

Division of Public and Behavioral Health
Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency (SAPTA)
Advisory Board

MINUTES

DATE: March 18, 2015

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

Meeting:

LOCATION: Truckee Meadows Community
College, Redfield Campus
18600 Wedge Parkway,
Room 103
Reno, NV

Videoconference:

College of Southern Nevada Cheyenne Campus 3200 E. Cheyenne Avenue, Room 2638 North Las Vegas, NV	Great Basin College 1500 College Parkway, Room 137 Elko, NV
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BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Steve Burt (Chair)
Mark Disselkoen
David Robeck
Lana Robards
Diaz Dixon
Jennifer DeLett-Snyder
Nadia Noel
Ronald Lawrence
Karen Thomas
Frank Parenti

Ridge House
CASAT
Bridge Counseling
New Frontier Treatment Center
Step 2
Join Together Northern Nevada
Join Together Northern Nevada
Community Counseling Center
Vitality Unlimited
PACT Coalition

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Tammra Pearce
Ed Sampson
Debra Reed
Michele Watkins
Richard Jimenez
Frank Parenti
Debra Ridenour

Bristlecone Family Resources
Frontier Community Coalition
Las Vegas Indian Center
Central Lyon Youth Connections
WestCare
HELP of Southern Nevada
New Frontier Treatment Center

OTHERS PRESENT

Chris Croft
Laverne Jefferies

Tahoe Youth Family Services
Lyon County

SAPTA STAFF/STATE STAFF

Kevin Quint
Sara Weaver
Cheryl Baldovi-Manville
Agata Gawronski

SAPTA Bureau Chief
SAPTA Administrative Assistant
SAPTA Administrative Assistant
Board of Examiners

1. Welcome and Introductions:

Steve Burt opened the meeting at 9:49 a.m. Mr. Burt noted there was a quorum present.

2. Public Comment:

None.

3. Approval of Minutes from the February 18, 2015, Advisory Board Meeting:

Lana Robards motioned to approve the minutes. Diaz Dixon seconded the motion. The motion carried and the minutes of the February 18, 2015, were approved.

4. Standing Informational Items:

Kevin Quint delivered the SAPTA report. Mr. Quint stated that SAPTA has several vacant positions. Interviews are currently being conducted.

Mr. Quint stated that requests for reimbursements (RFRs) are current. Mr. Quint advised providers to inform him if they have not been reimbursed.

Mr. Quint indicated that the rollout of Avatar will begin in March for New Frontier and Vitality Unlimited. Timelines and goals will be finalized by May for the remainder of providers. All providers should be on Avatar by October. Mr. Quint cautioned providers that these goals may change because of unforeseen circumstances. Mr. Quint also stated that there may be some providers who do not want to use electronic health records (EHR) in Avatar. The Division may develop "Avatar light," which is a condensed version of Avatar and will require less data entry. Mr. Quint stated that the goal is to move as many providers as possible off NHIPPS.

Mr. Quint stated that preparation for the SAPTA needs assessment is underway. Mr. Quint asked providers if they had been contacted by SAPTA staff. With the exception of Mr. Burt, providers in attendance stated they had not been contacted.

Mr. Quint stated that the SAPTA and Mental Health block grants will be a combined submission. Mr. Quint indicated the drug and alcohol block grant is \$20 million, but it is expected that the amount will be reduced since the State had not met its maintenance of effort. A timeline has been developed for writing and completing the block grant. Mr. Quint advised providers that SAPTA would elicit input from providers and the public during the grant development process. Mr. Quint encouraged providers to participate in the process.

Mr. Quint stated there are ten providers who receive funding from medical marijuana. There is \$100,000 left to spend for the remainder of the year. For those providers who will be using this funding, SAPTA is seeking ways to find additional dollars.

Mr. Quint spoke about funding in general. He stated that last year at this time, providers had spent approximately half of their funding and all funding had been spent by the end of the year. However, this year there will be a different problem because of new rules about Medicaid spending, etc. SAPTA will be analyzing the manner in which funding is being spent and will be contacting providers to inquire about their fiscal plan to spend available funding. Mr. Quint encouraged providers to develop position papers to explain the impact of the changing landscape in the field, especially regarding Medicaid rules. Mr. Burt indicated, because each provider is receiving different information from Medicaid, it is difficult to pinpoint the problems providers are encountering. Mr. Dixon stated that he recently attended

the budget hearing at the Legislature. Mr. Dixon indicated that the providers who testified stated in their testimony that everything thing was going well with Medicaid. Mr. Quint replied that on paper, AmeriGroup and HPN [Health Plan of Nevada] fee-for-service reimbursements compared to Medicaid reimbursements, it appears that there is greater reimbursement from Medicaid and from SAPTA. However, that does not take into account the costs to the provider in their efforts to adjust to the changing dynamics that providers are experiencing. Mr. Dixon stated he spoke to Legislators and they were unaware of hardships providers are experiencing. In addition, Mr. Dixon stated it appears there are a greater number of dollars available, but that does not take into account the difficulty providers have in obtaining those dollars. Mr. Quint encouraged providers to communicate with MCOs [managed care organizations] and with Medicaid. He also stated that SAPTA staff would help facilitate meetings between providers, MCOs, and Medicaid.

Mr. Quint stated SAPTA will continue the prevention RFA [Request for Applications] for one year. After that period, the RFA will be competitive. The treatment RFA will be continued from July 1 until the end of the calendar year. Following the completion of the needs assessment, the treatment RFA will be competitive and open to new providers.

Mr. Quint addressed federal grants. There is one with the Washoe County court system and one each with Quest and New Frontier. In addition, letters of support have been written for agencies that have requested them.

5. Update on Nomination for the Substance Abuse Seat on the Governor's Behavioral Health Commission:

Mr. Quint stated during the February Advisory Board meeting Michelle Berry and Denise Everett were nominated to serve on the Governor's Behavioral Health Commission. Mr. Quint advised the Board of the protocol for nominations. He stated he sent a letter to the Interim Director, Richard Whitley, indicating that two persons had been nominated. Mr. Whitley will then send the letter to Governor Sandoval. Governor Sandoval will choose the person to serve on the Commission. Mr. Quint reiterated that whoever is selected would be the representative for substance abuse issues.

6. Legislative Bills Update:

Mr. Quint stated that the SAPTA budget hearing was held on March 11. Mr. Quint's perception was that SAPTA's budget was well received by Legislators.

Bills of importance included:

- Assembly Bill (AB) 85
- Senate Bill (SB) 84
- AB 81
- SB 219
- SB 275

Mr. Quint indicated that the deadline for the introduction of new bills is this week.

7. Update on the Utilization Management Committee Meetings:

Mark Disselkoen gave a brief update on the Utilization Management Committee. Mr. Disselkoen stated there are three outstanding issues:

- Determine what services of which Medicaid is and is not paying.
- Determine if SAPTA can pay for services of which Medicaid is not paying.
- The Committee believes the ASAM [American Society of Addiction Medicine] language is too restrictive. It is the Committee's intent to soften the language and create a means for services that Medicaid does not pay so that SAPTA can pay.

8. Recovery System of Care:

Ronald Lawrence stated that Medicaid told providers they could not be a Provider Type 20. Mr. Lawrence credited Mr. Quint with resolving this issue with Medicaid. Now, Medicaid is indicating that a Provider Type 17 can also become a Provider Type 20. Mr. Lawrence was concerned that providers could not complete the recovery system of care for patients.

Mr. Lawrence state that one of the problems for providers is that they receive different answers depending on who answers the question. Mr. Quint indicated another Division staffer resolved the problem providers were encountering. Mr. Quint stated that all providers want to do what is ethical.

Mr. Quint indicated that "recovery system of care" is a term that SAPTA will be using because we want people who are not closely associated with substance abuse issues are not familiar with the term or its meaning.

9. Review Possible Agenda Items for the Next SAPTA Advisory Meeting:

None.

10. Public Comment:

None.

11. Adjourn:

Mr. Burt adjourned the meeting at 10:56 a.m.