

**Mayview Steering Committee
Meeting Summary
September 16, 2011**

Members Present: Karen Bennett, Tim Casey, Mary Jo Dickson, Audra Dudek, Mary Fleming, Lea Ann Gerkin, Angela Harris, Carol Horowitz, Matt Koren, Austin Lee, Carol Loy, Brandi Mauck Phillips, Chris Michaels, Gerard Mike, Dawn Mueseler, Rick Rach, Wesley Sowers, Pat Tickle, Joe Venasco, Deb Wasilchak, Kimberly Welsh

Members Absent: Dee Burgess, Jenna Cawthorne, Laverne Cichon, Darryl Holts, Nancy Jaquette, Dave McAdoo, Edna McCutcheon, Karyl Merchant, Mary Jo Patrick-Hatfield, Shirlee Hopper-Scherch, Jan Taper, Ken Thompson, Pat Valentine, Valerie Vicari, Dean Virgili

Others Present: Sue Estroff, University of North Carolina; Betty Gaul, Southwest Behavioral Health Management; Katie Greeno, University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work; Rich Latsko, OMHSAS; Corinne Mullen, Erie County Office of Mental Health/Mental Retardation

Mary welcomed the guests and called for introductions. She then encouraged committee members to support the upcoming NAMI Walk on October 2.

1. Review of Minutes from June Meeting

No changes to the minutes of June 17, 2011 were identified. They will be posted to the MRSAP website.

2. State Updates

Audra Dudek reported that there were no updates from the state; however, she did confirm that a workgroup was being convened to review policies on state hospital closures, including the Root Cause Analysis policy and data collection standards. The Steering Committee also discussed the state's initiative to pilot multi-purpose block grants to counties. Ten counties are participating in this pilot, which gives counties more leeway in determining how funds are allocated. Allegheny and Greene Counties are participating from the Mayview service area. Proposals are due to the state by 10/31 on potential pilot projects. Discussion ensued regarding Department of Public Welfare Secretary Gary Alexander's history of using block grants to reduce funding and the perceived lack of transparency and limited access to information from the new administration.

Also discussed was Mr. Alexander's testimony on welfare reform and the TANF program. Mary Fleming received a copy of the testimony – AHCI will forward it to the Committee.

3. EAC / RTFA / Inpatient Reports

Tim Casey reported on the Community Inpatient Utilization report, which tracks admissions, length of stay and total in-patient days over time. Overall, admissions are on a downward trend; however, recently there has been a small increase in admissions.. Allegheny County has the highest rate of admissions. Length of stay has also increased, but readmissions are down. Since the total number of in-patient days has remained stable since 2006, the Committee discussed how the closure of Mayview continues to have had an insignificant impact on regional inpatient utilization.

Discussion followed regarding the Acute Community Support Plan (ACSP) process in Allegheny County and its effect on admissions and facilitating discharges. Currently, the most pressing issue is the bottleneck prior to discharge due to a lack of available appropriate housing in Allegheny County. Other counties in the region have not experienced the same holdup, but commented that they do experience limited housing options for certain special populations, such as IDD/DA. Allegheny County staff estimated that there are approximately 56 individuals involved in ACSP process. AHCI will explore distinguishing these individuals in the inpatient reporting. Discussion ensued regarding capacity and acceptance of special populations at hospitals.

EAC

Tim Casey reported on Extended Acute Care (EAC) utilization from 6/16/08 through 9/08/11, noting that data on the Comprehensive Recovery Unit (CRU) that opened in mid-August was not included.

Since 6/16/08, 299 individuals have been discharged from EAC with an average length of stay (ALOS) of 144.39 days, and 357 consumers have been admitted with an ALOS on the waiting list of 64.64 days.

Discussion ensued regarding the needs of people who require longer-term care following the Mayview closure and facilities and funding for this population, as well as the discharge process and housing lists. Also discussed was the perception that Mayview residents had certain privileges because of the closure that other consumers did not receive, including priority housing. The reality is that consumers requiring higher levels of care, not necessarily the Mayview cohort, have first consideration for housing.

RTF-A

Tim Casey reported on Residential Treatment Facility – Adult (RTF-A) utilization from 9/04/08 through 9/08/11. Since 9/04/08, 399 individuals have been discharged with an ALOS of 55.04 days, and 422 consumers have been admitted with an ALOS on the waiting list of 18.16 days. He noted that the percentage of multiple re-admissions was low.

Discussion followed regarding the status of the Beaver County RTF-A; it was noted that the census was down and admission to the facility has been opened up to other counties.

Questions arose regarding specific data, and Tim offered to send details of the breakdown to the Committee.

4. Olmstead Planning

Matt Koren confirmed that AHCI will take the lead in completing the required Olmstead planning regionally as the Mayview service area. The plan is due to DPW by 6/30/2012. It will primarily address the personal care home integration component of the plan given the closure of Mayview, but will also address the limited use of Torrance State Hospital. AHCI will work with the counties and other Steering Committee members interested in participating on the Olmstead planning workgroup.

Tim Casey distributed a map of personal care homes developed by AHCI. PCH address data for this map was obtained from DPW. This information was cross-checked against HealthChoices data to identify members residing at the various PCHs with over 16 beds in Allegheny, Washington, and Beaver Counties. Data has been requested from Lawrence and Greene Counties. Discussion followed

regarding obtaining more detailed information on consumers, and homes that have private physicians and are therefore not included in the public system.

5. Regional Planning

Matt Koren reported that after a discussion with the regional planning workgroup and the MRSAP administrators, it was decided that no additional regional initiatives would be pursued at this time. Other regional planning efforts are currently sufficient to address the identified needs and planning capacity of the counties. MRSAP regional planning will remain an option moving forward as needs and opportunities arise.

6. Future of Steering Committee

Based on discussions with the Regional Planning workgroup, Mary Fleming suggested the Steering Committee modify its schedule from meeting quarterly to every six months. The meetings would be more robust with a fuller agenda, including results from the Pitt evaluation team, data reports, CSP tracking, and updates on the activity for Olmstead planning. She emphasized that the core responsibility for the Committee is still to evaluate how the region is faring without a state hospital. The Steering Committee agreed to change the meeting schedule to every six months.

She also suggested that we convene a subcommittee to work on the regional Olmstead Plan that would provide an update at our next meeting and possibly schedule a public meeting prior to June, 2012. She said the group would be data-driven, and requested volunteers from each of the five counties. Chris Michaels offered to serve on the subcommittee. Mary will send an e-mail to the Committee asking for other volunteers.

7. New Business

Rick Rach announced that this would be his last meeting as he is retiring from Mercy Behavioral Health. He will designate someone to take his place on the Steering Committee. Mary and other members offered their congratulations and thanked him for his years of service.

Chris Michaels mentioned that OMHSAS is soliciting comments on shared living, and voiced her concerns regarding the effectiveness and potential for abuse for this type of facility. Discussion followed regarding monitoring of these facilities and potential opportunities if done appropriately. Karen Bennett added that counties have been asked to design a program for shared living. There appears to be limited information on these homes, which makes advocacy challenging. Mary asked Chris and Karen Bennett to send her additional information.

Lastly, Mary Jo Dickson read aloud a poem from a CSP consumer at Torrance that she felt encapsulated the mission of the Steering Committee.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The December meeting has been cancelled per the schedule adjustment, and the next meeting will be held on January 20, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the **Airport Marriott**.