



**SEDGWICK COUNTY  
INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY  
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday, February 9, 2021  
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

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**PRESENT**

Jim Dinkel  
Kem Moore  
Cathy Feemster  
Dee Nighswonger  
Shelley Herrington

Dave Jones  
Peggy O' Donnell  
Grace Kneil  
Jeannette Livingston  
Ericka Cameron

Jody Patterson  
Greg Sullivan  
Joanna Kilgore  
Sherry Arbuckle  
Karie Hughes

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Jim Dinkel called the meeting to order.

**REVIEW MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes from 8/11/2020 and 11/10/2020 were approved.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The present officers have volunteered to serve until reelection at the May 2021 meeting. Cathy Feemster will be resigning from the board after the next executive meeting.

Chair – Jim Dinkel  
Vice Chair – Cathy Feemster  
Treasurer – Greg Sullivan  
At Large – Carolyn Walters  
At Large – Grace Kneil

Peggy O' Donnell made a motion to approve the present officers continuing in their current positions until May 2021. Cathy Feemster seconded the motion. All members in favor and none opposed, the motion carried.

**NEW AFFILIATE APPLICANT – JEANNETTE LIVINGSTON**

*Handout – Agape Services IDDAB Business Plan Package*

Agape Services, LLC – Stacy Evans

- Limited license services for residential and day
- She has one client she wants to serve
- Limited license providers are limited to serving two individuals
- She is already licensed

Greg Sullivan made a motion to approve the business plan and recommend approval by the Board of County Commission for an affiliation agreement. Al Besser, Jr. seconded the motion. All board members in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**SCDDO MANAGERS REPORTS**

**Shelley Herrington – Quality Assurance**

QAC 2020 Reviews

- Regular QAC Reviews didn't occur during 2020 due to COVID-19
- Modified reviews began in November 2020
- Reviews are conducted by agency employees and volunteers on the committee
- They focused on a series of five questions related to safety
- Phone calls and technology were used to conduct the reviews

- Support plan data
  - Individuals reviewed: 115
  - Receiving day services only: 8
  - Receiving residential services and supports: 56
  - Receiving personal care services: 51
- Notable areas
  - 85% of individuals felt that they knew what to do and where to go in the event of an emergency
  - 96% of individuals reported that they felt safe in their home with these same individuals reporting that staff were nice to them
  - Approximately 15% of the reviews were found to have deficiencies in the area of signature approvals
  - Approximately 15% of the support plans did not represent the person's current support needs resulting in incomplete or inconsistent plans
- Experiment
  - The Committee focused on signatures and technology
  - Two agencies talked about newsletters that was specific to the documentation that was needed and why it is important for documents to be signed and returned
- There was some discussion on technology related to digital signatures such as using Docusign, Adobe Acrobat or cell phones for scanning
- 2021 is somewhat back to normal they are still focused on safety, they are implementing the staff questions back into the process and encouraging case management agencies to go back into the community as they feel comfortable

Dave Jones made a motion to receive and file the 2020 QAC Report. Peggy O' Donnell seconded the motion. All board members were in favor and none opposed. Motion carried.

#### COVID-19 Update – Shelley Herrington

- 94 instances (exposures) in January 2021
- 12 positives in January 2021
- Day programs are slowly starting to open again
- Providers are asked keep following guidelines, ask about vaccinating staff and getting information to individuals in services about vaccines
- Some of the providers have worked with different programs and pharmacies to get vaccines

#### Critical Incident Report Form

- Requires more information from providers
- Lessens the work for QA
- They now ask where the incident occurs
- They have training in Relias about the requirements and reporting to the State
- Eventually hope to use a portal for providers to enter information
- QA is now monitoring HCBS audits of providers to confirm providers are in good standing with the State

#### Relias Learning Targeted Case Management (TCM) Certification

- Jessica Christian, TCM Coordinator, worked with case management directors to reexamine the program
- The TCM program has been expanded to a one year training program
- Training focuses on the following
  - CDDO practices
  - Options counseling
  - Funding committee
  - Trauma Informed Systems of Care
  - Lunch and Learn requirement on miscellaneous topics
- There are three to four certificates
- The basic program for all TCM's
- An advanced program, Trauma Informed Care program, mental health program, and wellness program are also available
- More information can be found on the SCDDO website
- The Arc and CPRF were key players in the development process

#### **Jeannette Livingston – Assistant Director**

#### COVID-19 Projects

- KDADS received a grant for iPads to give to individuals in services

- SCDDO received 132 iPads to give to individuals to keep in touch with family and friends during the pandemic
- Residential sites were given tablets and TCM's gave some names of individuals who could use them
- Kansas Leadership Center – Kansas Beats the Virus
  - Projects to help during the pandemic
  - Community Council made postcards for parents and guardians to express appreciation for keep their loved ones safe during the pandemic. The postcards featured artwork from individuals in services
  - SCDDO staff also developed a flier with vaccine myths and community resources
  - Ericka Cameron, Special Projects Coordinator lead the projects
  - Last week they went out in the mail
- Agency COVID-19 Check In Survey
  - Are agencies able to get the personal protective equipment they need?
    - Yes – 25
    - No – 6
  - What PPE are you having trouble purchasing?
    - Masks – 0
    - N95 Masks – 5
    - Gloves – 5
    - Face Shields – 1
    - Gowns – 3
    - Disinfectant – 1
    - Other - 0
  - Are you currently able to quickly access COVID-19 testing as needed for staff and/or clients?
    - Yes – 21
    - No – 5
    - N/A – 5
  - Are you currently able to quickly access COVID-19 tests as needed for staff and/or clients?
    - Yes – 21
    - No – 5 (takes time to get an appointment and test results)
    - N/A – 5
  - Have you received the support you need from the Health Department?
    - Yes – 20
    - No – 1 (HD staff provide conflicting information and do not always communicate internally)
    - N/A – 9
  - Have you received the support and information you need from the SCDDO during the pandemic?
    - Yes – 30
    - No – 0
  - What impact has the pandemic had on your agency's financial stability?
    - Very positive – 0
    - Positive – 0
    - Neutral – 7
    - Negative – 16
    - Very negative – 7
  - On a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being the worst (i.e. critically close to closing), how would you rate your agency's current fiscal status?
    - Average – 42 out of range of 1 -100
    - Four agencies rated at 75- 80 which is really struggling
  - What financial resources have you been able to access (or apply for, if in process) to help with costs associated with the pandemic?
    - PPP Loan – 14
    - CARES Act through Sedgwick County – 12
    - CARES Act 5% Rate Payment – 6
    - Federal CARES Act Relief Fund – 11
    - Retainer Payment through MCO – 6
    - Other – 8
  - Are the resources you've been able to access sufficient to meet pandemic related expenses?
    - Yes – 17

- No – 10 (most needs not met were related to staffing)
  - What are the top concerns about continuing to operate during the pandemic?
    - Struggles with staffing was the main issue
    - Low revenue and increased expenses
    - Keeping people safe with the virus
    - Low number of clients attending
    - Quality of services
    - Client choice with limitations
    - Burnout
    - Funding
    - Mental health and anxiety
    - Juggling staff
  - Please share anything not previously covered that you feel the SCDDO should know about the pandemic and your agency's needs.
    - Mostly insufficient financial support
    - Wanting clients to return to service
    - Limiting peoples choices
- Person Served & Parent/Guardian COVID-19 Check In Survey
  - I am filling out this survey as a
    - Person with an IDD – 2
    - Parent – 26
    - Guardian – 18
    - Other – 10
  - What services do you currently receive (or your child/ward if parent or guardian)
    - Residential – 20
    - Day – 22
    - Targeted Case Management – 37
    - Self-Directed Services – 12
    - Supportive Home Care – 12
    - None – 12
    - Other – 2
  - Are you currently able to obtain all the personal protective equipment (masks, gloves, etc.) that you need to be safe during the pandemic?
    - Yes – 49
    - No – 7
  - What personal protective equipment do you need but haven't been able to find?
    - Masks – 2
    - N95 masks – 3
    - Gloves – 3
    - Face Shields – 1
    - Gowns – 1
    - Disinfectant – 3
    - Other – 0
  - Have you been able to access COVID – 19 testing when needed?
    - Yes – 29
    - No – 2
    - N/A – 24
  - Have you received the support and information you need from the Health Department?
    - Yes – 21
    - No – 6
    - N/A – 27
  - What issues or problems have you recently had with the Health Department?
    - Don't return calls
    - Long waiting
    - Testing not available
    - Getting results timely
  - Have you received the support and information you need from the SCDDO during the pandemic?

- Yes – 49
  - No – 5
- Has the pandemic negatively impacted your personal finances (for example: lost job, lower income, reduced work hours, increased expenses)?
  - Yes – 24
  - No – 20
  - N/A – 10
- Because of the pandemic, are you concerned about being evicted?
  - Yes – 0
  - No – 10
- Because of the pandemic, do you worry about having enough food?
  - Yes – 0
  - No – 9
- What supports have you accessed during the pandemic?
  - \$1,200 stimulus payment - 24
  - Called United Way's 211 - 1
  - Unemployment - 1
  - Food Bank - 0
  - N/A – No resources - 10
  - Other – 2
- Are the resources you've been able to access enough to meet pandemic related expenses?
  - Yes – 27
  - No – 4 (Need help finding job, lowered food benefits, time off without pay, childcare)
- Has the pandemic has a negative impact on your wellbeing? (for example: made you depressed or anxious, feel lonely, stress increased)
  - Yes – 22
  - No – 4
- What resources have you been able to access to help with the pandemic's impact on your wellbeing?
  - Therapy – 1
  - Crisis or Suicide Prevention Hotline – 0
  - Meditation – 2
  - Church Resources – 1
  - Peer Group or Family Support – 11
  - No Resources Due to Lack of Insurance or Other Barrier – 3
  - Don't know of any resources – 2
  - Other – 2
- Do you feel the resources you have accessed to help with the pandemic problems met the need?
  - Yes – 14
  - No – 7
- What do you worry about the most related to the pandemic?
  - Getting sick/ risk of COVID
  - Mental Health/Wellness Concerns
  - Isolation/Boredom/Separation from Family
  - Concerns with Services
  - Employment/Finances
  - Childcare, School, Vaccinations, Staffing, Transportation, Food, Behaviors
- Please share anything not previously covered that you feel the SCDDO should know about the pandemic and you or your child/ward's needs.
  - Struggles with remote school/Supports for school
  - Concern about limitations on choices
  - Worry about services
  - Anxiety related to healthcare & resources
- Dee and Jeannette will be looking at State Aid allocations and programs and sending out new RFPs. Currently programs are funded at Rainbows and The Arc.

**Sherry Arbuckle – Service Access and Operations**

#### Waiting List

- 930 in Sedgwick County
- 4,464 Statewide as of December
- Sedgwick County is 21% of statewide waiting list
- 1,484 on the waiver in Sedgwick County
- 9,091 on the waiver statewide
- 16% of individuals on the waiver are in Sedgwick County
- The last date of requested services was on 11/01/2011
- There were no waiting list offers made in 2020

#### Medisked

- The replacement of PsychConsult electronic medical record
- The go live date is May 3, 2021
- Phase one working on Service Access and Operations functions
- Phase two will be working on the portal

### **Director's Report – Dee Nighswonger**

#### Cost Study

- Dr. Melissa Walker from WSU is doing a cost study to determine what is actually costs to operate the basic functions of a CDDO and value added services
- We currently subsidize the funding received from the State to provide all the services we currently provide
- The data from the study will be used to advocate for more funding
- Hope to have a final report by May for contract negotiations

#### Contract Negotiations

- The last couple years the contract with the State was extended
- This year we are hoping to get the State to the table to do some contract negotiations

#### Legislative Bills

- Provider Rates
  - HB 2046
  - SB 154
  - InterHab is working on advocacy materials
- Behavior health bills will be introduced by InterHab

#### Policy Research Associates

- Sequential intercept model
- Evaluate where individuals come into contact in the community with law enforcement
- Received a report from them but asked how to adapt the model to look at the specific needs of the IDD population
- Dee has a series of meeting scheduled with them to develop the model for the IDD population

#### DSP Workforce Crisis Whitepaper

- The paper can be found on the SCDDO website
- We continue to work with WSU, Ohio Alliance for Direct Support Professionals, InterHab and a couple local providers on the high school to workforce pipeline

#### WSU Badges for NADD Clinical Certification

- Six badges are currently available
- Continue to see excellent enrollment every semester

#### Association of Community Mental Health Centers

- Dee will present at their annual conference this year
- Dee is also collaboration with them on how to bring some additional education to their membership

#### Carepool

- New transportation provider in Sedgwick County
- Similar to Lyft or Uber
- Drivers have special training to provide support for people with disabilities
- They will pick them up at their front door and make sure they get to their destination
- Josh Massey is the person we are working with
- Relationship based way of providing transportation services

#### Heartland Pharmacy

- Working with them to provide vaccinations for the IDD population

Contract with Jody Patterson and James Vincent on consulting for eligibility decisions where additional expertise is required.

Let Jim know if you are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee or if you are interested in serving on the Executive Committee.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next IDDAB Full Board meeting is May 11, 2021.

**ADJOURN**