

Northwest Iowa Care Connections Advisory Board Meeting Minutes April 18th, 2016

The Northwest Iowa Care Connections Advisory Board met on Monday April 18th, 2016 1-3 p.m. at the O'Brien County Courthouse Assembly Room in Primghar and by conference call. Those in attendance were Kayla Gotto, Seasons Center, Scott Witte, Hope Haven, Nancy Ketcham, parent, Marvin Linley, parent, Tom Farnsworth and Linda Swanson Governance Board members, and Kim Wilson, NWIACC CEO. Barry Whitsell, Village NW, Ron Askland, Horizons Unlimited, and Christina Eggink Postma Seasons Center were present on the call. Hugh Lively from RIDES was a guest.

There were brief updates from our last meeting in January. The Governance Board reported the Annual Service and Budget Plan for FY 17 has been completed after rigorous review from the Department of Human Services. There was discussion about SF 2315 and HF 2424 as it relates to a sustainable, long term funding plan for regions and counties for per capita equity. Everyone associated with MCOs are currently involved in the first month of operations. Hugh Lively gave a report of how the broker system is working to secure transportation. He addressed concerns about the availability of transportation for non-traditional services such as supported employment. Since some providers have not signed on with all 3 MCOs, there is a concern for what that means for the availability of funding for individuals who are signed up with an MCO that does not cover costs at a non-contracted provider.

There was a regional update re: Crisis Services (Community and Justice-related). Project Alert continues to be rolled out in all the counties. There was discussion about the cost of the 24/7 crisis line. Contracts will be reviewed to address this for FY 17 coverage. In addition, it was reported that the RFP for access to psychiatric services in the jail was awarded to Hope Haven.

There was a regional update on our Employment Initiative. APSE and Customized Employment Training for providers, including job coaches, has been provided over the past few months by nationally known trainers through a joint venture with Sioux River Region, NWIACC and Hope Haven. Over 30 staff have been attending these progressive and certified trainings.

There was an update on the work of our regional Housing Team. There was a presentation from Night Owl regarding their alarm system product that can assist individuals in maintaining independence while supporting them with non-invasive monitoring for their health and safety.

There was an update on our contract with Avera Behavioral Health Services to provide additional inpatient psychiatric options for our region. With enhanced Service Coordination, that contract as well as our crisis, employment and housing initiatives are receiving monitoring and support. The Advisory Board was provided information about the hiring process of a Disability Service Coordinator position for Palo Alto and O'Brien County coverage as a component of our comprehensive outreach and support strategy of regional initiatives and outcomes.

There was no Advisory Board Input for Regional Operations-Enrollment, Claims Processing, Quality Improvement, Administration, or Governance Board action.

Our next Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for July 18th, 2016 at 1 pm in Primghar at the O'Brien County Courthouse Assembly Room