

**Local Government Advisory Committee
Room 473, Human Services Building, Salem
September 8, 2006
Minutes**

ATTENDING

Ben Boswell	Wallowa County Commissioner
Katherine Bradley	DHS – Public Health Division
Marsha Clark	Oregon Commission for Children and Families
Gary DiCenzo	Clackamas County Human Services
Ron Dodge	Polk County Commissioner
Linda Fleming	CLHO
Ramona Foley	DHS – Children, Adults & Families
David Foster	Oregon Housing and Community Services
Gordon Fultz	Association of Oregon Counties
Bruce Goldberg	DHS – Director
Tony Howell	League of Oregon Cities
Chuck Hurliman	Tillamook County Commissioner
Chris Johnson	Yamhill County Health and Human Services
Judy Mohr-Peterson	DHS – Office of Finance and Policy Analysis
Bob Nikkel	DHS – Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services
Gina Nikkel	Assoc. of OR Community Mental Health Programs
Fariborz Pakseresht	DHS – Administrative Services
Anne Peltier	CLHO
Jeanny Phillips	DHS – Oregon Medical Assistance Programs
Clyde Saiki	DHS – Deputy Director
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

Chuck Hurliman called the meeting to order and roundtable introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES & AGENDA

The minutes from July 2006 were reviewed and approved.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

There were no additional items to the agenda, however a special presentation by Elaine Ryan, APHSA, on the Federal Deficit Reduction Act is scheduled immediately following the LGAC meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bruce Goldberg reported the change in DHS "clusters" to "divisions". This change in terminology will not affect the programs, structure or purpose. The intent is to follow the same naming convention as other state agencies and to clarify the different areas of responsibility.

Agency Request Budget

DHS recently completed and submitted the Agency Request Budget. The focus was to create policy packages that were interrelated from a program and population basis. The DHS budget, to continue at current levels, will need an additional \$500 million in the 2007-09 biennium. From the outside, everything appears to be going well with state funding, there is still an incredible need for services and the state is not paying the true cost for care and those things need to be addressed. DHS is taking steps through Policy Option Packages (POPs), but they don't address all of the issues. DHS is looking to make first step investments in the disability system, and strategically invest in mental health and substance abuse because those issues drive many other areas of service. The department is also looking at adding a minimum of 10,000 people back on Oregon Health Plan.

The bigger investment is not so much in the state hospital, but in community mental health infrastructure that can support the planning for the two state hospitals. Construction costs of state hospital will be funded primarily by Certificates of Participation, and not general fund expenditure.

Some cost-of-living increases have been built into the department's roll-up costs when looking at current service levels. Part of the roll-up cost is caseload and part is the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA). State agencies work under the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) rules and DHS does not have the flexibility to put COLAs in one place but not in another. Bruce suggested George Naughton from DAS be invited to the next LGAC to explain the DAS process.

Action Item:

Clyde Saiki will extend an invitation to George Naughton to attend the next LGAC meeting on October 13, 2006.

OSH SITING REPORT

Bob Nikkel reported that the Oregon State Hospital siting process is moving along on schedule. The State Hospital Site Selection Criteria Workgroup finished up prior to the September 1, 2006 deadline. From that workgroup came a list of criteria with two categories, 1) Technical Criteria, and 2) Program Staffing. The next step is for the Department of Administrative Services to identify potential sites and begin applying the criteria. It is hoped that by early 2007 the sites will be selected. The Governor, Speaker of the House and President of the Senate has agreed on Option 2 (two hospitals). Two hospitals will require an increase in staffing levels and estimates for operational costs will double. The 2011-13 budget is where those operational costs will be budgeted. Some of the community staff is budgeted now. DHS is very close to signing a contract with the Department of Psychiatry at Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU) to bring additional psychiatrists into the state hospital.

RESPONDING TO RECOMMENDATIONS TO INCREASE CAPACITY AND HOW TO PAY FOR IT

Tony Howell discussed a report by the Governor's Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs called the Domino Effect. This report looks at the deterioration of capacity for treatment, the economic and social effects, the tie between treatment and success in rehabilitating prisoners, child welfare caseloads, foster care, etc. The report makes some specific recommendations for the '07-'09 biennium. The recommendations in the report are being taken very seriously by the Governor's Office.

Many Legislators have received a copy of the report and two Legislators are on the Council. AOCMHP is planning to make sure that every Legislator gets a copy of the report. There seems to be a lot of support from prevention as well as treatment people. A copy of this report can be found on the Addictions and Mental Health Division (AMH) website under the addiction section (<http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/addiction/index.shtml>). Anyone wanting a hard copy of the report can contact Bob Nikkel's office at (503) 945-9708.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND TARGETED CASE MANAGEMENT FOR BABIES FIRST

Katherine Bradley discussed the issues around the use of targeted case management as it applies to 1) Babies First!/CaCoon, 2) Child Welfare, 3) Developmental Disabilities, and 4) Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education.

This particular issue is about targeted case management around public health nursing and child welfare. Katherine Bradley, Ramona Foley and Clyde Saiki met with key staff in these areas. The state is committed to making sure children and their families receive the right services and support structures for them. There is a problem with the way things are designed right now, and the department is committed to work it out. The MMIS system does not have the capability to deal with duplicate claiming. DHS is doing a better job in looking at the data and what it indicates the issues are and how prevalent these issues are across the state. DHS is looking at whether or not it would be more appropriate to make an administrative change or whether it might be more of a contract issue. The goal is to not disrupt services to families.

Chris Johnson expressed concern that at some point in the future, the counties would be held liable for overpayment and requested guidance. Clyde Saiki said if a disallowance came along, there would be a discussion with counties to find an equitable solution on how the disallowance would be handled.

Action Item:

Clyde Saiki agreed to send out a letter to temporarily suspend the policy until this issue is resolved.

TWO-ONE-ONE AND OREGON HELPS!

David Foster spoke briefly on two programs. The 2-1-1 system is a non-emergency social support and community information and referral system for anyone who needs help. This concept was initiated several years ago and today this initiative has been implemented in some areas of the state, especially in the Portland metro area with Info 2-1-1. There is still a group working on other areas of the state. Currently the Portland area is handling approximately 10,000 calls per month.

Oregon Helps! is an on-line calculator for services. It began as a pilot program in Multnomah County. It was intended to be an eligibility estimator for social supports programs. The idea was that a person in need could log on to a computer, fill in basic information about their family, income, demographics, eligibility factors, and receive a printout of services they may be eligible for. It would save them time and effort in traveling to various locations to get help. Today there are approximately 28 different social support programs that are accessible by using this tool. The system is statewide and eligibility is tailored by county. The system is being adopted by other areas and is self-supporting and has won numerous awards including some international technology awards.

FORECASTING COMMITTEE'S PROGRESS

Judy Mohr-Peterson provided an update to LGAC on some of the changes that have been implemented in the area of forecasting.

Some of the major areas that were looked at and recommendations made were to increase the level of review of the forecasts, better communication, feedback, and presentation of results; monitor forecasts on a more regular basis among more people; expand the scope in what is forecast and to what level; and to obtain better tools and resources to accomplish that.

A good job has been done to increase the level of review by holding the Steering Committee meetings on a regular basis in advance of the actual forecasts, and incorporating additional groups of people to review those forecasts. There is now a community providers workgroup that is made up of representatives from the nursing home industry, the Northwest AAAs, OHP managed care plans, Child Welfare, family support networks, behavioral health providers, safety net providers from the rural health centers as well as from the Oregon primary care association, and from the food bank. The group has met twice since July and will be meeting on a regular basis.

There was continued discussion on what it would take to include county data in the forecasts and DHS is working toward that end. DHS has a POP that addresses additional resources to accomplish this. Suggestions for additional workgroup participants should be sent to Judy Mohr-Peterson.

Action Item:

Judy Mohr-Peterson will get a list of Steering Committee participants to LGAC.

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE, BRS ISSUES

Gina Nikkel discussed the on-going issue of county of residence, BRS issues. When cross-county placements are occurring and the placement fails, there is confusion about who has responsibility to follow up. During prior discussion of BRS issues and who has jurisdiction, the fiscal fix was to be completed by January 2007, now rumor has it to be 2008. Ramona Foley said that both she and Bob Nikkel agreed to 2007 and although this issue is very complex, 2008 is unacceptable.

Action Item:

Ramona Foley will send out email to clarify the agreed timeline will be January 2007.

Chris Johnson added that along with some of the managed care issues, managed care organizations have an extensive quality assurance, oversight and licensing they do with any provider. If a provider is already licensed in one region within the state, in order for another region to access those services, they must go through a second licensing and approval process. Chris asked DHS to look into this issue as an additional part of County of Residence.

AOC HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Gordon Fultz briefed LGAC on specific items from the AOC Humans Services Committee. A facilitated discussion was held on planning efforts around methamphetamine to determine a common strategy to look at this issue. Out of that came a special subcommittee and that report will be back to the Human Services Committee today.

The second item on the agenda will be to develop AOC's legislative agenda. The strategy will be around methamphetamine treatment programs.

The November Conference will be held in Lane County at the Eugene Hilton on November 13-16, 2006 to include another joint public safety and human services meeting to cover the overall strategy to include a beer and wine tax that would help to fund alcohol and substance abuse treatment.

TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING

Director's Report – Bruce Goldberg

AOC Human Services Report – Janet Carlson

DHS Budget – Systems Approach & Policy –

DAS Budget Process – George Naughton

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

The next LGAC meeting is October 13, 2006.