

The Arc of Sedgwick County
Board of Directors Meeting
September 22, 2008
(No Quorum)

ATTENDEES: Ken Dannenberg, Sean Amore, Sue Schmelzer, Marlene Sanders, Marge Zakoura-Vaughan, Julie Wittich, Ronda Maass

ABSENT: Deborah Gdisis, Tom Racunas, Kayla Jean Mitchell, Eric Kauffman, Sarah Vaughan, Curtis Tatum, Linda McCurry, Colette Deeds-Conner

PRESIDING: Ken Dannenberg, President

STAFF: Kevin Fish, Kristen Phillips, Vonda Bankston, Matthew Fullerton

GUESTS: Shawna and Sandy Fielder

I. Call to order and Agenda Modifications

Ken Dannenberg, President, called the September 22, 2008 meeting to order. Agenda presented. No quorum to approve agenda.

II. Self Advocates Report

The Self Advocate written report was distributed to the board. Shawna announced that the Self Advocates will be serving root beer floats at the October 27 board of directors meeting and talk about the successful year they have had with Showdeo and Tennis.

A calendar of their events through December was passed out. Their next open forum meeting is Tuesday, Oct 22 6:00 p.m. at Orchard Park

III. TCM Report

The TCM written report was distributed to the board. Vonda Bankston, Director of Client Services, reviewed the definition of Targeted Case Management (TCM) and the four main areas of service (assessments, development of supports/care, referrals to link to needed services, and monitoring and follow up). She noted the history and growth of TCM at The Arc. The Arc averages more referrals in a month than any of the other TCM agencies in Sedgwick County. The Arc also serves more Medicaid ineligible clients than any other agency. The Arc has about 57 ineligible clients compared to other agencies having 3 to 8 ineligible clients. Ineligible clients receive 2 free hours a month. Hours provided over the 2 free hours is billed to the family but most families can't afford it and we end up writing off those hours at the end of the year. Discussion was held on the huge discrepancy of ineligible clients served among agencies.

The big issue is regarding the changes made to billing making it very difficult for case managers to meet billing requirements. If a case manager leaves, it is not usually to go to a sister agency. They actually get out of the profession.

Vonda reviewed the changes she put in place to strengthen and increase the quality of the TCM department.

Appreciation Days and bonuses were being discussed, if they are fair to other departments. It was noted that the bonuses are very well deserved by the case managers. TCM can be a very thankless job and helps boost morale. TCMs do not always get the front line thank yous that the rest of us receive. YESS has a staff appreciation day built into the program where they go to lunch and receive awards.

Thank you, Vonda, for your quality work and successes with the TCM department.

VI. ERC Report

Matthew Fullerton, ERC Coordinator, shared that the Epilepsy Resource Connection (ERC) started with The Arc in 1998 and opened with a quiz about whose most at risk for seizures (the elderly). Matthew noted what a seizure is and types of seizures. In 2007 ERC served 4300 people. Matthew reviewed the different services ERC has to offer (information and referral, counseling, case management, in-services, education, School Alert program, special events, Brainstorms Conference, loan library, having booths at Health Fairs, family day camp, and employment workshops, and Glimmer Group where parents can meet with each other).. ERC is funded by the Physical Disabilities waiver through the Sedgwick County Department on Aging and United Way. Matthew as improved the quality of the newsletter. The mailing list has grown from 200 to 1000. In 2002, there was a surge in calls on seizures. This was during a lay off at one of the airplane companies. The stress of being laid off was inducing seizures in individuals. Stress is one of the number one causes of seizures. Matthew addressed stigma related to seizures and the black hole of services/supports that do not exist for many people to help them be productive in their life.

V. Marketing Committee Report

The marketing committee report was distributed to the board. Sean Amore reviewed urgent responsibilities (developing a communications calendar and the research, polling and strategy work that will dictate their efforts). Secondary priorities are fundraising and development efforts, media relations work and speakers bureau. Sean will be meeting with Val Wall of Circle of Friends (COF) Friday to discuss COF program and how to better leverage the program. Each committee member and board members are asked to suggest five to ten individuals or organizations that we can approach after the black out period, for fundraising and a strategy/approach/goal for fundraising. Sean reviewed the five categories of focus groups. They are in the process of developing marketing for Lights on St. Paul LOSP. They are also putting together recommendations for spending the earmarked marketing dollars (about \$10,000).

VI. Endowment Committee Report

Request for Proposals will be added to the website. Board members can submit proposals. Allocations are for 2009. The annual allocation we receive from the Wichita Community Foundation have been set up to be used for new initiatives for The Arc. They cannot be used to plug a hole in our budget. The Allocation Committee a separate

committee from the board of directors will review proposals and send recommendations to the board for approval.

The Endowment Committee can look into how we can keep our endowment dollars safe.

VII. Facilities Committee Report

Kevin reported that the biggest issue is space. He shared growth options. Ken noted that he would like the Facilities Committee to put together recommendations to be reviewed. Kevin added that Eric Kauffman recommends leasing because we can always walk away. A meeting will be scheduled soon for the Facilities Committee. We haven't met recently.

We will be applying for 2 new KDOT vehicles which would be for 2010.

Announcement

Kevin passed out postcards developed by ACT addressed to Governor Sebelius requesting the elimination of the waiting list, increasing wages for direct care wages to bring parity with state hospital workers, which will help retain qualified staff and reduce turnover. He asked for the board's support to sign the postcard and turn in to us and we will mail it.

Adjourned 7:45 p.m.

Secretary Signature

Secretary – Linda McCurry
Recorder – Kristen Phillips