



Topeka-Shawnee County Alcohol-Drug Abuse Advisory Council

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Minutes from the meeting of June 24, 2010

Members Present: Owen McCourt, Ron Eisenbarth, Jared Harsin, Cindy Martin, John Martin, Melissa Chavez, Jill Schalansky, Nancy Johnson, Daniel Lopez, Max Wilson, Lenny Ewell, Phill Wallsmith and Jerlita Howard.

Others Present: Leah Durst and Mark Wheeler

Members Absent: Gilberto Chabarría, Nancy Lollman and Tammy Adams.

Owen McCourt called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. Roll call was conducted by Ron Eisenbarth; a quorum was met.

Adoption of Agenda was approved.

The May Minutes were motioned for approval by Max Wilson; 2nd by Jared Harsin, Minutes were approved unanimously.

Program: Sharidy Blackwood – Director, Shawnee County Reentry Program

The Shawnee County Reentry Program (SCRCP) is one of several initiatives statewide to implement risk reduction reentry programs, services and practices. The goal of this program is to identify the highest-risk offenders returning to Shawnee County, and engage in risk-reduction case management with those offenders, prior-to-and-after release, to reduce the likelihood that they will engage in further criminal behavior.

The SCRCP Case Managers now also serve as the Parole Officer (so that risk containment and reduction can be managed within one plan). The SCRCP is able to serve 90 offenders at any given time with full services including case management. A risk/need assessment process is used to identify the offenders with the most areas of risk and need, and those offenders are offered the opportunity to participate in the program. SCRCP staff are able to work with family members, including children of incarcerated parents, to help address the impact of incarceration on families. The specialists who support the case managers are able to serve hundreds of offenders per year above and beyond the 90 on the case managers' caseloads.

The SCRCP is co-located with parole, and additional risk reduction services have been established so that reentry and parole staff can work closely together to address the risk/need issues of offenders. The Reentry Program is designed to help participants achieve success by developing individual personal skills, guidance and a network of community support. Funding cuts, shortage of housing and

transportation providers, and 70-90% dual diagnosis are some of the obstacles that impede progress and achievement. The combined goal is for a successful and confident transition effecting lasting positive changes and growth. Information was distributed to Council members to provide an in-depth overview to the three Reentry programs in Kansas (Shawnee, Wyandotte and Sedgwick counties).

Action Items:

- a. *New Business:* **New member** Mark Wheeler (Community Representative) was unanimously voted into the council with a motion by Jared Harsin and 2nd by Max Wilson
- b. *Old Business:* None

Treasurer's Report: Ron Eisenbarth reviewed the information which presented a balance of \$7607.45 (this includes \$6000 in CD accounts). Financial reports were distributed with the Minutes for May 2010. Treasurer's Report was motioned for approval by Max Wilson, 2nd by Phill Wallsmith; the report passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

- a. *Executive Committee:* Owen McCourt reported he still needs to meet with SRS to confirm their participation on the Council.
- b. *Grant Review Committee:* Nancy Johnson reported that \$127,000 more than last year is being requested this year. Jared Harsin is no longer able to serve on this Committee due to possible funding conflict. John Martin will serve on this Committee.
- c. *Needs Identification & Community Development Committee:* Max Wilson distributed copies of the 2010 Communities That Care Youth Survey Report: 30 Day Prevalence-Problem Behaviors. Max pointed out that there was a decrease in alcohol use and an increase in marijuana use.
- d. *Conference Planning Committee:* Ron Eisenbarth informed the Council that dates are confirmed for September 16-17. The schedule will be Dr. Voth in the morning presenting on marijuana and Dr. Scanlan will be presenting in the afternoon on the chronic alcoholic. Max Wilson reported the program on September 16, in the evening, will be Faces & Voices of Recovery, a forum of individuals in recovery and their families.
- e. *Bylaws/Membership/Nominating Committee:* No report.

Legislative Updates:

No report.

Announcements: None

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m. with a motion by Jared Harsin and seconded by Max Wilson.

***Next meeting Thursday, July 22, 2010 at noon at St. Francis Hospital Meeting Room #1**

Minutes prepared by: Leah Durst
CRC Project Coordinator