory Committee Membership: CEO Bopes reminded everyone that the first year of appointments will end for some members on this group and that the next round of appointments will be for a full 2 year term. She is hopeful we will get the names to the Governing Board by June for official appointment.

VI. A draft letter to DHS: Member Hahn had offered to draft a letter to DHS in regard to the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC). CEO Bopes reminded everyone of the history behind this initiative: Iowa is one of 43 states that receive funding through the Aging and Disability Resource Center's grant program. This is an initiative of the US Department of Health and Human Services, which is jointly administered by the Administration on Aging and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. In Iowa, DHS has appointed the Iowa Department on Aging to administer the project. LifeLong Links is

modeled on the “no wrong door” approach and is available to all Iowans to think about and plan for long term independent living. At the next management team meeting, the plan is to review the letter and to make a formal recommendation. CEO Bopes also noted at her last CEO meeting in Des Moines, Life Long Links is requesting each Region to support their “call center” to sustain this program. The Call Center would help you think through your current or future needs, act as a decision tree to lead you to the right resource and help an individual with disabilities to identify service options in your area. This would require approximately \$45,000 from our Region.

VII. Updates:

- Waiting lists-Management team still working on a final draft but overall, we would take request for funding through an “exception to policy.”
- Managed Care RFP-this agency would take over the financial risk and management of all Medicaid dollars in the state of Iowa. 17 companies recently submitted a letter of intent. Timeline is such that starting January 1, 2016, managed care will be in place in the State of Iowa. This would impact many services including Nursing Homes and ICF/ID’s, Targeted Case Management and Home and Community Based Waivers.
- Crisis Services-a letter was drafted and recently sent to 3 mental health centers in our Region along with 3 hospitals in our Region to elicit a response to see how they would address crisis assessment, 23 hour observations beds and some form of crisis stabilization setting in the community. CDS Elam shared the Management Team has now toured Polk County’s programs and also toured Trinity’s new ED/Crisis Unit.

Other items: no comments

Public-no comments

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 pm at the Scott County administration building. Meeting adjourned at 5:03 pm.

Respectfully Submitted-CDS Eskildsen, Clinton County