

MACDDS Minutes **January 25, 2006**

President Jim Casey called the January 2006 meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

Announcements/Celebrations of Success:

- Wendy Buehler from Life Skills introduced the newly hired director of MARF, Erica Ranabarger. She has an office in Jefferson City.
- Several counties reported they have been notified they will be receiving vehicles from the MoDOT 5310 program.
- Peg Capo reported St. Charles DDRB has hired Robin Payton as their TCM supervisor and they will start providing case management within a few months.
- Pete Breting reported that Grundy County received a HUD grant.
- Max Lytle reported that Taney County has entered into an agreement with Developmental Services of the Ozarks for First Steps enhancements
- Howell County has approved funding to send 3 people to the 2006 MACDDS Conference—up from one person last year.

Minutes: December 2005 MACDDS minutes were emailed to all members. After review, Alecia Nissen moved and Janice Tilman seconded a motion to approve them as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Finance Report: Jennifer Wooldridge had emailed the final 2005 financial report. Jennifer moved and Dan Cole seconded a motion to accept the report as presented. Jennifer reported that everything has been submitted for the audit and it should be done by next month's meeting.

Business from last Month: Marcus Whitlock brought up for discussion MACDDS joining AIM (Associated Industries of Missouri) as there were not enough members present to vote on this in December. This led to a discussion by the Insurance Committee. Betsy Barnes reported that after negotiation, AIM had agreed to waive all membership dues for any MACDDS member who wanted to join AIM will have no annual or monthly membership fee to pay. MACDDS does not have to pay the proposed \$2,000 AIM membership fee, either. In turn, MACDDS will receive no rebates from any member joining AIM.

B. Barnes indicated her agency is taking the AIM sponsored health insurance and will be able to save over \$26,000 this year while offering better coverage for her staff. R. Garlich reported that the Insurance Committee is moving forward with plans to investigate the possibility of a worker's compensation insurance pool and the possibility of a self-funded health insurance plan in the future.

AGENCY LIASON REPORTS:

***MARF-** W. Buehler from Life Skills reported for MARF. She indicated that MARF is working on some possible changes to Representative Portwood's MAWD bill (HB 1068) and every indication is that it looks hopeful for getting something in place. Rate increases for providers was not included in the Governor's budget.

***MO ANCOR-** (T. Weatherspoon) MOANCOR is looking for an administrative agent to help keep communication going between all members. Interviewing will be done soon.

***COALITION-** (P. Capó) Gene Barnes, President of MOANCOR is Chair of the Coalition this year. Kathy Meath from St. Louis ARC is Vice Chair/Secretary. The Coalition will be looking at all three organizations' legislative agendas to see where there are commonalities that the Coalition can embrace. The Coalition will be meeting February 15th to do this and then will meet with Dorn Schuffman in the afternoon. MACDDS's membership in the Coalition will change as it is always the President, President Elect, Past-President, Legislative Chair—which will be Jim Casey, Vicki McCarrell, Marcus Whitlock and Peg and or Mary.

***Supported Employment-** (W. Hays) A new assessment format has been approved and will be put in place soon. New Supported Employment agreements have been sent out with lots of changes. This document can be downloaded from the VR website. February 1, 2006 is the Day on the Hill sponsored by APSE MO and the Congress on Disability. March 3rd is the APSE MO Professional Development Day and the topic will be Employment for People with Mental Illness. Applications for this training were distributed. It can also be downloaded from the APSE MO website.

***MO PLANNING COUNCIL-** (V. McCarrell) In Vicki's absence, Susan Pritchard-Green reported for the Missouri Planning Council. She discussed a workshop coming up in St. Louis on Loneliness. Derrick Dufresne will be presenting this training on how to get people coming out of the habilitation centers involved in their community and how we mentor people to make friends and prevent loneliness. There are several grant opportunities on the MPC website.

***SHELTERED WORKSHOP MANAGERS-** (R. Garlich) The annual Sheltered Workshop Managers Legislative Breakfast is tomorrow. They are advocating for an increase in the per diem from \$13 to \$18 per day in 3 years.

***PERSONAL INDEPENDENCE COUNCIL-** (W. Hays/R. Garlich) No report.

Dr. Julie Warm from the Institute on Human Development requested anyone who has information on spenddown costs that have been harmful to consumers to contact her with the information.

***CONGRESS ON DISABILITY-** (J. Ames) The Day on the Hill is February 1. The Congress is requesting a donation of \$100 to \$150 from each organization who is a member to support the Day on the Hill. M. Sullivan-Thomas moved and M. Lytle seconded a motion for MACDDS to contribute \$150 to the Congress. Motion passed unanimously. The Congress is requesting all organizations provide their legislative

priorities so they can be combined to come up with those that all members agree on and adopted by the Congress. P. Capo stated the Legislative Committee will be reviewing the proposed priorities tomorrow morning and will have recommended priorities for the MACDDS members to vote on then.

Committee Reports:

***Finance** (J. Wooldridge) J. Wooldridge discussed her last Financial Report as treasurer. Dan Cole made a motion to accept the report as emailed. Motion was seconded by Marcus Whitlock and approved unanimously. C. Arrowsmith has opened an account at US Bank in Hannibal. \$21,543.75 from membership dues for 2006 has been deposited in the account. There are currently 23 county boards and 12 RPO's who have paid their dues.

***Public Awareness** (W. Hays) MACDDS brochures were mailed out to all not for profits we had addresses for in November in an attempt to solicit membership. The brochure will be sent out again with information about the AIM sponsored health insurance. Committee will meet in February.

***Conference** (V. McCarrell/D. Cole) D. Cole handed out a final financial for the conference showing a profit of almost \$18,000. He thanked the committee members for their help and for everyone who sent staff. J. Casey praised both conference co-chairs for the good job they did on the conference.

***MAC Online** (M. Sullivan-Thomas) The MACDDS website has been reorganized. Anyone will be able to get the monthly agenda from the website each month by the 15th of the month. SB 40 Boards who are members will now download the DRAFT minutes from the website by the 15th. The agenda and draft minutes will no longer be emailed to the members. If you have had any changes in your email address, let Mary know. If you want any changes to your home page, give those changes to Mary.

***Missouri Housing Trust Fund** (D. Boeckman) There are 29 counties who will be participating in the 2006 MHTF Emergency Housing grant which starts April 1, 2006. Since the grant amount remains the same, \$150,000, all counties will get a little less than in 2005. Lisa Huff will be getting out updated information on the present grant. There is still money to be spent.

***Legislative** (P. Capo) Legislative Priorities developed last summer were passed out. These will be reviewed and possible changes made. Discussion of the need to fund non-Medicaid eligible services on the waiting list followed. The UR process and problems with placement through it were also discussed. MO AAMR is offering training on the Support Intensity Scale which some states use in lieu of a UR process. This maybe something that would help with the problems with UR.

***Resource Development** (J. Casey) Doris Boeckman reported the Missouri Foundation for Health grant out. It is due January 31. In February MFH will have an Agency Enhancement grant for 2 years for up to \$35,000. Information will be forwarded to the members when it is available.

***Assessment** (M. Whitlock) No report and it was suggested this committee be dissolved.

***Issues Planning and Action** (A. Nissen) No report.

***Regulation Standards** (J. Tilman) No report.

***CARF** (R. Kruse) Using CARF instead of licensing was an issue MACDDS supported in 2005. MARF has this as one of their priorities. It was suggested the Coalition could discuss this as one of its priorities.

***First Steps** Workgroup (R. Kruse) No report.

Committee assignments were handed out so members could remove or add themselves to the committees they wanted. Any member not at the meeting is requested to contact Doris to do this. Doris will email the new committees out to members.

Jeff Grosvenor, MRDD, handed out copies of the FY'06 supplemental budget request with a total request of \$22,461,888. Jeff has shared with the Governor's office the additional fuel and utility costs of providers, although he received information on only 20 some providers.

The Governor's FY '07 budget has no COLA for providers. When asked if some of the caseload growth dollars could be used for non Medicaid eligible consumers, Jeff said that the way Central Office is interpreting the use of Caseload growth they have to be spent only on Medicaid recipients and only for waiver services. A brief discussion of the UR process and how those people who may have lower scores could be served by county boards who are willing to pay the entire 40% match ensued. Kent Stalder, arrived and added to the discussion. He said that due to CMS's requirements, individuals must be served in order of their UR score. If someone who is higher on the UR list is not appropriate for the placement vacancy, i.e. a male is first on the list and the opening is for a female, the provider should work this out with their regional center. The male who is higher on the list would have to deny the opening. Kent also mentioned that those waiting for in-home supports should be on a separate list than those who are waiting for placement.

Jeff handed out a draft copy of the Annual MRDD Community Program Funding Report and asked that county boards look it over and contact him if there are any changes necessary. This report is on the MACDDS website for members only.

Jeff stated that the recent audit of SB 40 TCM has raised some issues which will be discussed in a meeting to be scheduled at a later date. CMS may require SB 40 boards to pay in the match rather than certifying it. A workgroup to look at the audit findings was established with J. Wooldridge, A. Nissen, D. Cole, R. Kruse, J. Casey and Jane Kruse. An invitation to the meeting will be sent out to all county boards providing TCM.

Kent stated that the Bellefontaine census today is 224. CIMOR will be up and running July 1, 2006. Providers are having some problems accessing the new Electronic Consumer Referral program. Jeff will look into this.

M. Sullivan-Thomas gave information about SSM's new hospital in Wentzville that has an entire 12-bed unit dedicated to adults with MRDD who have psychiatric and/or behavioral problems.

Strategic Planning: The membership worked with Doris Boeckman and Suzanne Alewine on updating the MACDDS strategic plan. A summary of the results will be available in February.

MACDDS Appointments: Jim Casey made the following appointments to various committees—MRDD Transformation Grant: A. Nissen to the Steering Committee and

M. Whitlock to the Community Supports Committee. No one was appointed to the Information Technology committee for this grant. Volunteers are welcome to apply.

The Ticket to Work or Medicaid Infrastructure Grant through the Institute for Human Development had the following MACDDS members volunteer: L. Wagner, W. Hays, and D. Miller.

A Prevention Funding Work group had R. Kruse, L. Wagner and P. Capo volunteer to serve. They will look at how to be able to use SB 40 dollars to fund some services for prevention when the people needing the services are not at the top of the waiting list.

A. Nissen moved to adjourn at 4:45 p.m. Motion was seconded by D. Cole and approved unanimously.

DRAFT
MACDDS Minutes
January 26, 2006

President Jim Casey called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Peg Capo reported that the Government Affairs Committee met this morning and made a few changes to their Legislative Priorities which she then presented. The MACDDS Legislative Priorities for 2006 are:

- Strengthen community providers.
 1. Crisis Intervention—Provide statewide specialized community supports for individuals in medical or behavioral crisis. These may be individuals moving out of habilitation centers or at-risk of entering them. Services are needed in-home and in short term residential settings.
 2. Provider COLA—Provide annual increases in provider rates which are necessary to keep pace with the rising cost of doing business.
 3. Training Incentives—Implement statewide direct support training program and support with financial incentives.
 - First Steps—Ensure that the intent of community collaboration is implemented.
 - Service Growth
 1. Continue caseload growth funding for Medicaid-eligible individuals on the waiting list.
 2. Prevent premature, costly out of home placement by providing funding for individual supports to families, regardless of Medicaid eligibility.
 3. Build in future cost of living increases with service growth.
 - Medicaid Reform—Ensure that Medicaid Reform initiatives do not harm individuals with developmental disabilities by supporting MAWD.
 - Sheltered Workshop—Support per diem increase and the wage exemption eligibility.
 - Track property tax legislation and the impact on SB40's.

Roger Garlich moved and Ron Kruse seconded a motion to accept the revised priorities as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

P. Capo announced the Governmental Affairs committee is sponsoring a morning at the Capitol on February 22nd before the MACDDS meeting. Meet at 9 a.m. at a location to be announced and then go talk to your legislators.

Larry Young—Sheltered Workshop Update Larry handed out a report, “Missouri Sheltered Workshops FY 2005.” It indicated that sales continue to be a challenge. The per diem is to be used to help supplement overhead. Overhead costs’ increase is one of the arguments to push for a per diem increase as is proposed by legislation this year. \$2 in ’07, \$2 in ’08 and \$1 in ’09.

Discussion followed. They are supporting Sen. Cauthorn's bill to eliminate workshop income from spenddown. Another bill is to give state contractors 25 points if they use sheltered workshops in their bids. One bill is looking to reword the requirements for the per diem to be able to get the per diem rate in a 4 day workweek as long as they work 30 hours in those 4 days. Sheltered Workshop Managers have agreed to not take any stand on the bill to limit the contracts on State rest areas to sheltered workshops within 50 miles. They do want to limit crews at those sites to 1 supervisor and 2 workers. This would cost MoDOT more but it may help the problem, according to Larry.

In Audrain County the workshop is working with the Department of Conservation—has been good for the shop and has been good for Conservation. This may open some more bids for Dept. of Conservation. Working with DNR to see if they can get State park contracts.

Larry is retiring effective July 1, 2006.

Rob Honan from the Governor's Council on Disability—Rob handed out brochures from the Governor's Council and a packet on legislative information, giving an overview on various bills that would affect persons with disabilities.

Using Personal Assistance to Get and Keep a Job—Ron Berg, Missouri Planning Council; George Woodward, Lawrence County SB40; Mike McCarthy, UMKC IHD; LeAnn Bussard, Chris Rodriquez, DMH.

Talked about the Southwest Missouri Employment Initiative which used personal assistance to get and keep a job in a relatively fast way. 5 people in Barry and Lawrence Counties got jobs and maintained the jobs. DMH received a Medicaid Infrastructure grant to facilitate employment and some of those grant funds were used along with some SB 40 funds, some Missouri Planning Council funds and some regional center funds.

The consumers actually hired their personal assistant. They were the employer. Training was provided to the consumer on being the employer. A fiscal intermediary was used to take care of deducting taxes, cutting the personal assistant's paycheck, etc. Case managers were very important in supporting this process. Personal assistants worked with the consumer, their families, friends, supporters, etc. to help the person find a job in a relatively short period of time. Material handed out included a Participant Workbook 2005—The Journey To a Career; Using a Personal Assistant to Get and Keep a Job: Guidance for Implementation of Pilot Initiatives; and Southwest Missouri Employment Initiative.

Mike McCarthy is interested in finding 4 places in the State that is interested in this process. If this is something you'd like to try in your County, contact Mike McCarthy at (816)235-1770.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon