

Minutes for the 3-06-07 MH/DD Advisory Board Meeting

Chair, Carol Fonua, called the March meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. at the Community Services/CPC office located at 101 East Main St.

Members present: Al Fagerlund, Rich Byers, Carol Fonua, Jackie Gray, Michelle Allen, Barb Mathews, Jill Eaton, Lisa Soder, Linda White

Members absent: Ron Goecke, Gordie Johnson, Pat Brooks, Laura Schinnow, Anne Vance, Jacque Osgood, Alicia Krough, Sue Jones, Paul Phillips, Mike Bennett

Guests present: None

1. County Budget Review:

Jill provided a slide presentation outlining the FY 08 budget. She also reported that the county Board of Supervisors approved the MH levy at 100% maximum at today's Board of Supervisors meeting. This should enable the county to receive additional funds from the state in FY 08. There is a good possibility that the legislature will change the funding formula as evidenced by the inconsistencies in the ninety-nine counties ending fund balances. Those wishing more information regarding the FY 08 budget are to contact Jill.

2. Poverty Guideline Change Amendment Update:

The proposed amendment to change the poverty guidelines from 200% poverty level to 150% poverty level was approved at the public hearing on December 12, 2006 to be effective January 1, 2007. It was approved by the County Board of Supervisors and then the State MH/DD Commission. All necessary actions as a result of this amendment are complete.

3. Agency Updates:

Carol Fonua – (DHS Case Management) reported they are not going to replace the case manager that left at this time.

Michelle Allen – (North Star Community Services) commented things are going well and she is anticipating qualifying consumers for Habilitation Services.

Jackie Gray – (AEA 267) reported that the Transition Fair is to be held April 27th at IVCCD. The keynote speaker will be Mia Peterson who is 29 years old, has Down Syndrome and exemplifies leadership and excellence. Jackie anticipates attendance to be around 130 youth with 20 to 30 staff. Michelle Allen volunteered North Star consumers to help with this event if the need arises.

Barb Mathews – (Voc Rehab) reported that Voc Rehab budgets look good. They are actively getting those off the waiting list. She stressed to keep making the referrals. Marshall and Tama Counties are now with the North Central Office which is housed out of Ames. Barb also commented they are working with more stringent guidelines and requiring higher expectations.

Rich Byers – (MIW) spoke about MIW going through its ninth accreditation process Thursday, March 8th and Friday, March 9th.

4. Comments from Jill:

Jill reported on several future events as follows:

- “Healthy Aging: There Is No Magic Pill” conference to be held April 6th at the Hy-Vee Conference in West Des Moines.
- Social Security Training to be held 6:30 PM on April 26th at Marshalltown Community College – Room 612. Dean Brittenham, a Technical Expert & Work Incentive Liaison for the Social Security Administration, will provide the training.
- Iowa Empowerment Conference to be held Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday July 31st, August 1st and August 2nd at the Best Western Regency Inn, Marshalltown, IA.

The Iowa Department of Human services can authorize replacement food assistance for those families who are currently receiving Food Assistance and have lost food due to the recent storms. Contact your local DHS office for more information.

Future meeting dates are listed below and locations will be announced on the agendas when mailed.

Meeting adjourned at 1:55 P.M.

Future Meeting Dates:

June 5, 2007

November 6, 2007