

**Local Government Advisory Committee
Room 473, Human Services Building, Salem
September 14, 2007
Minutes**

ATTENDING

Max Brown	DHS – Office of Federal Financial Policy
Janet Carlson	Marion County Commissioner
Barbara Carranza	Oregon Commission on Children and Families
Bill Coulombe	DHS – Public Health Division
Morgan Cowling	Association of Oregon Counties
Gary DiCenzo	Clackamas County Department of Human Services
Ron Dodge	Polk County Commissioner
Jeremy Emerson	DHS – Administrative Services Division
Linda Fleming	Conference of Local Health Officials
Sharon Guidera	Association of Community Mental Health Programs
Chris Johnson	Yamhill County Health and Human Services
Paul Lewis	DHS – Public Health Division
Linda Modrell	Benton County Commissioner
Jim Neely	DHS – Children, Adults and Families Division
Patricia O’Sullivan	DHS – Director’s Office
Debra Patterson	Oregon Juvenile Directors’ Association
Anne Peltier	Conference of Local Health Officials
Clyde Saiki	DHS – Deputy Director
Michael Stickler	DHS – Finance and Policy Analysis
Julie Strauss	DHS – Finance and Policy Analysis
Ralph Summers	DHS – Addictions and Mental Health Division
John Swanson	DHS – Finance and Policy Analysis
Karen Wheeler	DHS – Addictions and Mental Health Division

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Linda Modrell called the meeting to order and roundtable introductions were made.

Minutes from the July meeting were approved. There were no additions to the agenda.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT/LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – Clyde Saiki

The House and Senate announced their interim committees. The list is extensive and Diana will send them out to LGAC.

Bruce Goldberg has been traveling around the state over the last couple of months visiting field offices and staff.

DHS is embarking on a strategic planning effort to identify our priorities for the next four to five years. The department wants to involve people from all levels of the organization as well as counties, mental health, public health, stakeholders, providers, advocates, etc. It is important to have a broad-based effort with feedback and input from a wide a range of people in order to make this plan work.

We have also been talking to some companies about how to make DHS more effective and efficient. The discussions with these companies have been around how DHS can move in a direction that is leaner, to identify areas of waste in systems or procedures and eliminate that waste. The RFP is out now and closes September 27. The goal is to have a contract executed on or around the end of October. This was in a policy option package on infrastructure improvements that was approved by the legislature.

The premise of the consultants approach is that the people who do the work are the ones who are probably best equipped to fix what needs fixing or identify what needs to be worked on. The process of the contract should take 4-6 months, but it could take longer.

Chris Johnson asked if some programs that are so under funded and under staffed could see an increase. Jeremy Emerson said that it was his understanding that the firm would look at both.

Phase one would be to identify the current state of DHS, what are the best practices and the best way to get there.

DHS will also be looking at the department's key performance measures. Clyde suggested that at the next meeting of LGAC, some of the people involved in these discussions could come to LGAC and talk about this process and how LGAC can get involved and be part of the process.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE/FEBRUARY LEGISLATIVE SESSION – Patty O’Sullivan

The 2008 Supplemental Legislative Session will be in February 2008. The Senate published the procedural rules, No more than 50 bills will be introduced in the Senate. Each member will have one bill and 20 bills will be parceled out by

Senator Courtney to different committee. The drafts of the bills have to be to Legislative Counsel by November 15 and they will have them back by January 18.

The House rules will be released soon.

DHS has 14 budget (policy) notes and Patty is working with the Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO). LFO has diverse reporting dates because they were unsure what is going to happen. There will be no E-Board until after the February session. They will have interim Ways and Means Committee meetings in October, December and January.

Janet Carlson said that Senator Peter Courtney is looking at the special session as a pilot for annual sessions and is very anxious that it goes smoothly.

Representative Susan Morgan (R-Douglas County) has decided not to run for re-election.

The Governor's Office has a lobbyist in Washington DC by the name of Sarah Bittleman. The Governor's Office requests agencies send all items/requests/opinions pertaining to federal legislation to Sarah.

REHABILITATIVE SERVICES – Max Brown

DHS wrote an impact statement based on the draft CMS rules published in the federal register (August 2007) that apply to rehabilitative services. DHS has until October 12 to get comments back to CMS.

CMS wants states to move more toward persons that are planning for rehabilitative services and getting the person's representative actively involved in the rehabilitative plan. CMS also want to define more clearly what can be paid for as a rehabilitative service.

CMS is asking states to clearly define in their state plan what a rehabilitative service will be, who the service providers will be and what the rate methodology will be for payment of those providers.

One concern is if DHS changes what a covered service is or is not under our rehabilitative service option, do we then have to apply for state plan amendment.

Another aspect of these rules is a mandated 17-point criterion for a rehabilitative plan for each individual client in these programs. DHS programs either meet or exceed these expectations from CMS.

The most controversial aspect of this rule is the term “intrinsic element.” CMS does not want to have services paid for under the rehabilitation option if it is an “intrinsic element” of another program. This term is not currently used in federal law and CMS has been trying to introduce this term periodically over the past 3-5 years. DHS will respond by asking rather than introduce the term of intrinsic element comparing one set of services to other sets of services, eliminate that term and give more information on what a specific rehabilitative service would be, which would be more in line with federal precedent.

DHS is in the process of finalizing comments for executive approve and should be available by September 28. Comments can be made by contacting Max Brown at (503) 945-6691 or by email at max.brown@state.or.us.

The handout presented to LGAC will be sent out by email. (Emailed on 9/17/07.)

Linda Modrell suggested taking a look at the Oregon Options. This tool might be useful when blending funding streams and eliminating obstacles to get the job done.

COMPARISON OF THE AOC LEGISLATIVE AGENDA TO LAB – John Swanson

Detail on the DHS budget can be found on the DHS website. Each division of the department also has budget information that can be accessed from the website.

John discussed each part of the budget documents and asked for assistance from LGAC (Janet Carlson) in matching up the DHS budget with the score card.

John Swanson as well as several program administrators was invited to attend the next AOC Human Services Committee meeting on October 12, 2007.

Sharon Guidera wanted to know how the money will be distributed out to the counties. John Swanson said DHS could do an estimate on this.

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE UPDATE – Ralph Summers

Information was presented to LGAC regarding how DHS enrolls children in Medicaid and mental health managed care programs specifically.

The time frame is on target to change the enrollment policy as it relates to children in Child Welfare that are in Behavioral Rehabilitative Service (BRS) programs beginning January 1, 2008. Children involved in BRS starting in January will stay enrolled in the mental health organization where they came from.

All the plans are working to develop strategies and we are planning a joint meeting in January with BRS providers and mental health organizations so they can begin exchanging information with each other to make the transition in January and not have operational surprises that make it difficult for children to get what they need.

Chris Johnson stated that he was disappointed that the issue was focused down to only BRS. The examples sent in by Yamhill County during the planning process were around foster care placements. BRS is a big part, but it also involves foster care.

Clyde Saiki said that the department would continue to work on these issues and asked Ralph Summers, Jim Neely, Ramona Foley and Bob Nikkel to get together to look at the foster care issue.

ALCOHOL & DRUG IMPLEMENTATION REPORT – Karen Wheeler

Discussion was around the new investments in addictions treatment. DHS will be working with partners in child welfare at the state and local levels.

DHS has a request for a plan amendment that has gone out to all community mental health program directors for the outpatient investments as part of the initiative. The total package for the outpatient is roughly \$7.9 million and will fund more intensive outpatient services. It is specifically for child welfare families and the general fund portion is for the non-OHP families.

DHS wants to develop a recovery oriented system of care. The model referred to is from the Safer Manual and is basically about screening, assessment, engaging families in treatment and keeping them engaged in services. The Behavioral Health Recovery Management is the other model and it is about looking at the disease of addiction in terms of a chronic disease model.

DHS is looking at a continuum of services for these families and to keep people engaged in recovery support after they complete treatment. It is essential to have the addictions providers look at families and not just the client in front of them, but partner with early childhood systems locally and CAF.

There is also \$2.3 million for an additional 30 residential beds for parents and 20 residential beds for young children who are dependent and who go to treatment with their parents. DHS is developing a distribution method for those beds. DHS held a meeting with all of the providers who deliver residential services to families and invited the CMHPs and mental health directors to that meeting as well, seeking input on the distribution of those beds.

Another piece of the initiative is housing development. Part of the package included money for three additional housing development coordinators who will develop housing for families so they may keep their children or reunite children with their parents as quickly as possible as long as it is safe to do so.

Karen Wheeler will provide copies of the plan amendment to anyone who wants one (Janet Carlson asked for one).

Concern was expressed that some of the smaller counties do not fare as well as the larger counties. The smaller counties could not fund even one FTE with the dollars from this package.

Clyde Saiki said this is a first step and the goal is to keep pushing forward and build on what was achieved this session.

PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICAL ADVISORY GROUP REPORT – Dr. Paul Lewis

Dr. Lewis presented information on the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Advisory Groups. The base funding, about \$5 million per year, comes from DHHS and the CDC has been around for about five years. It used to be more discretionary, but now more directive. There is less flexibility about where the money goes. It is about half for the state and half for the local health departments. The other funding for hospital and health care systems and comes from a program under HRSA. These programs are funded through federal dollars and receive no state funding.

The three emergency scenarios that are being prepared for are a large earthquake/tsunami, a chemical spill and a communicable disease outbreak/pandemic disease.

The Medical Advisory Group is made up of service providers in the public health area. One of the problems in Public Health is that they often need to provide a recommendation about things that Public Health does not necessarily have expertise in, and therefore have a need to engage the clinical community. This is an advisory committee and is intended to provide advice to the public health director prior to and during health emergencies.

A national exercise called TOPOFF 4 will be held in November in the Portland metro area.

What the group is looking at are altered standards of care, which in the setting of an emergency, not everyone will receive the same type of health care that they would if they made a regular doctor's appointment. Another topic is allocation of scarce resources, in the setting of an emergency, temporarily or even long-term there might not be enough resources needed to provide health care to go around.

Linda Fleming said the deliverables that are supposed to happen in preparedness comes from a joint CLHO/Public Health Division Committee. The committee determines the program elements and develops the actual funding formula.

A survey went out from CLHO to the counties and 26 of the 34 counties responded. About 66% of the money going to counties is focused totally on preparedness and about 34% is being used in the communicable disease efforts. \$4.2 million in the last session for communicable disease and if some of the 34% to move into preparedness, that could impact the sustainability of the communicable disease programs at the local level.

Bill Coulombe added that the Emergency Preparedness funding has declined since 9/11.

AOC HUMAN SERVICES REPORT – Janet Carlson

AOC Human Services Committee has not met in several months.

Measure 50 was discussed at the committee meeting. There was concern that it has been a long time since it had been discussed and the constitutional element. It was delegated to the special operation committee.

The focus will be on priorities and fold in bills that AOC endorsed. There will be some paperwork sent out in advance. There will be no decisions made as a group until the conference in November. They will also be looking at the principles and work plan and that will also be sent out in advance, so come prepared.

Marion County will be hosting an October 18 breakfast, 7:30-8:30 a.m. at the Salem Conference Center and want to invite state people. Bruce Goldberg will be invited. At the breakfast, discussion will be on the need of the community and why people should give back.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Final recommendations on the Governor's Steering Committee Wrap Around Project – Erinn Kelley-Siel

Additional agenda items can be emailed to Linda Modrell.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.