

WSAA Board of Directors' Meeting
Wednesday, November 15th, 2006
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Board Members: (13) Tom Bartlett, Charles Baker, Alyce Anderson, Royalee Bishop, Lee Anne Byrne, Tom Camel, Michelle Lewis, Mike McMeekin, Marty Onishuk, Denelle Pappier, Jennifer Robohm, Boyd Roth (**Quorum Present**), Brenda Desmond

Alternates: (1) Mike Smith

Ex Officio Members: (2) Dan Ladd, AMDD; Alexis Volkerts, MAP

Guests: (3) Theresa Conley, Missoula Mental Health Court; Dave Bell, Linda Roth

Total Present: (19)

Opening Comments – Introductions

Lee Anne Byrne announcing that she is stepping down from WSAA board due to the fact that she is changing jobs and away from the mental health field.

Approval of the October 18th Minutes

Corrections noted to October Minutes.

There was discussion about WMMHC-Riverfront's participation in psychiatrist search committee in Hamilton.

Motion to Approve October's Minutes by Alyce Anderson with second by Mike McMeekin

Minutes approved without dissent, subject to changes.

Treasurer's Report – Paul Meyer (not present, given by Tom Bartlett)

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| For October: | Travel | \$1084.28 |
| | Miscellaneous | \$150.00 (\$100 for website and \$50 for unknown expense) |

There was a motion to accept the treasurer's report by Brenda Desmond subject to explanation of \$50 miscellaneous charge with second by Charles Baker.

Motion approved without dissent.

New Board Members

Sheriff Mike McMeekin accepted our invitation to be a board member representing law enforcement.

(Who motioned /?)

Motion approved without dissent.

Approval of Strategic Planning Committee Report

A motion to approve our Strategic Plan was made by Brenda Desmond with a second by Charles Baker.

Amendments for collaboration portion by changing "AMDD" to "the Department of Public Health and Human Services" and on specific problems of collaboration, changing "AMDD failed" to just "failed"

Discussion about how AMDD has been collaborating with SAAs, including WICHE report.

Discussion about how MHSP does include EBPs (Evidence Based Practices).

Lee Ann Byrne: CMHCs are doing EBPs but that concept of EBPs is only about ten years old nationally.

Motion passed without dissent from board. Strategic plan is approved as amended.

Interim SAA Communication Plan – developed by Charles Baker

Tom Bartlett gave overview of draft communication plan.

Proposed Short-Term Implementation:

- Scheduled conference calling
- Standardized E-mail addresses
- Newsgroups

- Automated voice message distribution

SAA Summit Summary (Bozeman, November 3, 2006)

--**Letter from Governor to SAAs.**

--**MMHA/SAAs can keep both capacity-building grants for SAAs and LACs.**

--11AM-4PM, Saturday, December 2: "**Learn to Advocate Effectively**" Seminar during the CSAA Congress, Helena, including a tour of the state capitol building. Travel expenses will be covered for SAA members to attend this training.

Abbreviated training will be given in Missoula on Wednesday, Jan 17 12:30PM -- 3:30PM in conjunction with the WSAA Board Meeting.

RSVP to MMHA at 877-927-MMHA or e-mail to info@montanamentalhealth.org

--**Some of the grant monies will be used for increasing LAC membership and other priorities they identify.**

--7AM, Tuesday, January 16, NAMI-Montana will have a "**Meet the Legislators**" Breakfast at Jorgenson Inn & Suites - 1714 11th Avenue in Helena--see NAMI-Montana's website for more details.

--**Sen. Pease plans to request in next legislative session \$100,000 for SAA funding**, especially for travel and asked for information from the SAAs. Paul Meyer estimated \$30,000 per year for WSAA expenses.

--**Lobbying issues.** Up to 20 percent of the SAA budget can be used in lobbying. Volunteer hours do not count toward that lobbying limit. Also, if we are invited by a legislator, that is considered to be "education" and not "lobbying."

Alexis Volkerts – it is unknown if the SAAs, which are "instrumentalities of state government" are under same limits as 501(c) 3 non-profits.

--At SAA Summit, Michelle Speckler from NAMI-Livingston gave **presentation on NAMI cards of "Do's and Don'ts" for first responders to the mentally ill**. Original program is from NAMI-New Jersey. This can be a quick and inexpensive tool for those law enforcement officers without CIT training, firemen and emergency response personnel. The cost is \$150 for 500 and \$80 for an additional 500 (through printingforless.com and it appears that they can combine orders for no additional charge). Tom Bartlett—NAMI-Flathead is talking about purchasing 500. Mike McMeekin would like to purchase these cards for first responders in Missoula County and turn over any excess to the SAA. He said that there are cards like these for different disabilities designed for first responders. NAMI-Montana is going to be the statewide sponsor. Dave Bell gave information about vistaprint.com for inexpensive business cards.

--Tom Camel—He would like to see additional **cultural competency training for WSAA board members**.

Tom Bartlett— didn't you already provide this training at a previous WSAA meeting?

Tom Camel—Training has been done before, but he thinks that it is important to devote more time to cultural competency.

Alexis Volkerts—is this additional training similar to the presentation at Montana Mental Health conference?

Tom Camel—Montana Mental Health Conference presentation is part of the training he is proposing.

Charles Baker—can he prepare and present a syllabus/time-frame for the WSAA board to review?

Tom Camel—Yes, I could do that.

--SAA Summit Summary continued

Lou Thompson's recalculation shows that there is an estimated 50 cents loss for every MHSP dollar of billed services by the CMHCs, not the previous 70 cents.

AMDD has applied for two transformation grants and its proposed FY08 and 09 budget \$38,200,000 for current programs and increases to them plus \$21,000,000 for new programs.

60 percent of admission to Montana State Hospital is from psychiatric facilities and

40 percent of admissions are from local hospitals.

A presentation on peer-support from Great Falls group at Center for Mental Health was given to the group.

Bill Kennedy, Yellowstone Co Commissioner and MACo (Montana Association of Counties) chairman has sent letter to the Governor with MACo supporting 72-hour presumptive eligibility and increasing funding for MHSP.

Counties would be willing (in theory) to pay for an additional six days for a total of 9 days of community treatment.

Tom Bartlett—most people can be stabilized within those 9 days.

Alexis Volkerts—AMDD does not see 72-hour presumptive eligibility as a way of shifting the pre-commitment costs for the counties. This is a separate issue.

Dave Bell: 5-9 days are enough to stabilize but it takes much longer for someone to come to terms with mental illness.

Mental Health Court Report – Theresa Conley

She is the Mental Health Court docket coordinator in Missoula.

The purpose of Mental Health Court programs in the US is to help stop the “revolving door” of the mentally ill through the criminal justice system.

Theresa Conley functions basically as case-manager.

Eligibility criteria in Missoula Co are on the handout, specifically the individual has to have a mental illness diagnosis. A defendant can be referred by pretty much anyone. It is voluntary for the defendant to participate. Mental Health Court docket every Monday in District Court to set up a plan to get treatment and supports (50% are co-occurring), to see if the defendant is complying, and probation is involved if needed.

Mental Health Court docket are once a month in Justice Court.

Tom Bartlett—How many folks through the program?

Theresa Conley—there have been 42 referrals since April 2006 and 49 cases previous to April 2006. Two of the 4 district judges in Missoula County making referrals to the mental health court. State Public Defenders are in favor of the mental health court, Missoula County Attorney’s office was resistant at first but is working with it now.

Alexis Volkerts—what is the funding status? There is federal funding through spring 2007. Also, they are talking with Missoula County for continuing funding and applying for additional federal funding. GAINS (USDOJ and SAMHSA) has developed planning document for jail diversion programs for communities to develop. Missoula County’s Mental Health Court is one of the two locations in the US that will “test drive” the planning document starting in January 2007.

MMHA Awarded Grants for SAAs and LACs

This was previously discussed.

MHOAC Report – Boyd Roth

Boyd Roth--August 17 MHOAC meeting

The following were presented at the MHOAC meeting:

- Housing presentation
- WICHE prevalence study
- Support for SAA letter for 72 hour presumptive eligibility, MHSP funding and MHSP eligibility
- Annual report to Governor

Other Topics for Discussion

Tom Bartlett—SJ41 minutes were presented at the SAA Summit and he has extra copies. He also has copies of the Montana State Plan for Providing Mental Health Services.

Michelle Lewis—Will there be WRAP training at December WSAA Congress? Depending on anticipated attendance and availability of trainers.

Tom Camel- said that there will be a cross-cultural communication conference November 28, 29 and 30th. The Governor’s office is helping to put this on in Helena. Tom Camel has asked NAMI-Montana (Sandy Mihelish) to fund his expenses related to this conference. Tom would also like for the WSAA to consider funding his

expenses if NAMI-Montana will not. The costs are \$150 for the registration, 2 nights lodging and per diem in Helena and round-trip mileage from Ronan to Helena.

Motion by Alexis Volkerts with second by Charles Baker: For WSAA to cover 50 percent of Tom Camel's expenses of attending this conference up to a maximum of \$300 if NAMI-Montana does not cover the total expenses:

Motion passes without dissent.

Motion to adjourn for lunch by Charles Baker with second by Alyce Anderson

Motion passes without dissent.

Adjourn WSAA Board Meeting at 12:33 for lunch.

Next Board of Directors and Congress Meetings,
December 20th, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at St. Patrick
Hospital, Missoula, MT

10-12 Board

12-1 Lunch

1-3 Congress

(The next meeting might be moved to December 13--depending on room availability.)