

# Minutes for the 05-21-08 MH/DD Advisory Board Meeting

Chair, Carol Fonua, called the May meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. at the Career Development Center, located at 21 So. 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.

**Members present:** Rich Byers, Carol Fonua, Jill Boike, Jill Eaton, Lisa Soder, Linda White

**Members absent:** Al Fagerlund, Laura Schinnow, Anne Vance, Jackie Gray Michelle Allen, Barb Mathews, Sue Jones, Paul Phillips, Mike Bennett

**Guests present:** None

## 1. **Introductions:**

Introductions were made and newest Board member, Jill Boike, was welcomed.

## 2. **Financials:**

Jill reported that the FY08 budget is going well due to the influx of state dollars created by the maximum 100% levy. Jill estimated there should be an ending fund balance of approximately 35%. She is still cautious where funding is concerned as the County is likely to receive very little State dollars for FY09. Marshall County currently has no waiting list for funding and services are determined based on need.

## 3. **Plan Changes/Compliance:**

Jill has made some changes to the County Management Plan Policy and Procedures. A handout provided depicts "red" as being eliminated and "yellow" as being the proposed change. These changes are basically housekeeping issues needed. Jill will hold a yearly planning meeting in January after Board approval of new members and call for Board meetings as they are needed. Jill also explained that any Board member can call a meeting if they so desire. There was no motion for approval of these changes at this time as they will be brought to the entire membership and more changes may be proposed prior to submission to the Board for a public hearing on a plan amendment.

## 4. **University of Iowa "REACH" Program:**

Lisa Soder gave a brief overview of the REACH (Realizing Educational and Career Hopes) program offered through the University of Iowa. It is one of the first programs of its kind offered on a major university campus to students with multiple learning and cognitive disabilities. Applications for fall 2008 enrollment are being taken. Cost could be as much as \$20-25,000 per school year. Lisa also explained that there are other similar programs in the state which are much more affordable. The Marshall County Plan provides no educational funding at this time. Handouts were provided that further explained the program.

**5. New CPC Applications/Reviews:**

Carol relayed to Board members that the CPC application/review process for FY08 is nearing completion. CPC applications were filled out by those consumers we currently serve to ensure that resource guidelines are being met. A new 1-2 page review form will be implemented July 1<sup>st</sup>. A draft of this form will be available by next advisory Board meeting.

**6. FY08 Survey Discussion:**

Since our return rate is low and the feedback is limited from our CPC consumer surveys, the question was asked could we utilize our provider host county surveys. Motion was made by Rich Byers to utilize our provider host county surveys to ensure quality assurance of the system. This will include the case management survey and the CPC will use a survey for the cases served by the County Social Worker. Motion seconded by Lisa Soder.

**7. Provider Rates:**

The Board of Supervisors has approved new provider rates for Marshall County providers effective July 1<sup>st</sup> 2008. These were negotiated with the providers and range from 2.7% to 4% increase.

**8. Agency Updates:**

Jill Boike – (Goodwill Industries) reported she currently has two people to place in supported employment services. When Jill started with Goodwill Industries she worked with 12 consumers. Between Marshall and Poweshiek Counties she now has 40 consumers. She has requested a Voc Rehab meeting to inquire about more information. Jill also mentioned an upcoming ICN meeting she plans to attend that will discuss the DVRS waiver. New employers are also beginning to open their doors to Goodwill Industries consumers. Jill told Board members of a free training “Building Blocks” scheduled for May 28<sup>th</sup> at the IVCCD Continuing Education building from 12:00 PM – 4:30 PM. CEU’s are being offered.

Rich Byers – (MIW) reported that the poor economy and the minimum wage increase had definitely had an impact. Rich also commented that service delivery is good and he is anticipating more contracts.

Jill Eaton – (CPC/Community Services) spoke of the County Community Service Network software being created by Spindustry which will connect all 99 counties through a web based network housed at ISAC in Des Moines. Among other features, Jill explained this software will be able to collect data should the Legislature need it and can immediately get the info to them, determine legal settlement through a query if already determined, and automatically generate Notice of Decisions when services are approved. Jill is hopeful that this new system will eventually connect to the state ISIS system. Marshall County is slated to be a test site and could begin testing as early as January 09. Full implementation is tentatively scheduled for July 09.

Jill reminded Board members of the mileage sheet reimbursements should they want one. Board Rosters were also available for anyone wishing to make changes.

Handouts of the Marshall County appeal process were available. This will be a line item for discussion at our next Board meeting.

Another line item for our next meeting will be Advisory Board Guidelines. As noted on the handout, the yellow highlighted areas indicate the change being made and strike-out areas to be eliminated.

Another consumer is needed to complete our Advisory Board roster. Suggestions are welcomed.

Carol Fonua – (DHS Case Management) spoke of the January resignation of Case Manager, Kristine Fisher. Two Associate positions have been filled, those being Lacey Speces from the Boys & Girls Home in Marshalltown, and Mary Green, former IM worker from Marshall County DHS. Upon renting additional office space in the current Annex building, Case Managers will be expanding in the near future.

Jill Boike motioned to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Lisa Soder. Meeting adjourned at 2:20 P.M.

**Future Meeting Dates:**

To be announced