

Nebraska Children's Commission

Seventeenth Meeting
November 19, 2013
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Country Inn and Suites, Omaha Room
5353 N. 27th Street, Lincoln, NE

Call to Order

Karen Authier called the meeting to order at 9:03 am and noted that the Open Meetings Act information was posted in the room as required by state law.

Roll Call

Commission Members present: Pam Allen, Karen Authier, Beth Baxter, Nancy Forney, Kim Hawekotte, Gene Klein, Martin Klein, David Newell, John Northrop, Mary Jo Pankoke, Dale Shotkoski, Becky Sorensen, and Susan Staab.

Commission Members absent: Candy Kennedy-Goergen, Janteice Holston, Norman Langemach, Andrea Miller, and Jennifer Nelson.

Ex Officio Members present: Ellen Brokofsky, Senator Kathy Campbell, Senator Colby Coash, Hon. Linda Porter, Thomas Pristow, Julie Rogers, Vicky Weisz, and Kerry Winterer.

Ex Officio Members absent: Senator Jeremy Nordquist.

Also in attendance: Bethany Connor and Leesa Sorensen from the Nebraska Children's Commission.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Mary Jo Pankoke to approve the agenda, as written. The motion was seconded by Pam Allen. Voting yes: Pam Allen, Karen Authier, Beth Baxter, Nancy Forney, Kim Hawekotte, Gene Klein, Martin Klein, David Newell, John Northrop, Mary Jo Pankoke, Dale Shotkoski, Becky Sorensen, and Susan Staab. Voting no: none. Candy Kennedy-Goergen, Janteice Holston, Norman Langemach, Andrea Miller, and Jennifer Nelson were absent. Motion carried.

Approval of September 17, 2013, Minutes

A motion was made by Beth Baxter to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2013, meeting. The motion was seconded by John Northrop. Voting yes: Pam Allen, Karen Authier, Beth

Baxter, Nancy Forney, Kim Hawekotte, Gene Klein, Martin Klein, David Newell, John Northrop, Mary Jo Pankoke, Dale Shotkoski, Becky Sorensen, and Susan Staab. Voting no: none. Candy Kennedy-Goergen, Janteice Holston, Norman Langemach, Andrea Miller, and Jennifer Nelson were absent. Motion carried.

Chairperson's Report

Karen Authier provided a brief chair's report. Karen introduced Bethany Connor who has been hired as the Policy Analyst for the Nebraska Children's Commission. Karen explained that Bethany will be working to get up to speed on the projects that are currently being worked on by the Commission. Karen indicated that Bethany will be available to begin helping with research and other projects, but asked that all projects be cleared through Karen. A handout with proposed meeting dates for 2014 was provided to Commission members. The Commission will meet on Wednesday, January 22, 2014 and Wednesday, February 19 due to Monday holidays in January and February. Otherwise, the Commission will continue to meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month for the remainder of 2014. Karen Authier, Debora Brownyard, Kim Hawekotte and Gene Klein provided testimony on November 14, 2013, before the Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee. Copies of Karen's Debora's and Gene's testimony were made available at the meeting and Kim's testimony will be e-mailed out after the meeting. Karen made mention of upcoming meetings including the joint commission's meeting that is scheduled for December. Karen also provided a reminder about committee reports that are due in December.

Legislative Update

Senator Kathy Campbell provided a legislative update on an upcoming interim study hearing that is scheduled for December 9. The hearing will cover LR300 which examines the treatment and services for people dually diagnosed with intellectual or developmental disabilities, mental illness, or behavioral health problems; and LR 143 which examines children's day health services. Senator Campbell also encouraged Commission members to review the testimony from the November 14 hearings, especially the information on the Barriers to Permanency Project that was presented by Kim Hawekotte.

Juvenile Services (OJS) Committee Report

Ellen Brokofsky and Martin Klein provided an update on the Juvenile Services (OJS) Committee report that is due December 1, 2013. The Committee was unable to reach consensus on a final version of the report to be provided to the legislature. The committee was concerned that the recommendations made in the report from the consultant were not strong enough and that the report did not adequately cover all of the work that had been completed since September 2012. The committee plans to ask for an extension of the delivery timeline until December 15, 2013 so that the committee can meet on December 10, 2013, to finish the recommendations. The

committee will have a final report for the Nebraska Children's Commission on December 17, 2013.

Marty and Ellen noted that the recommendations will include a suggestion to transition the system to a more regionally based system. The recommendations will also suggest that the Juvenile Services Committee be created as a more permanent entity to oversee the continued work of juvenile justice reform.

A motion was made by Gene Klein to accept the Juvenile Services (OJS) Committee update report with the final report due at the December meeting. The motion was seconded by Pam Allen. Voting yes: Pam Allen, Karen Authier, Beth Baxter, Nancy Forney, Kim Hawekotte, Gene Klein, Martin Klein, David Newell, John Northrop, Mary Jo Pankoke, Dale Shotkoski, Becky Sorensen, and Susan Staab. Voting no: none. Candy Kennedy-Goergen, Janteice Holston, Norman Langemach, Andrea Miller, and Jennifer Nelson were absent. Motion carried.

Foster Care Reimbursement Rate Committee Report

Peg Harriott provided a written report on the committee's first two meetings that were held on October 18th and November 15th. The committee is at the beginning stages of: analyzing the Level of Care Assessment pilot project; identifying what additional work needs to be done with the Level of Care Assessment tool to fully operationalize the instrument; and identifying what the implementation implications are financially to the current foster homes and supporting agencies as well as the State of Nebraska. There was a brief discussion on the need to have better information on the state costs especially as the committee looks at implementation dates for the rates. A suggestion was made to contact Liz Hruska for this information. Peg indicated that she would attempt to get more information and the committee will be continuing to work on the items noted in accordance with the responsibilities assigned by LB530.

DHHS Report

Thomas Pristow gave a DHHS report. Thomas noted that DHHS has received the IV-E waiver and that the Alternative Response Model is a big part of the waiver. Thomas noted that additional work was needed to create a corrective action plan.

Thomas Pristow, Vicki Maca, Sara Goscha, Alicia Henderson, Gene Klein, and Sarah Forrest provided a panel presentation on the Alternative Response Model Development Report that was created by DHHS. The panel noted that the main concern of the group was making sure whatever model was chosen that children remain safe. The group reported on the various aspects of the report including the research that had been done by other states. The Commission members asked questions of the panel and discussed how to provide input on the report. It was noted that DHHS will continue to meet with the director's group as the Alternative Response model is implemented.

A motion was made by Mary Jo Pankoke to accept the Alternative Response Model Development Report with the cover letter, as written; and that the Commission will provide

additional input and information on the report after the December meeting. The motion was seconded by Beth Baxter. Voting yes: Pam Allen, Karen Authier, Beth Baxter, Nancy Forney, Kim Hawekotte, Gene Klein, Martin Klein, David Newell, John Northrop, Mary Jo Pankoke, Dale Shotkoski, Becky Sorensen, and Susan Staab. Voting no: none. Candy Kennedy-Goergen, Janteice Holston, Norman Langemach, Andrea Miller, and Jennifer Nelson were absent. Motion carried.

Young Adult Voluntary Services and Support Advisory Committee Report

Mary Jo Pankoke, Jenny Skala, Jennifer Potterf, Amy West, Amy Williams, Sarah Helvey, Sara Goscha, Shannon Jo Hamilton, Nathan Busch, Mary Fraser Meints, Mary Kate Gulick, and Rhonda Newman gave a report on the Young Adult Voluntary Services and Support Advisory (YAVSSA) Committee's final recommendations document. The six workgroups of the YAVSSA Committee continued to meet to further develop the recommendations for the report that is due on December 15, 2013. The committee's report included items shown in yellow highlighting that indicated the information that had been updated since the report was presented to the Commission the first time. Each workgroup gave a brief summary of the changes that were made and the rationale for those changes. During the discussion with the panel it was noted that a recommendation needed to be made to expand the service and supports to young adults who were aging out of the juvenile justice system since LB 216 did not extend benefits to that group.

A motion was made by Gene Klein to accept the YAVSSA Committee report as written and that the Commission should include in the cover letter for the report that the services and supports program should be expanded to cover youth involved in the juvenile justice system. The motion was seconded by Mary Jo Pankoke. Voting yes: Pam Allen, Karen Authier, Beth Baxter, Nancy Forney, Gene Klein, Martin Klein, David Newell, John Northrop, Mary Jo Pankoke, Becky Sorensen, and Susan Staab. Voting no: Kim Hawekotte and Dale Shotkoski. Candy Kennedy-Goergen, Janteice Holston, Norman Langemach, Andrea Miller, and Jennifer Nelson were absent. Motion carried.

The Commission recessed for lunch at 12:25pm.

The Commission reconvened at 1:46pm.

Commission Members present: Pam Allen, Karen Authier, Beth Baxter, Kim Hawekotte, Gene Klein, Martin Klein, David Newell, John Northrop, Mary Jo Pankoke, Dale Shotkoski, and Susan Staab.

Commission Members absent: Nancy Forney, Candy Kennedy-Goergen, Janteice Holston, Norman Langemach, Andrea Miller, Jennifer Nelson, and Becky Sorensen.

Ex Officio Members present: Senator Kathy Campbell, Hon. Linda Porter, Julie Rogers, and Vicky Weisz.

Ex Officio Members absent: Ellen Brokofsky, Senator Colby Coash, Senator Jeremy Nordquist, Thomas Pristow, and Kerry Winterer.

Phase II Strategic Plan – Workgroup Reports

Each workgroup reported on the work they are currently doing related to the four goals included in the Phase 1 Strategic Plan:

Technology

The Technology workgroup noted they would have recommendations for the December meeting related to the systems that have been reviewed. It was also noted that in December the group would start working with the Prevention Partnership to begin the discussion on Whole Population outcomes. It is anticipated that the Whole Populations work will continue in 2014.

Community Ownership

The Community Ownership workgroup noted that they are working on a report regarding the mediation centers that will be presented to the Commission. The group is also discussing how to help communities take ownership of population data. The workgroup is also formulating the next series of recommendations.

Workforce

The Workforce workgroup noted that they are working on recommendations that will include work that is being done with the Juvenile Services (OJS) Committee. The workgroup is also working on a survey for case workers. The group was discussing the best avenue to deliver the survey.

System of Care

The System of Care workgroup is continuing to work on the System of Care grant with Behavior Health and focus groups.

Karen Authier noted that the Phase I Strategic Plan was very high level and we are getting to the point where we need to start working on getting some meat on the bones and make some specific recommendations.

New Business

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is December 17, 2013, 9:00am-12:00pm at the Country Inn and Suites, 5353 North 27th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska. The meeting will be held in the Omaha room.

Adjourn

A motion was made by John Northrop to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Beth Baxter. The meeting adjourned at 2:22pm.