

**HOUSING AND HEALTH SERVICES COORDINATION COUNCIL
CROSS AGENCY EDUCATION & TRAINING COMMITTEE**

**Conference Call
Meeting Minutes
June 17th, 2010 10:30am**

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Ashley Schweickart, Council Coordinator called the conference call to order at approximately 10:33am.

Members Present:

Mark Wyatt, Member
Nick Dauster, Member
Doni Van Ryswyk, Member
Sherri Gothart-Barron, Chair
Amy Granberry, Member
Kenneth Darden, Member

Members Absent:

Jimmy Carmichael, Member

TDHCA Staff Present:

Elizabeth Yevich
Ashley Schweickart
Marshall Mitchell

Approval of May 20th Meeting Minutes

Ashley Schweickart asked for any changes regarding the May 20th meeting minutes. There being none, a motion was made and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Approval of June 3rd Meeting Minutes

Ashley Schweickart asked for any changes regarding the June 3rd meeting minutes. There being none, a motion was made and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Update on Biennial Plan Progress

Based on previous committee conference calls, Ashley Schweickart prepared and submitted to the Committee a draft of Chapter 5 of the Biennial Plan (Identifying Barriers) for review and edits.

Discussion of Draft Chapter Five of Biennial Plan

Committee began the discussion of edits/critiques of the draft chapter on identifying barriers to service-enriched housing. The first comment pertained to getting eligible persons connected to housing assistance due to the unavailability of funding. Thus, under the Funding Limitations section, a recommendation was made to expand upon the language regarding long waiting lists for such federal assistance programs as Section 8, stating that demand continues to exceed available funding resources.

Committee discussed that Medicaid will pay for room and board in nursing facilities or other institutions, but not community-based settings.

Committee discussed double checking the Medicaid language with our HHSC representative on the Council to ensure accuracy.

CROSS AGENCY EDUCATION & TRAINING COMMITTEE

June 17th Conference Call Meeting Minutes

Committee recommended adding language about how state agencies layer additional regulations onto federal regulations for particular program funding, which inhibits the ability of local providers to access and administer that funding.

Committee discussed adding language about the current economic downturn affecting the amount of funding state agencies receive through general appropriations. Currently state agencies have reduced their GR budget by 5% for the 2010-2011 biennium and are asked to cut 10% of their GR budget for the 2012-2013 biennium. Committee discussed how such funding fluctuations are detrimental to local service organizations, who require even greater funding during an economic downturn, as the demand for their services increases.

Council next discussed how program definitions can inhibit the ability of local providers to administer funding. The example given was the TBRA program, which includes case management and other direct consumer services as part of the definition of administrative costs. This broad definition creates obstacles for providers as direct consumer services are very costly.

Council then discussed how many parts of the state, primarily rural areas, have no service provision due to lack of capacity, leaving inconsistencies in statewide resource/assistance availability.

Council discussed how a barrier to creating affordable housing is the costs, so perhaps the Council should address other models of service provision/delivery that are more cost efficient.

Discussion of Performance Measures Chapter of Biennial Plan

Committee discussed how proposing performance measures at this stage to state agencies would get a lot of push back. Additionally, as the Plan's recommendations have not yet been implemented, we cannot operationalize them – there is nothing to quantify yet.

Committee discussed establishing some broad goals/objectives for this chapter, rather than numerical performance measures, providing a narrative of what we hope to accomplish.

Finally, the Committee discussed that in the future, the Council can be more detailed in this chapter, discussing the successes and failures in the implementation of the Plan's recommendations.

Discussion of Staff Research Assignments

- Staff will revise the draft of Chapter 5 based on Committee's comments.
- Staff will create a draft performance measures chapter to be reviewed by the Committee at their next conference call.

Discussion of Next Steps for Committee

Committee discussed that their next conference call meeting will take place on Thursday, July 1st, 2010 at 10:30am.

ADJOURN

Since there was no other business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30am on June 17th, 2010.