

JCDS GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES January 28, 2020

1.0 Call to Order

Mr. Kyle Russell, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Board members present were: Dale Chaffin, Gayle Richardson, Kyle Russell, Bob Duncan, Bob Stephan, Rick Marien, and Debbie Scott Williams. Others in attendance were Chad VonAhnen, Executive Director and staff members Shelly May, Tim Arnold, Mandy Flower, Melissa Reeves, and Shelly Toft. Also in attendance was Matt Fletcher and Nick Wood with InterHab.

2.0 Minutes

Mrs. Richardson moved and Mr. Marien seconded to approve the November 19, 2019 minutes as written. Motion carried.

3.0 Financial Reports

Mr. Marien stated the end-of-year financial reports were not yet available from the county. Mr. VonAhnen reported the county is getting underway with the 2021 budgeting process and JCDS would be making a request for additional staff positions as a result of the increased demand for and success in community employment placements.

Mr. VonAhnen also reported that approximately \$200,000 of the reserve account would be used toward payment for the new Electronic Health Record (EHR) system JCDS will be purchasing. Discussion of the EHR project was briefly held.

4.0 Presentations

Mr. Matt Fletcher and Mr. Nick Wood with InterHab provided a legislative summary along with several initiatives InterHab is undertaking on behalf of the individuals in the State of Kansas with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). The Invisible Kansans Campaign is being revived and will focus on provider rates, the waiting list, and supports for those with complex needs. InterHab is introducing a bill that will implement a rate increase for three years to address workforce shortages, a process for continuing rate increases afterward; and restoration of lost state aid, CDDO administration dollars, and state general funds.

Mr. Fletcher further commented on InterHab's efforts to assist legislators in understanding more about the waiting list and provider capacity. InterHab is also interested in talking with individuals on the waiting list to get a better idea of the actual numbers of individuals waiting for services and exactly what services are needed. InterHab would also like to work with others to explore more tailored services that may stretch funding further and build a more robust direct care workforce.

This year's Advocacy Day at the State Capitol is March 25, 2020.

Mr. Wood discussed efforts to develop supports for individuals with IDD that have a co-occurring mental illness and exhibit behaviors that pose a challenge to remaining in their local community. A workgroup, led by Mr. Wood, is also planning to introduce legislation this session for funding to develop statewide crisis support services. The goal is to begin development of services, including respite and additional behavior specialist intervention geared toward prevention of crisis. The House Human Services Committee will be holding an informational meeting about crisis on February 19, 2020.

Mr. Fletcher finished with sharing that InterHab has undergone a corporate restructuring that has resulted in the formation of a 501(c)6 entity to explore the possible formation of a political action committee that could accept individual member voluntary contributions toward InterHab's efforts.

5.0 Committees/Liaisons

Mr. Russell announced that Mr. Marien would continue as a Friends of JCDS liaison to the board and Mrs. Scott Williams will replace Mr. Duncan as the second liaison.

Mr. Marien commented on the housing activity underway with the Friends of JCDS organization. Mr. VonAhnen noted Friends has closed on their 16th property, which is an empty lot in Shawnee. They hope to begin construction on a four-bedroom home this summer. The house at 7619 Grandview, the 15th home, should be renovated and opened in June of this year.

Mr. VonAhnen and Ms. Bowers met with individuals from the City of Lenexa and hope to benefit from their Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program in the future.

Mrs. Richardson reported that Families for KanCare Reform is planning to meet with Mr. Fletcher from InterHab later in the week.

6.0 Director's Items

Ms. May referenced her report in the packet and highlighted the fact that there was a 60% growth in 2019 in community employment; the average wage for these placements is now up to \$11.46 per hour; and there was a 400% increase in community employment program growth in the last five years!

In addition, Ms. May stated JCDS has received their Case Management license and has been waiting for over a month to hear from the state on a request for mediation regarding issues with the Day/Employment and Residential license. JCDS was issued a license with requirements based on issues involving the State Fire Marshal's office.

Ms. Flower announced the next CDDO Summit will be held on March 22, 2020 at the Arts & Heritage Center. In addition, CDDO staff are working with local school districts to share information their families will need and Ms. Flower is holding community coffees to be accessible to any affiliate that may have something they wish to address with the CDDO.

Mrs. Reeves reported the agency would be holding open interviews for direct support staff positions on February 6, 2020 at the Mark D. Elmore Center.

Mr. VonAhnen stated staff recently held a strategic planning retreat to work further on the challenges and opportunities that were developed by the governing board at their retreat in November. Mr. VonAhnen commented on activities happening in other states relative to some of the same issues facing Kansas. This information is more readily available with his role on the ANCOR board. ANCOR is working to develop legislation that will pay providers that assist individuals served while they are in the hospital. In addition, a bill is being worked to establish career pathways and credentialing for direct support providers.

Mr. Russell would like to identify two or more individuals of the board to participate this year on the Personnel and Nominating Committees. If interested, please let Mr. Russell or Ms. Toft know.

7.0 Adjournment

Mr. Chaffin moved and Mrs. Scott Williams seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion passed.

Minutes approved via motion on February 25, 2020.

Mr. Robert Duncan, Secretary

Recorded by:
Shelly Toft

Handouts at the meeting: 2019 Strategic Plan Results
2020 InterHab Advocacy Campaign
Draft Senate Bill (not numbered) Re: HCBS Rates