

MACDDS Minutes
August 24, 2005
Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozarks

President Marcus Whitlock called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

Announcements/Celebrations of Success:

*Platte Co.-Janice Tilman's new email address is janice.tilman@pcbsdd.org. She also reported that they completed their CARF survey with no recommendations.

*Jasper Co.-Camp Barnabas participated in Extreme Makeover to update their facilities. Alecia Nissen also reported there is a lawsuit against their SB40 from the workshop.

*Roger Garlich reported on the College of Direct Support which will be funded for three years. This will be a pilot project from different areas of the state. Cost per participating agencies will be \$2,800/year for administrative cost. If any agency is interested in participating, contact Roger. They will need 1,300 participants to start the pilot project. It is projected to start in January. This will be an online training with 11 courses and 60 lessons. There was a brief discussion with regard to incentives for employees complete the training.

*Cooper County received 3 year accreditation through CARF.

*Marcus Whitlock read a thank you letter from Tony Casey. The letter will be posted on the web site.

*Marcus reported the Institute for Human Development is working on a Ticket to Work grant. The Institute is requesting a partnership (not monetary) with MACDDS.

*On July 9th 2004, MACDDS signed a Memorandum of Understanding. Currently, MACDDS has no Memorandum signed. This will be discussed with Tony Casey tomorrow.

Minutes:

Vicki McCarrell made the motion to accept July's meeting minutes; Jem Duffin seconded; motion passed.

Finance Report:

Lynn Wells made the motion to accept July's financial report; Alecia Nissen seconded; motion passed.

Agency Liaison Report:

*MARF- (M. Whitlock) no report

*MO ANCOR- (B. Barnes) no report

*Coalition- (P. Capo) Marcus reported there was a conference call last Monday. The primary focus of the conference call was on Medicaid Reform.

*Supported Employment- (W. Hays) no report

*MO Planning Council- (V. McCarrell) met on July 21 and 22. Vicki handed out Family Healthcare Programs, Income Guidelines for MC+, MAF and Temporary Assistance, and Missouri Medicaid Eligibility for Persons who are Elderly, Blind, have a Disability or Need Treatment for Breast or Cervical Cancer. Employment Forum was held on Aug. 9th. Vicki discussed the Habilitation Transition Summit that is being held across the state.

*Sheltered Workshop Managers- (R. Garlich) reported on SB 539/spenddown concerns discussed at the manager's meetings.

*Personal Independence Council- (W. Hays/R. Garlich) reported on the meeting in early August.

*Congress on Disability- (J. Ames) Next meeting is Sept. 15th. They will be focusing on legislative priorities.

Committee Reports:

*Finance (J Wooldridge) met today discussing: audit review and follow up; annual dues review; 2005 budget with regard to the legal fees for creating the VEBA; MO Housing Trust Fund report; fiscal procedures. On Oct. 19th, they will be meeting to discuss 2006 budget.

*Public Awareness (W. Hays) Doris Boeckman reported on the Recruitment Brochure which is in draft form being updated. Doris also reported on the Annual Report.

*Conference (V. McCarrell/D. Cole) Vicky updated members on the conference committee meeting. The conference is on October 20 and 21.

*MAC Online (M. Sullivan-Thomas) no report

*Missouri Housing Trust Fund (D. Boeckman) the 2006 grant application came out this week. Doris also reported on this years grant.

*Legislative (P. Capo) no report

*Resource Development (J. Casey) no report

*Assessment (M. Whitlock) no report

*Issues Planning and Action (A. Nissen) handed out Missouri Medicaid Survey for members to complete. Doris will complete an Excel spreadsheet for consistency. The Issues Committee will have a joint meeting with the Legislative Committee before next month's MACDDS meeting.

*Embracing Partnerships (P. Capo) no report

*Regulation Standards (J. Tilman) no report

*CARF (R. Kruse) Ron reported on the issue with regard to CARF and ARC.

*First Steps Workgroup (R. Kruse) still waiting on a bid.

*Insurance (D. Boeckman) continuing to work on the VEBA and getting questions answered. Roger Garlich made the motion for MACDDS to pick up the start up cost of up to \$15,000 for the attorney fees; Lynn seconded; after lengthy discussion; motion passed.

Break

Legislative Consultant Bill Gamble and Sarah Topp

There was a brief discussion as to if membership is receiving legislative update via email from Bill and Sarah. Many members were not. A copy of members email address will be sent to their office.

Sarah reminded members what the Medicaid Reform Commission is requesting during the open forums. Jodi Stefanick will be serving on the Governor's Council. Senator Shields will be chairing the Commission after Jodi steps down. There will be expert testimony on October 12 and public testimony on October 13th. Sarah has signed a member of MACDDS up for the public testimony. It was asked of Sarah to place a name from MACDDS (Les or Peg) for the expert testimony.

Legislative Special Session will start in September which will include the veto session. This will also include "cleaning up" the writing of a few passed bills.

The Governor is requesting another \$300 million in cuts from general revenue.

The Hospital Association is working on adding an additional tobacco tax.

There was a brief discussion with regard to pursuing a Mental Health one cent tax increase.

There was a brief discussion with regard to stem cell research (politics vs. revenue).

MO USDA, Nathan Chitwood, Community Facilities Specialist

Nathan handed out a packet of information which included contacts for Missouri Rural Development state and regional offices, Community Facility Direct Loans RD Instruction 1942-A, Community Facility Guaranteed Loans RD Instruction 3575-A and 3575-B.

Nathan discussed the Community Facility Direct Loans/RD Instruction 1942-A. Under this program, the loan is made to the non-for-profit. The non-for-profit could collect rent and use this money to pay back the loan. At this time, the interest rate is about 4.1/8th%. They are restricted to towns or cities of less than 20,000 people.

Nathan reviewed the Community Facility Grants. There is a total of \$200,000-\$300,000 for grant opportunities in Missouri. The grant can not exceed 75% of the project cost and first responder groups receive priority.

Nathan discussed the Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program. This money has been used to assist sheltered workshops. This grant is used for private non-for-profit businesses. The grant can be used to purchase equipment or building. It can not be used for operating cost. The purposes of these grants are to promote employment.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm.

MACDDS Minutes
August 25, 2005
Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake of Ozarks

President Marcus Whitlock called the meeting to order at 9 am.

Announcements/Celebrations of Success:

*Platte Co. Janice Tilman reported on their open house of new building and 30 year anniversary of the agency.

*Green Co. RPO-Gene Barnes briefly discussed MO ANCOR's potential lobbyist. Gene discussed the potential of contracting with Bill Gamble & Associates but knows there could be a conflict of interest between MO ANCOR and MACDDS. Peg Capo and Gene Barnes will get together to discuss possible conflicts.

*Cooper Co. Vicki McCarrell reported on a newsletter she receives from NORD (National Organization for Rare Disorders, Inc.). To receive this newsletter, contact www.rarediseases.org.

*Health Insurance VEBA: There will be an additional \$10,000 per year cost that would be dispersed per carried employee.

*There was a discussion with regard to the Life Time Membership Award.

2006 Election of Officers

Janice Tilman presented and made the motion to accept slate of officers:

Jim Casey, President
Vicki McCarrell, President Elect
Cathy Arrowsmith, Treasurer
Betsey Barnes, Secretary
Wendy Hays, Member At Large

Lovie Oelklaus seconded; motion passed.

MR/DD Division Director, Tony Casey, Jeff Grosvenor, Kent Stalder and Kay Green
Tony gave a brief discussion with regard to the College of Direct Support commending the partnerships it took to complete the process.

Medicaid Spenddown- Kay handed out Reinvestigation Status for DMH revised 8/18/05. DMH has done a match with Dept. of Social Services-Family Support when looking at reinvestigation to make sure individuals are eligible for Medicaid. Legislators mandated yearly reevaluations to make sure persons who receive Medicaid are eligible. There will be training between each regional center and county DSS offices so a regional center representative can assist with the "Reinvestigation". These trainings will be videotaped so county based case managers will be informed of the re-verification process. There was a discussion with regard to how providers could aid in the re-verification process.

Tony announced that Kent Stalder has accepted the position of Acting Division Director of MR/DD.

Tony reported that workshop employees are starting to quit their jobs due to the “spend-down” changes and Legislature are receiving calls.

Tony and Kent attended a board meeting in St. Charles County. At this board meeting Les Wagner and Jennifer Wooldridge gave a presentation with regard to County Based Case Management. He felt this was a very informative and positive presentation. There was a similar meeting in the Kansas City area.

FY 07 budget-one of the areas being focused on continue to be transitioning from the habilitation centers. Tony also discussed designating emergency beds in the community. He also would like to see a focus on crisis services at each of the regional centers. Tony is asking MACDDS to look at adding “crisis and emergency services” to our legislative priorities and to be represented at public comments at the Mental Health Commission meetings. DMH MR/DD will again be asking for a provider COLAs.

There was a discussion with regard to the Memorandum of Understanding with DMH. Tony committed to signing the new Memorandum.

Break

Kay Green reported on letters of elimination/termination/reduction of service that individuals are receiving from DSS. She recommended that if there is an appeals process, people should appeal. Kay also reported that Medicaid has an exception process if the service or equipment is “life threatening”. An individual can download the exception form from the Dept. of Social Service web site.

General Discussion

Doris discussed other expenses and responsibilities that will be associated with the VEBA that has not been discussed-locking cabinets, forms, Cobra, etc...

Roger Garlich made the motion to sign the letter of engagement with HaynesHitesman Corporation; Alecia Nissen seconded; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:06.