

Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Mental Health Advisory Committee Meeting

2:00 – 4:00 PM

Date: Tuesday, February 16, 2010
Location: 1313 Farnam Street, Room G, Omaha, NE
Interpreters: Jamy Elker
Dala McNew

Attendees

Members	Technical Advisors	Staff
Jackie Prater	Karen Potter Maxwell	Peggy Williams
Vicki Steinhauer-Campbell		Dr. Peter Seiler
Mandy Leamon		Beth Ellsworth

Guests

Rachel Olive, Nebraska Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition - Speaker
Susan Dovel - Minutes

Gather and Welcome

Ms. Williams called the meeting to order at 2:07 PM.

Approval of November 17, 2009 Minutes

Ms. Williams asked if there are any changes to be made to the agenda and requested approval for the November 17, 2009 minutes. Ms. Steinhauer-Campbell made a motion to accept the minutes as written and the motion was carried.

NCDHH Executive Director Report

Dr. Seiler shared NCDHH's progress on updating the mission statement, goals and the conception of a new vision statement. Once completed, they will be presented at the March Board meeting for approval.

Dr. Seiler shared that he will be reviewing the updated goals and objectives submitted by the staff. He stated he is excited about the ideas coming in from the staff and said that even with a reduced budget we're trying to be creative and still provide services.

LB 706 will replace LB 310 which requires all interpreters to be licensed in the state of Nebraska. Dr. Seiler met with the President of Nebraska Educators and Senator Haar who is interested in submitting this legislation in 2011. Dr. Seiler feels licensure in Nebraska should be required for anyone who interprets in the state of Nebraska.

Dr. Seiler stated there was concern in regards to Vocational Rehabilitation with the use of VRI services as the interpreter could be from another state and not licensed in Nebraska.

These services are sometimes used within the hospital system as well. Once LB 706 passes all state funded facilities will be required to use Nebraska licensed interpreters. (Independently funded facilities such as Saint Elizabeth Hospital and BryanLGH Hospital will not be required to follow the same protocol.) We want an interpreter list of names for all state funded facilities so we can contact them to verify their qualifications and possibly provide them with Nebraska certification. Dr. Seiler reported that the Nebraska Interpreter Review Board will meet in April.

Dr. Seiler stated that NCDHH has assumed a long practice of charging for QAST testing, however, Senator Haar has recommended we ask the legislature to include this in the Commission state statute. There will be a hearing on this in January. Dr. Seiler assumes more budget cuts will be forthcoming but doesn't know yet for sure. At this time NCDHH will be reducing one full time employee to half time and the NCDHH Public Information Officer position will be eliminated. Field Representatives have been asked to schedule a number of appointments into one trip in an effort to reduce travel expenses.

MH Specialist Update

Ms. Williams is seeking a support system for substance abuse. One useful reference tool is The Where and When book used by Alcoholics Anonymous indicating which meetings in Omaha are interpreted. The latest revision was 2009 and is sold at the AA Central Office on 35th & Dodge. Dr. Seiler will pick one up.

Dr. Seiler and Ms. Williams toured the Boystown RTC program. Both Dr. Seiler and Ms. Williams felt the facility was very impressive. Prior to the tour, they met with the Director of the RTC program and asked questions regarding the facility.

Agency Updates

Ms. Leamon invited Ms. Williams to attend one of their clinical staffing meetings. She will contact Ms. Williams with a date in the future.

Ms. Potter Maxwell announced the RID Region 4 convention will be held the first weekend in August 2010.

Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Advocacy Training

Ms. Potter Maxwell stated David Jones from Mercy Medical in Des Moines, IA held a state interpreter training seminar last year. She volunteered to help if the same training is held in Nebraska.

Ms. Williams announced the Enrichment Fund awarded NCDHH \$5,180.00 to provide interpreters and shelters training in Douglas and Sarpy counties. The interpreter workshop “Vicarious Trauma and Interpreter Self-Care” will be presented by Dr. Ron Lybarger on Saturday, June 26, 2010. Ms. Williams will work with Ms. McNew on professional sign language interpreter CEU’s. Lunch will be provided and there is not charge to attend the workshop. Discussion was held regarding accessibility to the workshop(s) if you live in Iowa and work in Nebraska. Dr. Seiler said as long as you serve clients in Nebraska you can live in any state. Ms. Williams is in the process of finding someone to provide the training for the Domestic Violence Shelters and Programs. If anyone knows of someone who would be a good resource for providing this training to please contact her.

Ms. Williams reported that she attended the Domestic Violence in an African American Community conference at NET on February 10th.

Rachel Olive – NE Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition

Ms. Rachel Olive, Prevention Coordinator for the Nebraska DVSA Coalition was introduced. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves and the agency they represented on the committee. She provided information on the “Nebraska Sexual Violence Prevention Plan” which was created by Nebraska’s Sexual Violence Prevention Advisory Committee. The work has been underway for over two years and is funded by the Center for Disease Control. The document states the “underserved” population is where the deaf and hard of hearing fit within the plan. Their primary focus is prevention through education.

Ms. Olive was asked to travel to each of the 6 Behavioral Health Regions in Nebraska to explain the plan. Ms. Olive will email Ms. Williams the prevention plan so she can email it to members of the committee that were not present today.

Next Meetings:

May 11, 2010	4600 Valley Road-4FL Lincoln	Conference Room A
August 17, 2010	1313 Farnam Street-3FL Omaha State Office Building	TBA
November 16, 2010	4600 Valley Road-4FL Lincoln	Conference Room A

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.