



BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING

December 18, 2007

The Alamance-Caswell-Rockingham Local Management Entity Board of Directors met Tuesday, December 18, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. at the Alamance County Human Services Center, 319 N. Graham-Hopedale Road, Burlington, NC

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Patsy Smith, Ms. Ann Slaughter, Mr. Ron Norwood, Chairman Sam Isley, Ms. Edith Collins, Ms. Ethel Gwynn, Mr. David Carter, Mr. Emery Partee, Ms. Brenda Page, Dr. Ernest Eason, Mr. Bill Franklin, Dr. Russell Gill, Mr. Norman Melton, Mr. J.W. Joyce, Ms. Donna Lawson, Commissioner Harold Bass, Commissioner Dan Ingle

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Reid King, Commissioner Jeremiah Jeffries

AREA PROGRAM STAFF PRESENT: Mr. Daniel S. Hahn, Executive Director; Ms. Jandy Andrews, Finance Director; Dr. Cris Mickiewicz, Medical Director and Ms. Cathy Moore, Clerk to the Board

GUESTS: Mr. Robert Middleton, Rockingham Mental Health Director, Mr. Mike Taylor, LME Attorney

Prior to the their respective meetings, LME Board members and CFAC members enjoyed a catered meal courtesy of the LME.

- I.** Chairman Isley called the meeting to order.
- II.** Commissioner Bass gave the invocation.
- III.** Mr. Hahn welcomed Mr. Middleton and Mr. Taylor and offered a special welcome to Dr. Cris Mickiewicz, the new LME Medical Director
- IV.** Chairman Isley asked for approval of the November Board minutes.

ACTION: Norman Melton motioned to accept the November 20, 2007 minutes as written. Mr. Franklin seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

V. Clinical Presentation – Dr. Mickiewicz

Mr. Hahn expressed his excitement at having Dr. Mickiewicz as the new Medical Director. He noted that he had asked her to attend tonight's Board meeting to allow Board members to become familiar with her and visa versa.

Dr. Mickiewicz began by wishing everyone Happy Holidays. She stated that this felt like a homecoming because she had worked here before from 1995-2000. Dr. Mickiewicz began by handing out and discussing a 2006 Report from NAMI that gave the North Carolina MH/DD/SA system an overall grade of D+. She noted that North Carolina had passed the Mental Health Insurance Parity Legislation.

She also discussed the following issues that she plans to address in the coming months:

- Recommendation for more crisis services and more centers to divert consumers from hospitalization;
- Implement a safety net in the tri-county area to assist persistently mentally ill patients. The LME currently offers a walk-in clinic capacity at three LME sites throughout the catchment area.
- Emphasize education to providers and law enforcement by offering a First Responders Course for providers as the first line of coverage;
- More emphasis on the Outpatient Commitment process for non-compliant consumers;
- Health Fair scheduled for April 19, 2008;
- Treatment of returning Service Members with PTSD. Letters with symptoms have already gone out to the community;
- Discussions with local hospitals to increase the number of available beds;
- Development of a Crisis Stabilization Unit to further prevent hospitalizations.

VI. Executive Director's Report – Daniel Hahn

- The MERCER Self Evaluation Study was completed and submitted on Friday, November 30, 2007 even though the deadline for submission was December 3, 2006. Staff worked efficiently and effectively to develop and submit the best representation of what the LME is currently doing. MERCER has sent notification that the ACR LME site review will occur on Wednesday, January 9, 2008 at 9:00 am. Mr. Hahn stated that there is concern regarding the problems and difficulties faced throughout the entire N.C. MH/DD/SA system. (He referred to articles in Board members packets.) He encouraged Board members to contact representative and commissioners regarding the difficulties that we are having in our communities to develop the capacities to treat the consumers.
- Bennie Kidd, Chief Finance Officer, has resigned effective December 10, to accept a similar position with Ralph Scott Lifeservices. Jandy Andrews has moved into the position of Finance Director. She has been with the LME more than five years and is familiar with the State's reporting requirements.
- Staff is in the process of completing the second part of the post-payment review required by the Division to address concerns revolving around Community Support Services (CSS) definition. The first part of the process was completed by LME licensed and credentialed staff. The second part of the review requires the LME's qualified professionals (Q staff) to work with identified providers to complete a chart integrity review. These reviews are to be completed and submitted by December 31, 2007, however, staff have indicated that these reports will be submitted on Friday, December 21, 2007.
- Cost Allocation letter for FY 07-08 has been received indicating an increase in LME funding by about \$200,000. In past years the LME could keep up to 17% of any unexpended balance. The Division has adopted a "use it or lose it" stance. The Finance Department is looking at some acceptable suggestions to appropriately spend these available administrative funds. Funds left and returned to the Division will determine FY 08-09 funding levels.
- Following a recommendation by the Finance Department and discussions with the Finance Committee, staff were recently awarded a one-time bonus. Staff has expressed their appreciation through numerous emails and telephone calls. Staff also prepared and signed a giant thank you card to Board members.
- Most recent LOC meeting was a presentation to legislators regarding costs to provide Community Support Services to consumers. The 06-07 report indicates that \$857 million was spent to provided these services. 2007-08 projections indicate the possibility of spending more than \$1 billion for these services. The LOC is concerned about this amount of spending. Locally, the LME will work on stabilizing the system.
- Mr. Hahn wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked them for their support in 2007.

VII. Budget/Fiscal Report – Jandy Andrews, Finance Director

Ms. Andrews discussed the recent bonus and thanked Board members for making this available to staff.

Ms. Andrews gave the following financial report:

- **State of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance**
 - Revenues are at 32% for the year-to-date representing five months through November 30, 2007

- Expenditures are at 29% representing five months
- IPRS funding is currently at 16%
- Balance in checking through the period ending November 30, 2007 was \$332,028; Trust Account balance was \$5.3 million

Mr. Franklin inquired as to what the “numbers” mean. Mr. Hahn stated that this information is normally available through quarterly statistical reports.

IX. Committee Reports

- CFAC met November 27, 2007. No action required.
- Finance Committee met December 17, 2007. See Budget/Fiscal Report.

X. Other Business

- Mr. Carter reported that he has been asked to serve as a member of the recently formed MSAR, Mounted Search and Rescue, in Alamance County. This mounted team goes out and searches for lost mentally ill persons. This is a resource to assist the local Sheriff's Department. Members are required to attend a three-day training for certification.
- Mr. Carter also reported that he serves on the Alamance Partnership for Children. Funding for 0-3 years old has been suspended. A meeting was recently held with staff from the LME and DSS. They were able to determine four possible funding sources. Mr. Carter thanked Mr. Hahn and staff for their involvement.
- Mr. Taylor mentioned the amendment to G.S. 122C-118.1(b) prohibiting individuals who contract with the LME from serving on the LME's Area Board.
- Mr. Melton reported that the local NAMI chapter had recently delivered Christmas presents to patients at JUH. He also announced that NAMI has a contract with ACC to be a part of the CIT training.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by,

Cathy Moore
Clerk to the Board

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 15, 2008 at 6:30 pm at the Human Services Center, 319 N. Graham-Hopedale Rd., Burlington, NC.