

**Local Government Advisory Committee
Room 473, Human Services Building, Salem
July 14, 2006
Minutes**

ATTENDING

Rita Conrad	Oregon Progress Board
Joe Corsiglia	Columbia County Commissioner
Jim Edge	DHS – Office of Medical Assistance Programs
Linda Fleming	CLHO
Ramona Foley	DHS – Children, Adults & Families
Gordon Fultz	Association of Oregon Counties
Sharon Guidera	Assoc. of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs
Bill Hall	Lincoln County Commissioner
Chris Johnson	Yamhill County Health and Human Services
Theresa McHugh	State Legislature
Linda Modrell	Chair, Benton County Commissioner
Bob Nikkel	DHS – Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services
Gina Nikkel	Assoc. of OR Community Mental Health Programs
Fariborz Pakseresht	DHS – Administrative Services
Rob Rockstroh	Lane County Health and Human Services
Clyde Saiki	DHS – Deputy Director
Ann Snyder	DHS- Office of Public Affairs
James Toews	DHS – Seniors & People with Disabilities
Bill Wagner	Cascades West Council of Governments
Gillian Wesenberg	Coalition of County Children and Families Commissions

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES & AGENDA

The minutes from June 2006 were reviewed and approved.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

One item: Targeted Case Management around Babies First was added to the agenda.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Clyde Saiki presented the Director's report for Bruce Goldberg who is attending the APHSA conference in Washington, DC, as well as some well deserved vacation time. Upon return on Monday, July 17, Bruce Goldberg will be attending a meeting on the Oregon State Hospital Site Selection Criteria from 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. in Hearing room A at the State Capitol. Anyone interested in the siting process for the new State Hospital is welcome to attend the meeting.

Citizenship Verification

A draft of the final rules on the new citizenship verification requirements from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for Medicaid services was received with an implementation date of July 1, 2006. The decision was made by DHS that until policies and procedures along with staff training on the new rules takes place, operations will continue normally. The main objective for DHS through this process is to not endanger clients' health and safety. So instructions to providers and field offices are to operate the same as always until the policies and procedures around the new rules are completed. The implementation date will be around the beginning of August. CMS has provided DHS with a matrix for documents that can be used for citizenship and identity verification and the Department will send this out to LGAC.

One of the provisions in the new rules is if someone is applying for services who has already been determined eligible for Medicare or SSI, they will not have go through the citizenship verification because of the process they have already gone through to qualify for those services.

DHS believes the overall percentage of people who will be ineligible for services because they are not citizens should be small. The concern is that there will be some people who are eligible, but because of circumstances it will be hard for them to meet the citizenship verification requirement. DHS has been given approval for electronic verification of clients born in Oregon. We are working with California, Washington and Idaho to gain/give access to those birth records as well.

Two Initiatives

Governor Kulongoski recently signed an Executive Order establishing an Ending Homelessness Advisory Council (EHAC). On June 20th a conference was held in Salem for local elected officials. Bill Hall, Lincoln County Commissioner and LGAC member was one of the speakers at the conference. EHAC will focus on working with local organizations and governments that have initiatives around ending homelessness, to support those efforts, and to determine best practices as

this is rolled out across the state. The first meeting of the executive council will be Thursday, July 20, 2006.

Lincoln County has been innovative in their plans around homelessness and affordable housing. Bill Hall spoke to LGAC about their Housing and Homelessness Summit that was held last October. Out of that summit came the county's desire to move forward and develop a local 10-year plan to address homelessness and housing issues in Lincoln County. The Community Services Consortium will take the lead role in facilitating the plan. Throughout the summer Bill will be visiting each City Councils in Lincoln County asking for resolutions of support. The formal kick-off event is planned for September.

A meeting was held with Oregon Emergency Management (OEM) in June on Disaster Preparedness/Emergency Preparedness. During the course of the discussion, it became apparent that OEM knew very little about Human Services and the people DHS serves. Clyde Saiki asked OEM in the event of a disaster, if there was a contingency plan for special populations (e.g., homebound seniors, mentally ill, people with developmental disabilities, kids in foster care, etc.). The experience of Hurricane Katrina demonstrated the fact that the needs of special populations can be overlooked without proper planning. There has been one initial meeting with OEM, and in the next six months, the group will work on coordination and contingency planning for the needs of those populations in the event of a disaster and also to coordinate with counties and local providers.

STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTING SYSTEMS OF CARE

Sharon Guidera talked about the System of Care Approach concept and how it can cover many areas such as child welfare, mental health, intensive children's initiative, people with developmental disabilities, schools when looking at kids with special needs, etc. One of the tenants with the Systems of Care Approach is to get everyone at the table and create one plan for the child and family across systems.

Studies have shown that the most effective treatment methodologies are intensive case management, in-home services and therapeutic foster care. The least effective are inpatient treatment, residential treatment and therapeutic group homes. The high-end resources are the least effective in the long run. Research is beginning on respite care, mentoring families, education and support; wrap-around services for families that need intervention. As families enter the system, they are assigned a coordinator who meets with representatives from each service area, whether it is juvenile justice, mental health, education, etc. They along with the family develop

a plan for that family. The coordinator also prioritizes the plan so the family is not overwhelmed by the system. The difference with this system is that one family care coordinator works across all of the systems. This kind of solution utilizes resources and funding more effectively.

The question becomes sustainability. What funding streams are available and how to maximize those funding streams to make them flexible and easy to access? The Children's Systems Initiative is a step in the right direction.

Other states have successfully implemented similar programs and are now fully funded.

STATE BUDGER OVERVIEW

Theresa McHugh, Deputy Legislative Fiscal Officer, State Legislature gave a presentation on the State Budget Overview (see attached file "Budget Overview.pdf").

OREGON BENCHMARKS

Rita Conrad, Acting Executive Director, Progress Board gave a presentation on Oregon Benchmarks and why LGAC should care about benchmarks. (Link to the Oregon Progress Board website www.oregon.gov/DAS/OPB/)

The Oregon Progress Board recently sent out a survey to update the benchmarks for 2007-2009 and hopes to launch Oregon Shines III soon. LGAC participants are welcome to make suggestions to the Progress Board by emailing Rita Conrad at rita.r.conrad@state.or.us

It was noted that at the time the benchmarks were written, there were no benchmarks around preparedness issues at the local and state level. Linda Modrell, Gordon Fultz and Clyde Saiki will meet to discuss the DHS intermediate benchmarks.

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE

Ramona Foley and Bob Nikkel updated LGAC on meetings on the County of Residence issue. DHS does not want to rush to a decision on how to resolve this issue. There are many pros and cons; the pros appear to favor the child and family and the cons are the issues around infrastructure. Future meetings will need to be broader and include providers. Gina Nikkel sent out an email to all of the counties and has received good feedback about what is working well and what is not working.

BABIES FIRST (TARGETED CASE MANAGEMENT)

Chris Johnson discussed the issue of targeted case management for the Babies First program. The new rule only allows billing one targeted case management plan at a time. Child Welfare is now under targeted case management. For years, Public Health, Babies First program has used targeted case management as their primary funding source. The nurses in that program have been on the family unity plans and when termination of parental rights was needed, they have provided expert testimony on the impact of the child and the child's development while in the family home and after the child was placed in foster care. When the state assumes guardianship of a child, those nurses provide key assistance to Child Welfare staff in understanding the developmental issues and medical needs of that child and make the necessary referrals to provide for that child's health. The decision has been made that Child Welfare; if they are on the case, gets to bill TCM for that child. This puts Child Welfare workers, especially with infants, in a very bad situation. When the state tries to press termination of parental rights, they will not have the services of an expert witness. Chris Johnson gave Ramona Foley a copy of a chart that was sent to the counties by DHS on targeted case management billing. Ramona will research this and a more in-depth discussion will take place at the September 8, 2006 LGAC meeting.

TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING

Director's Report – Bruce Goldberg

AOC Human Services Report – Janet Carlson

Targeted Case Management around Babies First – Katherine Bradley

Oregon Benchmarks – Gordon Fultz, Linda Modrell & Clyde Saiki

County of Residence (BSR) – Gina Nikkel *examples

Oregon State Hospital Siting Update – Bob Nikkel/Bruce Goldberg

Report on Forecasting Committee's progress – Judy Mohr-Peterson

Juvenile Justice and Parole & Probation – Rob Rockstroh & John Hartner

Two-on-One, Oregon Helps – David Foster

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

The next LGAC meeting is September 8, 2006.