



## Topeka-Shawnee County Alcohol-Drug Abuse Advisory Council

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### Minutes from the meeting of March 25, 2010

**Members Present:** Owen McCourt, Ron Eisenbarth, Jared Harsin, Cindy Martin, Phill Wallsmith, Jill Shalansky, Shari Gonzalez, Gilberto Chabarria, Nancy Lollman, Daniel Lopez, Lenny Ewell and Tammy Adams.

**Others Present:** Leah Durst and John Martin

**Members Absent:** Nancy Johnson, Max Wilson, Joyce Markham

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 February Minutes were 1<sup>st</sup> motioned for approval by Owen McCourt; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jared Harsin, all were in favor and Minutes were approved.

#### **Program: Irene Wilkinson and Clay Kucza – *Faces & Voices of Recovery***

Iris Wilkinson has been on the faculty at Washburn University for thirty years teaching Addiction Counseling. Clay Kucza is an Addiction Counseling student at Washburn University. They are both advocates for *Faces & Voices of Recovery*. The program is working to strengthen the connection between treatment and recovery. Clay stated that recovery is not an event, it is a long-term process. One of the goals is to provide tools, such as a peer mentoring program. The peer mentor would be the liaison between the treatment center and the person in recovery. Peer mentors require fifteen hours of training, and are supervised and paid thru the treatment center or agency. There are treatment centers in Salina and Wichita implementing peer mentoring but most treatment centers and communities are unaware of the concept. One of the main objectives of the program is to link the treatment professionals with the recovery community to provide support for people when they get out of treatment. The gap between recovery and the Twelve Step Program has increased in the last ten years due to budget cuts and more treatment professionals in the field that have not been in recovery. Clay informed the council that there are 20 million people in recovery and 21 million people that need recovery. Community Recovery Support Centers are being developed nationwide. These are places that provide a social setting for the recovery community to gather with their families to network. Also, the program is advocating to implement changes to the language of recovery to shift away from the negative stigma.

## **Action Items:**

- a. *New Business:* None
- b. *Old Business:* None

**Treasurer's Report:** Ron Eisenbarth reviewed the information which presented a balance in account of \$7,764.98. Financial reports were distributed with the Agenda. Ron Eisenbarth reported that the CD accounts have been opened at Corefirst Bank and Capitol Federal Savings but the paperwork is still being processed. The balance at the next meeting will reflect the funds being withdrawn from the checking account.

## **Committee Reports:**

- a. *Executive Committee:* Owen reported that several program options for speakers at future meetings are being reviewed.
- b. *Grant Review Committee:* No report
- c. *Needs Identification & Community Development Committee:* At the previous Executive Committee meeting the need for treatment services for pregnant women and women with newborns was discussed.
- d. *Conference Planning Committee:* Ron reported that the Conference is scheduled for September 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> at Washburn Institute of Technology. At the next Conference Planning Committee Meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup> a video will be viewed called ***Drunk in Public*** by David Sperling. Chronic Alcoholism is a potential topic for the Conference.
- e. *Bylaws/Membership/Nominating Committee:* No report.

## **Legislative Updates:**

The licensure bill has passed and is waiting for the governor's signature.

## **Announcements:**

Cindy Martin's husband, John Martin, would like to become a community representative on the council. Ron Eisenbarth instructed him to provide a letter to the council.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m. with a motion by Phill Wallsmith and seconded by Jill Schalansky.

**\*Next meeting Thursday, April 22, 2010 at 12 noon at St. Francis Hospital Meeting Room #1**

Minutes prepared by: Leah Durst  
CRC Project Coordinator