

MINUTES

November 14, 2016

Human Services Advisory Board, San Juan County

John Wickham, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:47 a.m. in the Legislative Conference Room.

Members present: Bonnie Burg, Theresa Chemnick, Georgeana Cook (remote), Catherine Ellis (remote), Carolyn Fiscus, Peg LeBlanc, Joyce Sobel, John Wickham. and Lynnette Wood

Members excused: Melissa Guard, Barry Jacobson

Staff present: Mark Tompkins, Barbara LaBrash, Dave Dunaway

Agenda: The Board approved the agenda with one change: The date of the agenda should read November 14, 2016.

Minutes: The Board approved the minutes from the 10 October 2016 meeting with the following change: On page 2, in the paragraph that begins with "Tompkins provided ..." the last sentence should read "Tompkins said that the ACH is well-positioned to submit proposals for projects." Correspondingly, in the first sentence of the same paragraph, the acronym "ACH" should be inserted in parentheses after "Accountable Communities of Health."

Guests: There were no guests.

Director: Mark Tompkins had no additions to his report. In response to a question, he noted that only San Juan and Lopez Islands have facilities for respite stays, so that anyone from Orcas Island who qualified for a respite stay would need to go to one of those other islands.

Mental Health and Chemical Dependency: Barbara LaBrash noted that the three "Behavioral Health Planning Follow-up Conversations" have been completed, one each on San Juan, Orcas, and Lopez islands. She noted that they are continuing to work with Peace Island Medical Center on a needs assessment, and also attempting to streamline the dialogue process. Specifically, she noted that, due to an overlap of responsibilities, many of the same people are attending multiple meetings about mental health topics, so they are discussing piloting a process by which a Crisis Oversight Committee meets quarterly, while specialized working groups might meet more often on particular topic on an as needed basis.

Carolyn Fiscus asked if LaBrash felt that the data sources being used are providing sufficient community input. Both LaBrash and Dave Dunaway felt that they did, with Dunaway noting that the cross-section of data and input sources shown to the discussion groups were not intended as an exhaustive list, but were rather intended to show the breadth of data and information sources used. LaBrash also noted that the assessment is really an ongoing process, and that there will be many more opportunities for the community to provide input. Joyce Sobel cautioned against having too many assessments, a comment which Tompkins supported by saying that the community is already showing signs of "needs assessment fatigue" which is why trying to align the County's needs assessments with those of Peace Health as well as those of Island Hospital is so important.

Dave Dunaway then shared the presentation that was shown at the Behavioral Health Planning Follow-up Conversations. He described in detail the step-by-step logic of the discussion process, and noted that they tried to use functional descriptions rather than titles for the priorities, goals and

objectives. (For example, the title "case manager" can mean different things to different people, so this function is described as "navigating and accessing behavioral health supports.") Dunaway felt that, at the conclusion of the three meetings, the major themes and broad categories of concern were validated, with no new themes or categories of concern introduced. Rather, the meetings revealed additional detail within each theme or category, much of which was island-specific.

Dunaway drew the Board's attention to the last slide in the presentation, which shows all aspects in a full continuum of behavioral health services. This graphic is an attempt to capture the broad range of services required, with recovery as the focus. Dunaway noted the importance of keeping this larger context in mind, and not focusing too exclusively on any aspect of the continuum.

Several Board members expressed appreciation for the graphic. Bonnie Burg noted that it was an excellent presentation of the needs, but wondered whether anyone was doing an assessment of the services available to fill those needs. LaBrash responded that part of the purpose of the Community Network is to help service providers communicate and collaborate, and to know what services each provides. (Joyce Sobel noted that a recent survey of Network participants revealed that some felt the communication goal of the Network was succeeding, but more work was needed on the collaboration goal.) Tompkins mentioned that a Resource Guide is also being developed, with work already completed in identifying the various providers and their services. The intent is for the guide to be available online, and updated periodically, but first an "owner" needs to be identified.

Prevention: LaBrash presented on behalf of Cynthia Stark-Wickman, adding nothing to add to her report. There were no questions.

Developmental Disabilities: LaBrash had nothing to add to her report. There were no questions.

Board member reports/Orcas: Carolyn Fiscus noted that Island Hospital will not be renewing their contract with Orcas Island Medical Center, and that University of Washington Neighborhood Clinics (UWNH) will likely take up the contract. Fiscus thought that a relationship with UWNH would be an opportunity for Orcas to become part of a system of care. She invited Board members to attend a presentation and question-answer period at the Orcas Center at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 16 to hear more about what UWNH is offering.

Fiscus also announced that she had just joined the Medical Center Foundation Board. Finally, Fiscus noted that the Orcas Island Resource Center is taking over the Island Reproductive Health Initiative, which provides reproductive services such as free condom distribution, education in schools, and free medical visits for reproductive and women's health with island providers.

Bonnie Burg reported the integration of Hearts and Hands into the Orcas Senior Center operations, as well as integration of an assisted transportation program. She said that integrating these services as "core programs" at the Senior Center will make them easier to manage.

San Juan Island: Joyce Sobel reported that the Family Resource Center is putting in place a new program called Island Neighbors that will, in essence, replace Friends and Neighbors. She said that they anticipate getting a lot of requests for transportation, and have secured funding from the San Juan Island Community Foundation for a Program Coordinator and other start-up costs. She noted that the program is modeled after the Island Volunteer Caregivers program on Bainbridge Island, which assists the elderly and disabled by providing transportation and other support. They have submitted a grant application to the San Juan Island Community Foundation. They have committed to recruiting 20-25 volunteers in a request for pilot program funding.

Sobel also made the Board aware that she is still working with the Northwest Educational Service District and Northwest Early Learning Coalition, but that the County really needs an Early Learning Coordinator in a paid position of at about 15 hours per week. She said that San Juan County is the only county in our five-county region without such a coordinator, and that volunteers have been doing this work for the last 12 years. Sobel noted some upcoming organizational shifts within the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, the Children's Administration and Department of Early Learning, that might heighten this need. She said that funding for the position could potentially be blended from multiple sources, and that she has job descriptions for the position from Snohomish and Island Counties that could be used as templates.

Catherine Ellis encouraged everyone, especially those from Orcas and Lopez Islands, to attend the UWNH presentation on November 16. She said the result of decisions made in the next few months will really impact long-term medical care on both Orcas and Lopez Island. (Lopez Island's contract with Island Hospital expires June 2017, and UWNH is also looking to take over that contract.)

Next meeting: The next meeting will be held on Monday, 12 December 2016, starting at 11:45 a.m. John Wickham noted that officer nominations and elections will be among the business that will be conducted next month.

Meeting adjourned at 1:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Lynnette Wood, Board Secretary

