

MACDDS Minutes
Wednesday, August 23, 2006

President Jim Casey called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Announcements/Celebrations of Success:

- Cooper County--Vicki McCarrell announced Unlimited Opportunities has received a \$4,800 grant from the City of Boonville for their children's' program.
- Osage County—Jennie Ames announced after discussion with Bernie Simons, Rolla Regional Center has agreed to allow them to keep their shared unit agreement.
- Lincoln County—Mary Sullivan-Thomas announced Community Opportunities has received a \$90,000 Missouri Preschool Program Grant for expansion to add a typical preschool class at their early childhood program.
- St. Charles County—Peg Capo reported they are now providing case management for 210 people with 6 case managers, 1 supervisor and 1 director who carries a partial caseload. Their growth has been much faster than they planned. They are continuing to get referrals for this service.
- Cole County—Jim Casey reported they are serving 200 Cole County residents for case management and will soon be hiring another new case manager.
- Ron Kruse announced the MACDDS meeting with Bernie Simon on case management will be held on September 5.
- Alecia Nissen, Jasper County, requested copies of any training manuals for group home managers that anyone may have. If you have such, please email it or mail it to her.
- Sam Day has been hired as SB40 Director in Grundy County (Trenton, Missouri) she will be working only part time.

Minutes: D. Cole made a motion to accept the July 2006 minutes as emailed. J. Duffin seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Finance Report: The July Financial, as emailed, was discussed by Treasurer, Cathy Arrowsmith. There are presently 44 SB 40 Boards as members and 18 Related Private Organizations. The CD for \$10,000 invested at Platte Valley Bank will be reinvested. It was suggested the heading on the financial be changed to read “July” rather than “January.” B. Barnes made a motion to accept the financial with the change noted. Motion was seconded by A. Nissen and passed unanimously by the members.

Agency Liaison Report:

***MARF-** (M. Whitlock) No report.

***MO ANCOR-** (T. Weatherspoon) No report.

***Coalition-** (P. Capo) the Coalition met with Bernie Simon on August 15th and discussed the purpose of the Coalition as well as the systems change document, Centers for Excellence, which was endorsed by the Coalition. Bernie committed to sharing the document with the regional center directors the next day. An update on DMH's Transformation Grant was requested. Center for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) will be sending 3 surveyors to St. Louis for 5 days next week to review community providers as far as abuse/neglect issues and programmatic performance.

Bernie requested the Coalitions input on any waiver reform needed. A discussion on the FY '08 budget which has a proposed 8% COLA for providers led to the need for DMH to know how this year's 7% COLA was/will be spent to answer any questions the Legislature may have.

***Supported Employment-** (W. Hays) APSE-MO just had a great conference that was well attended and very successful. On November 7, 2006, DMH's Dr. Parks will speak on employment for people with chronic mental illness at the APSE Professional Development Day, at the Governor's Building, Jefferson City. Joe Moroni, well-known expert on supported employment, will be presenting to the Statewide Think Tank on Supported Employment group in September.

***MO Planning Council-** (V. McCarrell) The application for Partners in Policymaking is online. The Missouri Youth Leadership Forum had a great response this year.

***Sheltered Workshop Managers-** (V. McCarrell) a group of sheltered workshop managers met with MoDOT on rest areas. The RFP's on them will now give points to sheltered workshops who apply to get the contract to clean them.

***Congress on Disability-** (J. Ames) Susan Pritchard-Green of the Missouri Planning Council is the new chairperson of this group.

***Personal Independence Council** (W Hays) No report

Ryan Kent, Prepaid Legal Services Ryan Kent and associates presented information about Prepaid Legal Services and Identity Theft Shield. These are programs that can be offered to employees through a payroll deduction at no cost to the employer. For more information, contact Ryan Kent or Greg Or at 877.688.7390.

MACDDS: Embracing Opportunities M. Sullivan-Thomas gave a brief overview of the document, Embracing Opportunities, which was developed by MACDDS and is posted on our website at www.macdds.org. If anyone has any suggestions for updating or changes to this document, please forward those to Mary at mary@macdds.org

Bernard Simons, MR/DD Division Director B. Simon discussed the proposed FY '08 budget and requested information from everyone on how this year's 7% COLA was spent. Forward your information directly to him at DMH. He said unit cost reports need to be done to prove rate inequity to the Legislature. National accreditation will be an expectation, so that is one part of the proposed Centers for Excellence, that will not set any provider apart from any other provider. Regarding the Centers for Excellence, it was discussed with the regional center directors by Bernie. He reported that the allocation of

all funding cannot be done because of emergency needs and crises situations that come up around the state. Another topic Bernie brought up was Missouri's lag in self-directed supports for consumers. He would like to see much more being done in this area.

Erica Stephens, Missouri Protection and Advocacy Erica Stephens, Staff Attorney with P & A presented information on their priorities, services provided, individuals served and funding. Their priorities currently are: 1. special education, 2. abuse and neglect allegations, and 3. social security assistance. An individual has to have 3 functional limitations in order to receive P & A assistance. They have 8 investigators to do the abuse/neglect investigations. For more information, call 1-800-392-8667.

Nominating Committee Report M. Whitlock, Chairman of the Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers for 2007: President--Vicki McCarrell; President Elect—Cathy Arrowsmith; Secretary—Jan Jones; Treasurer—Pete Breting; and Member At Large—Jennifer Wooldridge.

J. Duffin made a motion to close nominations. Motion seconded by M. Lytle and passed unanimously. Motion made to accept the nominations as presented by Nominating Committee by R. Kruse and seconded by W. Hays. Motion passed unanimously.

CARF R. Kruse reported he has drafted a letter to go to CARF on behalf of MACDDS and will be forwarding that letter to all MACDDS members for their approval prior to mailing.

Awards Committee M. Whitlock reported the Awards Committee is needing submissions for all awards if any SB40 member wants to submit. Nominations are due by the end of August for the Cutting Edge, Distinguished Service and Lifetime Member Awards.

M. Lytle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by J. Duffin and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

MACDDS Minutes
Thursday, August 24, 2006

President Elect Vicki McCarrell called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Announcements/Celebrations of Success:

- Janice Tilman, Platte County, has completed the training and is now an official CARF Surveyor. She also reported Platte County Board of Services opened a new 8 bedroom group home August 1.

Scott Shepherd, Human Resource Do's and Don't's Scott Shepherd with Brookside Health Staffing presented information on the need for employers to monitor the blogs of personnel in case derogatory, untrue, and/or confidential information was posted. He also discussed using the internet to search for potential employees through various job placement sites. The need for a policy on internet usage and blogging by employees was stressed.

Jenny Morrison, MOPERM gave information on identifying your potential loss exposure, selecting techniques to best handle that exposure and how to implement and monitor your risk management process.

Jutta Hopkins, RN, Ph.D. American Red Cross spoke on the need for everyone to prepare for the next pandemic, which will happen sometime. She passed out Red Cross booklets with specific information on preparing for disasters for persons with disabilities as well as other information on disasters. A pandemic is caused by a new virus and it doesn't necessarily come during the regular flu season. It affects people of all ages and causes lots of deaths. To protect yourself, use good hygiene, washing hands carefully, Lysol your telephone daily, and try not to share phones, wipe your computer keyboard daily with an antibacterial wipe. If you need to cough, you should cough into your arm, bent at the elbow, rather than covering your mouth with your hand as previously taught. She suggested letting your county emergency management group know who has a disability (in St. Louis you can register with the local fire department).

Lt. Governor Task Force on Abuse and Neglect P. Capo reported that Wendy Buehler, Life Skills, is our only provider on the Lt. Governor's task force to look into the issues surrounding abuse and neglect in community and habilitation services. She recommended MACDDS put together recommendations to present to this task force—and do so quickly. J. Duffin made a motion which was seconded by J. Jacobs and approved unanimously by the members that P. Capo and M. Sullivan-Thomas put together a draft document on this, circulate it via email to MACDDS members, and present the final, agreed upon document to the task force.

Miscellaneous Issues Vicki McCarrell appointed R. Kruse, as Chairman of the CARF Committee, to contact MOPERM to provide information on the accreditation process in the hopes that MOPERM will give a discount for all entities who have CARF, such as Philadelphia Insurance does.

Insurance Committee B. Barnes reported she and Doris Boeckman met with Lee Wilbers from Wallstreet Insurance Group to discuss the effect of HB1827 on VEBA's, etc. Mr. Wilbers explained that HB 1827, which was passed in the last legislative session, allows the Department of Insurance to waive some rules to make it easier for small groups, without the use of a VEBA, to provide health insurance. Instead of a VEBA, the group would draft a "Charter" to bind all agencies together. The Insurance Committee will discuss the information provided by Mr. Wilbers and decide on the next step, if any.

Conference Committee B. Barnes reported that conference brochures were mailed out this week. A smaller number of brochures were mailed but everyone should have received an email version of the brochure. If anyone is interested in the Golf Tournament, they need to indicate that on the conference registration form. There will be a limited number of conference T-shirts for sale at a cost of \$10 each at the conference. If you'd like to order a T-shirt, indicate your size (from mens' medium to 2XL) on your registration form and include the extra \$10 with your conference fee.

Executive Committee It was suggested that the present and future Executive Committees meet to discuss some procedural issues.

MACDDS Online M. Sullivan-Thomas asked all members who have their own agency website to be sure and give her the address so she can put a link from the MACDDS website to the agency website. She also asked everyone to delete their present MACDDS email list—if you got it from the website, because several people have changed their email addresses. If you delete your present website, then go to the MACDDS website, click on the email list you want to move to your address book, when the email form pops up right click and you can move the email list to your address book. You can do this with any of the committee email lists as well as the all member list.

A. Nissen made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by J. Jones and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.