

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Sales Tax Committee
Meeting Minutes *final approved 2/4/14*

October 1, 2013

3:30-5:00 PM

Location Jefferson County Public Health Large Conference room

I. Call to Order/ Introductions – 3:37 PM

Board Members: X John Austin
 X Sheila Westerman
 X Catharine Robinson
 X Barbara Carr
 ___ Conner Daily - ABSENT
 X Jill Buhler
 ___ Ruth Gordon - EXCUSED

Staff: Jean Baldwin, Julia Danskin and Jason Burke

II. Approval and modification of the Agenda – Sheila (M)/Jill (S)/Approved with modification to the agenda.

III. Review and adoption of the minutes of Sept. 3, 2013 – Jill (M)/Barb (S)/ Approved

IV. Public Comment – Karen Obermeyer shared information from the Jefferson County School Nurse and School Based Health Clinic (SBHC) staff. SBHC Nurse Practitioners and the School Nurse Marti Haley have heard reports from students and parents of students who have used the School Based Mental Health clinics. Students are upset about the changes in Mental Health staff at the School Based Mental Health Clinics. Students are frustrated or depressed because Mental Health staff that they developed relationship with and trusted with their personal stories have left abruptly and they don't feel comfortable with the new staff. Parents also report that their students mental health issues have gotten worse since the change in Mental Health staff. Students are now reluctant to use the Mental Health services due to the inconsistency in staffing and lack of trust.

Jean Baldwin said she has emailed her concerns regarding the inconsistency in staffing the School Based Mental Health Clinic to Sam Markow, Director Jefferson Mental Health. Jean also reminded the Committee that it is in the contract with Jefferson Mental Health for School Based Mental Health services, that staffing be consistent. Jean hasn't heard back from Sam.

V. 2013 Budget Tracking – Excel spread sheet was given out without September revenue report. By the end of the meeting September revenue results were posted and announced at the meeting. Actual Revenue continues to be above original projections.

VI. Questions/discussion 2013 first 6-month data – reviewed 2013 Data results that were emailed with meeting minutes. Hard copies handed out at meeting. (Attached).

Committee reviewed the numbers of clients seen over the years. It was noted Jefferson Mental Health Codit numbers are down on the report through July 2013. Ford Kessler reported that Codit number are increasing in August and September due to increase referrals from Mental Health Court.

VII. 2014 Applications review –

Request for School Based Mental Health Services from Jefferson Mental Health was discussed considering the Public Comment earlier in the meeting. Increasing services to Brinnon (Kindergarten through 8th grade District) was questioned. Committee recommended reducing funding to 2013 level until more information is available on how the program will provide consistency in staffing and more time spent in schools. The Committee recommended no increase in service to Brinnon, at this time and to modify the RFP request to have 85% of the MH Counselor's time be spent seeing students.

Request/applications from therapeutic courts including the new Mental Health Court were reviewed. No data is available on Mental Health Court.

The committee discussed the possibility of the therapeutic courts sharing case management staffing and focusing service funds on treatment. Barb Carr agreed to lead discussion with Family Therapeutic Court, Mental Health Court and Topside regarding how they can work together to create efficiencies. Drug Court may be included in the discussions.

Committee recommended funding less than the therapeutic courts requested and requested information from the courts on how they could work together for the 2015 applications.

Committee also recommended services provided by Jefferson Mental Health and Safe Harbor for treatment for Mental Health Court be provided from their Codit funding.

The Committee recommended the Jail Nurse allocation be reduced to the 2013 amount.

The committee recommended \$7,000 reduction in allocation from the 2014 requested amount for both Jefferson Mental Health Codit program and Safe Harbor (Codit and Drug Court Administrator combined request) to balance the 2014 budget. The Committee's recommended allocations for both Jefferson Mental Health and Safe Harbor are still higher than 2013 awards.

Due to the uncertainty of:

- 2014 Sales Tax revenue,
- changes with Health Care Reform in 2014,
- possible changes in reimbursement for Medicaid services,
- and billing problems.

The Committee decided to recommend only one-year allocations.

The Committee discussed Billing and Administration funding be decided by the Board of County Commissioners based on the County's cost of providing the services. The cost of providing Billing and Administration should be taken out of the Advisory Committee's allocation process.

Excel with Committee recommended funding – 2014 – see excel in attachment.

Sheila made a Motion that the committee forward 2014 funding allocation recommendations to the Board of County Commissioner for one year. Jill Seconded.
– Approved by the Committee.

Jean will write a letter to the Board of County Commissioners with the Committees 2014 recommended allocations and request for approval. (See attachment).

VIII. Other

Next scheduled meeting, November 5, 2013