



**The Guilford Center
Board Meeting Minutes
232 N. Edgeworth Street
Greensboro, NC
April 8, 2008**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Marshall Abee, Paula Cox-Fishman, John Hemphill, Jane Perrin, and Ray Pysher

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Margaret Arbuckle, George Coates, Bert Davis, Jr., Paul Gibson, W. A. Goodson, Millie Hoffer-Foushee, Linda Myers, Sheron Sumner, David Talbot, Bill Tankersley and Dianne Walton-Munden

STAFF PRESENT: Dena Bailey, John Eagles, Glenna Harford, Billie Pierce, and Tana Wirtz

I. CALL TO ORDER AND MOMENT OF SILENCE **Ray Pysher**
The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. and a moment of silence was observed.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS **Ray Pysher**
There were no announcements.

III. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR
There were no speakers from the floor.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 11, 2008 Meeting **Ray Pysher**
Paula Cox-Fishman made a motion to approve the March 11, 2008 Board minutes. The motion was seconded by Jane Perrin. Board members present voted unanimously to approve the Minutes as distributed in the Board packet. As there was not a quorum present, ballots were mailed to absent Board members to vote on the motion. As of April 23, 2008 six ballots had been returned which, when combined with the five Board members who voted at the meeting, represents a quorum. Each ballot reflected a vote in favor of approving the March 11, 2008 minutes. Therefore, the March 11, 2008 Board minutes are approved.

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT **Billie Pierce**
A. SYSTEM OF CARE MINI-REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL **Tana Wirtz**

The System of Care Committee identified as a service goal for this year to develop services for youth who are aging out of the system. We have just concluded a Request for Proposal for System of Care for At-Risk Youth ages 14 through 17. We were looking for a provider who could create an innovative service approach for meeting the needs of that population. Two providers were selected. S. Carr Rehab & Associates will be developing a drop-in center for youth. We encourage them to collaborate with DSS to develop some crisis beds in the future. They are also looking at a business venture of supported employment for youth. The second provider that was selected is Youth Focus. They currently operate a

transitional living program in High Point which is a residential facility for homeless or at-risk females.

ADULT MENTAL HEALTH REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Tana Wirtz

We are working with Cherene Allen-Caraco, our Adult Mental Health Best Practices Consultant, to develop the services in the MH RFP. A first draft is being prepared with input from Cherene, Wes Early (our MH Best Practices Manager) and the work group. We hope to mail out and advertise the RFP in about a month with a planned service start date of September 1, 2008.

BRIDGEWAY UPDATE

Tana Wirtz

Six clinicians have been hired for Bridgeway. They are currently providing assessments and outpatient treatment (individual and group) and low intensity residential. Two case managers have been hired who are linking consumers with vocational services, resources in the community, G.E.D. programs, etc. Agreements have been reached with Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous to hold meetings on-site. As of today, there are ten consumers in low intensity residential beds at Bridgeway.

B. LIFESPAN UPDATE

Tana Wirtz

LifeSpan (vocational provider for adults with developmental disabilities) met with the County Manager, the Director of Facilities and our Director, Billie Pierce, and presented a proposal to open a business enterprise. LifeSpan intends to start a bottling and assembly/packaging business that will generate profits which will be recycled back into serving DD consumers in the community. Consumers who are hired will become LifeSpan employees and receive pay and benefits (health plan, 401(k) plan, etc.) The sheltered workshop will still be an option for those consumers who are not able to work outside that environment. We support the concept and LifeSpan has been given the go ahead for this project.

C. NC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Billie Pierce

We continue to work with the Secretary on details regarding our Partnership. A presentation on the Partnership was made to the Secretary's Advisory Group last Wednesday. The Secretary remains supportive of our plan. Because the Partnership concept is quite complicated, we plan to have a panel of key staff working on the partnership at the May Board Retreat. The panel will explain the concept to the Board in a thorough way and give the Board the opportunity to ask questions about the Partnership.

D. MERCER UPDATE

Billie Pierce

Copies of the Mercer Report along with an Executive Summary were distributed to Board members at the meeting. Page 40 of the report gives a summary of LME ratings overall and by performance area. Guilford Center ranked in Tier One on Financial and Business Management Operations and in Tier Two on both Information Technology and Claims Management and Clinical Operations and

Governance. We were given an overall Tier Two ranking. Billie explained these findings and the reasons behind these rankings. Factors that contributed to our Tier Two ranking included: Being a single county (i.e. having to pay bills through the County), our decision to not to divest our Crisis/Emergency services and the fact that we only have one Medical Director. (See page two of the Executive Summary for further explanation.) The Mercer rankings do not impact our Partnership in any way.

Mercer made the following recommendations to the State:

- Create three to five regional entities and convert the other existing LMEs into core service providers. Mercer estimates selection of this option would result in approximately \$25 million per year savings on administrative overhead.
- Create a central management entity (CME) for the entire state, which could be formed through a consortium of existing LMEs, with some LMEs becoming providers or core service agencies.
- Use voluntary consolidation to reduce the number of LMEs to fewer than 20.

It remains to be seen what recommendations will come from the State and the Legislative Oversight Committee.

E. SUBSTANCE ABUSE PLANNING UPDATE

Billie Pierce

As a follow-up to questions which were raised at our February Board meeting regarding next steps in substance abuse treatment planning, Ms. Pierce made a suggestion that we invite Board members and Substance Abuse Academy graduates to attend a future meeting of the SA Best Practices group (which is chaired by Paul Nagy, our SA Best Practices Consultant). This meeting would be used for a brain-storming session on what the next steps might be for substance abuse. Marshall Abee made a motion to move forward with scheduling such a meeting. Jane Perrin seconded the motion. As there was not a quorum present, ballots were mailed to absent Board members to vote on the motion. As of April 23, 2008, six ballots had been returned which, when combined with the five Board members who voted at the meeting, represents a quorum. Each ballot reflected a vote in favor of the brain-storming session. Therefore, the motion passed.

F. BOARD RETREAT

Billie Pierce

The agenda for the May 13, 2008 Board Retreat was distributed. The retreat will be held at Magnolia Manor in Colfax. Ms. Pierce went over the agenda with the Board. A reminder, with map and driving directions, will be mailed to the Board prior to the retreat.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Ray Pysher

A. BOARD APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

The following items of business must be decided upon at our June Board meeting:

1. New Board appointments/reappointments:

Three of our Board members' terms expire on June 30, 2008.

- Margaret Arbuckle is eligible for reappointment and has asked to be reappointed.
- John Hemphill is eligible for reappointment but has elected not to seek reappointment.
- Paula Cox-Fishman is not eligible for reappointment due to the new term limits.

2. Yearly nomination of Board Chair and Vice Chair

3. Name another representative to the CFAC to replace Paula and John who served as co-representatives this past year.

Chair Pysher asked for volunteers to serve on a subcommittee to address these issues. Jane Perrin and Paula Cox-Fishman volunteered to serve on the subcommittee and Millie Hoffler-Foushee was appointed to the subcommittee by Chair Pysher.

B. BOARD MEETING LOCATION DISCUSSION

Due to the lack of a quorum, this agenda item was tabled until our June meeting.

BOARD MEETING RECESSED

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING CONVENED

VII. FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING (6th Meeting)

Glenna Harford

A. CONTRACT APPROVAL

The April contracts list was presented for Board approval. (See pink sheet in Board packet.) Paula Cox-Fishman made a motion to approve the contracts. Marshall Abee seconded the motion. Board members present voted unanimously to approve the contracts as distributed in the Board packet. As there was not a quorum present, ballots were mailed to the absent Board members to vote on the motion. As of April 23, 2008, six ballots had been returned which, when combined with the five Board members who voted at the meeting, represents a quorum. Each ballot received reflected a vote in favor of approving the April contracts list. Therefore, the contracts are approved as distributed in the Board packet.

B. BUDGET UPDATE

Overall, the Guilford Center budget request for FY 2008-09 (\$42,722,903) represents a 13% increase as compared to this year's adopted budget. The increase is due in major part to a full year's funding of the Wendover facility substance abuse program (an increase of \$1.2 million over this year) and

Medicaid revenues that are earned by community providers and collected through the Guilford Center. The allocation for Local Management Entity (LME) systems management is projected to be unchanged from this year's amount of \$6,043,709. The position count is budgeted to remain at its current 199 full-time equivalents if the expansion budget is approved.

A budget handout was provided which Ms. Harford reviewed in detail and answered questions from the Board. Jane Perrin made a motion to approve the budget request. Paula Cox-Fishman seconded the motion. Board members present voted unanimously to approve the budget request. As there was not a quorum present, ballots were mailed to the absent Board members to vote on the motion. As of April 23, 2008, six ballots had been returned which, when combined with the five Board members who voted at the meeting, represents a quorum. Each ballot received reflected a vote in favor of approving the budget request. Therefore, the budget request has been approved by the Board.

Ms. Harford also reported that we have been notified by the Department of Health and Human Services that the Guilford Center is eligible for 16 additional CAP-MR/DD waiver slots. Our CAP Coordinator will be working with families and prioritizing consumers for this funding and authorizing eligibility determination decisions.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING ADJOURNED
BOARD MEETING RECONVENED**

VIII. BOARD COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

Ray Pysher

Chair Pysher reviewed the Board Committee schedule included in the April 8th agenda.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – 8:40 P.M.

Ray Pysher

There being no further business, Chair Pysher adjourned the meeting.

Approved by:

Ray Pysher

Date

**On-site minutes by:
Date:**

**Dena Bailey
April 8, 2008**