

**April 4, 2013**

**Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Meeting Summary**

**Committee Members Present:** Wendell Williams –Co-Chair  
Vida Lin  
Nancy Brune  
Patrick Smith  
E. Lavonne Lewis  
Suzanne Dessaints  
Ylonda Dickerson

**Committee Members Absent:** Bonnie Chu  
Dean Ishman - Chair  
Jackie Seip  
Dr. Esther Langston  
Taurus Duncan

**Facilitator:** Sherri Hess

**Clark County Staff Present:** Tim Burch, Bobby Gordon, Sandy Jeantete,  
Gina Olivares, Janet Brown

**I. Call to Order:**

- By Wendell Williams 11:45am

**II. Introduction of All Members**

**III. Public Comment: None**

**IV. Approval of February 2013 meeting summary: Approved**

**V. Chair/Vice Chair vote – Table to next meeting**

**VI. Announcements from Members/Social Service Staff:** Tim - Project Family Connect May 2013: Targeted to homeless citizens and at-risk families. The same 100 providers that are at the Project Homeless Connect event will be present. Nevada Homeless Alliance is coordinating the event and CCSS is a major partner. Nevada Homeless Alliance is seeking sponsors. CAC members are invited to the VIP reception to be held before the event and are to bring a friend to further educate citizens and garner their support. The official flyer will be distributed shortly.

**VII. Working Group Update: None**

**VIII. Legislative and Budget Update:** CAC members received an update email from Gina Olivares providing a list of legislative bills that are being tracked by CCSS management staff. There are 500 Assembly and Senate bills that CCSS is tracking remotely and that have a direct impact on clients. Most pertinent is the bill addressing emergency dialysis in the State Medicaid plan, which would recuperate millions on behalf of UMC. Overall, the current legislative session has been mild or benign. The State has not received opposition to their request for 470 employees to staff their Medicaid plan. The State has indicated it will own Medicaid while clients will be referred to the program by agencies and organizations that traditionally provided medical assistance. CCSS will not have an active role in enrollment. Instead, CCSS will have a supportive service role. Open enrollment begins October 2013 into the Silver State Health Exchange. No date has been given for enrollment into Medicaid yet. We will work with clients to get prepared for that change and CCSS will no longer issue medical cards after January 2014. Clark County will hold its budget hearing on April 24, 2013. Early indications are that the CCSS budget for the upcoming fiscal year will be flat due to a .05% increase in property tax revenue.

**IX. Youth and Young Social Service:** HUD has redefined the youth population for funding of federal programs targeting ages 16-24 and 18-24. The latter group qualifies for CCSS medical and financial assistance. In the last seven years, 3-4% of the CCSS client population was the 18-24 age group. During the recession, this client population rose to 15%. The 18-24 age group also added 30% to the unemployment figures and almost 40% during recession. Three years ago, CCSS assumed responsibility of the Step-Up program targeting 18-24 year-olds who have aged-out of foster care. An entitlement program helps this group with rent payment or milestone payments. They can also retain rental support as long as they are working or going to school until the age of 21. AB 350 went into effect allowing youth the choice of remaining under court jurisdiction, which provides them a monthly stipend, or entering a case management program and receiving services from CCSS. We are working on a process that will help youth when they are having difficulty managing on their own and instead that allows them to access CCSS case management services to help get them back on track.

\* A new Urban League grant helps 18-24 year olds that are 70% adjudicated youth from the juvenile or prison system. The program will help them with GEDs, getting them into post secondary education, intense case management, and job training. The grant is available now and can help up to 100 youth.

Ylonda - Needs help with obtaining IDs for young ladies who have none so they may obtain services. Birth certificates can be obtained at Urban League. Also Southern Nevada Children's First has recently received a grant to help homeless young ladies.

- X. Department Update:** How staff will be utilized while transitioning clients to Medicaid – CCSS will support the State in any way needed. The Affordable Health Care Act implements in January 2014. The HEARTH Act implements in July 2014. The latter changes how we serve and act in a supportive housing agency role. HUD requires that one agency step forward to process all HUD housing grants in the community as a United Funding Agency. They are requiring one intake process for all homeless services in the community for consistency.

Culture Management (handouts given) – CCSS is actively managing the department’s culture in an effort to prevent fear and territorialism among staff during the transition to Medicaid. In our culture management program, we serve our clients utilizing belief statements (handout) that drive the actions that fuel our results. We have begun to recognize our staff this way and have seen behavior change. We know we will need community feedback as the future of CCSS changes. As healthcare transitions to the State, we are also considering how we can help the community. The State will begin their communications effort on their program July or August this year. We are hopeful that the Silver State Exchange will be a part of the State’s launch so that we can all provide a warm hand-off to clients. As soon as we have more detail, we will share it with the CAC.

- IX. Public Comment: None**

- X. Adjournment – 12:22pm**

The next meeting of the CAC is scheduled for June 6, 2013 at 11:30 a.m. at the Clark County Social Service office, 1600 Pinto Lane, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Summary prepared by: Janet Brown, Office Serv. Supervisor, 455-6553