

Mental Health Advisory Board
June 20, 2018
6:00 P.M.

The Cabarrus County Mental Health Advisory Board held their quarterly Meeting in the Multipurpose Room at the Cabarrus County Governmental Center in Concord, North Carolina on Wednesday, June 20, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.

Steve Morris, Board of Commissioners Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

Those present were: Ashlie Shanley, Gary Gacek, Woody Chavis, William Dusch, Benita Conrad, Reid Thornburg, William Pilkington, Karen Calhoun, Tri Tang, Rebecca True, Georgia Lozier, Alan Thompson, Justin Brines, Marcella Bean, Keith Eury, Sonja Bohannon-Thacker, Gwen Bartley, Tasha McClean, March Nesbitt, Kasia Thompson, Candace Johnson, Delton Russell, Jodi Ramirez, Steve Morris, Hanna Lightsey and Sheila Bruce.

WELCOME

Steve Morris, Board of Commissioners Chair, welcomed all attendees. Introductions were made by all.

MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE REPORTS

Access to Resources

Gwen Bartley provided an update on the minor, whose father was a guest speaker late last year, as well as the family. Ms. Bartley stated the minor is still living in a group home, but comes home on the weekends for visits. The minor attends an alternative school and has completed the tenth grade. He is in an accelerated program; plans are that he will be able to graduate from high school in December.

Ms. Bartley also reported research has determined Cabarrus County has adequate and appropriate outpatient services for mental health. Barriers discovered in connection with the outpatient level are financial. Many of the providers do not accept uninsured persons and Medicaid. However, the services are expensive and many people are unable to afford them.

Additionally, the next level of services that includes intensive in-home, day treatment and therapeutic foster care are generally available only to children with Medicaid; leaving a huge dividing line of available care for all. A few facilities exist in the State for private pay, but only on a case-to-case basis, limited beds and again, very expensive.

The task force will continue to identify barriers and finalize the report to share with all community resources.

A discussion ensued.

Crisis Response

Sonja Bohannon-Thacker, reported this task force examined if all first responders knew what to do in a mental health/substance use crisis. The findings were that all first responders knew what to do and were equipped to do so. The

task force established the issues arose once a patient arrives at the hospital especially for a short term stay. The task force will be looking into the issues further and try to determine what supports can be put in place to improve patient care; preventing them going from crisis to hospitalization to crisis in a two to three week period. The task force will continue to report back on progress.

Public Awareness

The task force met with the faith community to discuss their possible involvement and assistance in the mental health and substance use crisis.

This year the Art Council included mental health and substance use in the Dose of Reality annual art contest. Over 120 pieces of artwork were submitted by local students.

There will be a Mental Health Awareness booth at the Fair this year to raise awareness and to provide information and resources to the public.

In an effort to increase registration for the Mental Health First Aid classes for the remainder of the year, each class will be designed for specific audiences.

A discussion ensued.

CABARRUS OPIOID CORE TEAM SURVEY

Cabarrus County was one of 10 communities to receive a grant from the UNC School of Government (UNC SOG) for the Opioid Crisis project. In that regard, UNC SOG requests activities and surveys to be completed throughout the grant to provide information and feedback to assist communities in addressing the opioid crisis.

Marcella led the advisory board in an activity to identify the problems and root causes of opioid crisis and to develop strategies to help those in our community dealing with addiction.

Lastly, Marcella provided a summary of the information gleaned from the activity. She further advised once all the information is received and compiled by UNC SOG, she will forward it the group.

DEPARTMETN OF HUMAN SERVICES

Karen Calhoun reported on DHS' (state and local) continued efforts for placement and care for persons.

Ms. Calhoun additionally reported on the Under One Roof project, research for a virtual integrated network so as to maximize community resources and not duplicate services and the hub of wrap around services to fill gaps of service.

FACILITY BASED CRISIS CENTER

Rebecca True for Veronica Moeller provided the most recent statistics in connection with facility based crisis.

A question arose as to how many Cabarrus County residents are being turned away due to lack of available beds and where are they going? Ms. True will attempt to retrieve that information and provide it at a later date.

Please see attachment labeled Mar-18 Cabarrus County.

Ms. True provided information regarding the Mobile Engagement Unit. She stated that for the last three months, 173 persons were served in Cabarrus County. Of those, 99 persons had prior mental health issues, 25 were treated primarily for substance use, 44 for mental health and substance use and five for mental health and IV use. Jodi Ramirez advised she has received information that the average response time (make contact) is 1 hour 37 minutes due to being transported on a case to case basis.

Please see attachment labeled Daymark Recovery Services

CHS - EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

Tri Tang provided information regarding Emergency Department Behavioral Health visits. Mr. Tang discussed data indicates a decreasing trend in behavioral health visits. He further discussed the increasing trend for geriatric psychiatric. Overall, data shows the majority of patients are attending follow up care.

Please see attachment labeled CHS NorthEast ED: Behavioral Health.

Additionally, since the implementation of the Navigation Program, over 260 patients have been assisted.

Finally, the hospital has received a grant for two peer support specialist positions. The peer support specialist will provide guidance and assist patients set goals.

A discussion ensued.

CARDINAL INNOVATIONS

Reid Thornburg advised an announcement for the RP grants should be made later in the week.

Mr. Thornburg reported the facility based in Charlotte has provided care (since March, 2018) for 17 adolescents, six were from Cabarrus County.

Finally, the governing board has initiated a strategic planning process to address policy and enhance internal processes.

Dr. Pilkington reported the governing board is looking for a new location. Also, Dr. Pilkington announced the Cabarrus County grants were granted to Wings of Eagles and Cabarrus County Schools.

EMS

Justin Brines reported on an unusual request for the community paramedic program to follow up with a recently discharged patient to insure their medication was taken daily. The paramedics agreed to do so for a couple of weeks. Mr. Brines further reported thus far, the patient has not been readmitted to the hospital.

Mr. Brines reported since the initial vaping and CVB oils matter, no other incidents have been reported.

Data regarding opioid cases was provided. Please see below.

Scan

Lastly, beginning in April, EMS has been providing Narcan kits to overdose patients that refuse transport.

A discussion ensued.

Please see attachment labeled Cabarrus County Opioid overdoses including deaths.

STEPPING UP

Tasha McClean provided the following information for March, 2018:

- 518 inmates were screened
- 236 were identified as positive screens for mental health issues and or substance use
- Met with 89
- 18 left with transition plans

April, 2018 were as follows:

- 503 inmates were screened
- 228 screened positive
- Met with 96
- 27 left with transition plans

Ms. McClean advised she does provide follow ups to check if a patient kept their first doctor appointment. If the patient did not keep their first appoint, she will engage the services of the mobile crisis unit to determine the reason for not keeping their appointment.

A discussion ensued. During discussion, Ashlie Shanley advised the District Attorney's office has met with the Sheriff's Office and will be meeting with the Cabarrus County judges for consideration in sentencing if an individual completed their mental health or substance abuse recommended plan.

MAGISTRATES OFFICE

Bill Baggs, Jr. was unable to attend the meeting. Therefore, Jodi Ramirez reported the number of involuntary commitments since January, 2018 is 1,034. In trying to gage the current status, there were 2,228 in 2017.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Candice Johnson for Kathy Rogers reported legislators are looking at House Bill 986, if passed, will direct DPI to develop a mental health training program and suicide risk protocol for schools.

House Bill 403 (new version) - Medicaid transformation. This has been approved by the House and is headed to the Senate. The bill will establish parameters for behavioral health and Intellectual and Development Disabilities tailored plans.

House Bill 156 will include provisions on licensing requirements for PHPs, managed care organizations and accountability tools for account managed homes.

House Bill 998 related to Rural Healthcare.

Ms. Johnson also reported there have been changes to the Involuntary Commitment protocols.

A brief discussion ensued. During discussion, Ms. Bartley commented legislators are looking at a house bill pertaining to how group homes are managed.

Ms. Johnson will provide additional legislative information to Jodi to distribute.

CLOSING

Steve Morris commended everyone on all the work being done and the progress being made.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.