



# *Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board*

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## **Minutes from Board Planning Meeting**

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Members Present: Tim Brady, Jose Camerino, Karen Huey, Robert Nelson, Mary Anne Sharkey-Dirk, Jennifer Riesbeck-Lee, Molly Tucker, Tommie Robertson, Francine Packard, Victoria White Kress, Kenneth Trivison, and Jan White.

Staff Present: Jim Rough, Bill Hegarty, Tracey Hosom

Guests Present: Henry Lustig, Glennon Karr, Cindy Webb, Susan Hanger, and Jane Hoyt-Oliver

### **A. General Discussion 2:00 – 3:00**

Ken Trivison, Chair, opened the meeting and everyone made introductions. The Purpose of the meeting is to discuss issues common to all three professional standards committees.

#### Similarities

- Same public protection mandate
- Majority of mental health professionals regulated in Ohio represented here
- Similar scopes of practice, similar foundations
- New consumer brochure helps explain similarities and differences
- When watching in therapy situation you cannot tell who is which license type

#### Differences

- Different education backgrounds
- Different licensing procedures
- Supervision oversight – MFT currently do not have a supervision credential while the social workers are just starting this credential.
- Some CE differences when approvals are made
- Education qualifications in the rules

#### E-therapy

- Proposed rule is still in work and draft has been sent out for comment.
- There are new rules for distance learning for CEUs and distance education is increasing in use by educational institutions.

1 year goals – further discussion needed

- Getting away from office for discussion is beneficial – a retreat similar to this at least once a year.
- Outside statutes affecting licensees – felony statutes, record keeping issues.
- Coaching
- Scopes of practice, Specificity/specialty areas – licensees decide scope of practice within training, experience and supervision.
- Should board delineate guidelines for specific scope of practice areas? Could associations help with defining?
- Distance learning will be reviewed again under the five-year rule review.

## **B. CE issues 3:00 – 4:00**

### Program Provider Status

- Shortening of renewal period
- After the fact information given
- Issue is provider providing appropriate training
- Public protection from Board member perspective
- Quality standards – content vs. availability
- Monitoring of practice of long term licensees
- Audit providers more often
- Responsibility of the licensee to demand quality CE
- For profit vs. not for profit status
- Using someone else's provider number problematic
- Licensees to assist in oversight
  - Newsletter article asking for input
  - Renewal letters address issue
  - Staff ethics presentations discuss issue
  - Licensees complain to provider if less than desirable
- Provider have statement at end of their comment sheet to contact board with issues
- Should we have a standard comment form or statement
- Responsibility of providers to offer quality programs
- Continued competence is an issue for the future
- Board member perspectives change as Board make-up changes
- Need for general guidelines
- Committees view differently – problems with definitions
- New techniques/modalities – need for more research
- Subjective vs. Objective discussions
- Medical issues do not fit within our CE rules
- Does the CE enhance the knowledge base/skill set?
- # of hours approved to be reviewed
- Cost of hours is market driven
- Evaluation needs statement about contacting Board for quality issues
- Licensee oversight (is it our job to take care of them?)
- Licensees are smart enough to decide what they want to do
- Create a blog for CE comments
- Provider definition being worked by CEU committee

- Standardization of evaluation form
- Agency providers need to understand CEUs and scopes of practice
- Agencies sometimes require licensee to take their offerings
- Need for guidelines on forms and applications
- Probation period for providers?
- Would opening wider content protect the public?
- Use of electives within the 30 hours of CEs required?
- CE repetitive for many longer term licensees
- Providers/Programs should meet standard requirements
  - Lesson Plan
  - Power Point
  - Pre-Post Test
  - Bibliography

### **C. Civil Service Exemption 4:00 – 5:00**

Jim Rough provided the following background. Three memos have been written on the subject and provided to the board members previous to this meeting. At this point I am only researching what agencies State/County/City would be affected by the civil service exemption. I am looking for any position descriptions that include the titles of board licensees without requiring licensure. The following information has been gathered to date.

- Politically we cannot move on this issue until we know how all of the players will respond. It is also an association issue to a great extent. The board is looking for information to understand which civil service agencies are using social workers, counselor and MFTs under those titles.
  - ODMH requires licensure for LISWs and PCs at their facilities that use the title.
  - County ADAMH Boards have no therapist/providers on staff and contract with non-profit agencies who only used licensed people.
  - City of Columbus only uses licensed people in all professional job titles. LISWs are included under social worker titles, health department titles, and drug and alcohol includes all board licensees.
  - Federal funding requirements are pushing national accreditation and increasing educational requirements.
  - Counties that have schools of social work have more social workers in the work force.
  - A rural county has advertised for a master's level person and had no applicants partly due to low remuneration.
  - PCSAO not supportive of any change at this time but is open to dialogue
  - I still need to talk to MRDD, DYS & ORDC also smaller cities and judicial system.
  - I still need to talk to the unions involved.
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- Review Jim's memos on this
  - Impact on supervisors – workforce issues
  - Urban vs. rural impacts
  - Services contracted out to non-profits
  - Job titles vs. job responsibilities
  - What is social work?
  - Original passage of law – concession made

- Best practice vs. political feasibility
- NASW involvement
- Child welfare vs. other civil service positions.
- Financial contraction of services result in delivery by non-licensed persons
- Union issues and grandfathering provisions
- Involvement of, and info from, colleges and universities
- Impact on consumers – ripple effect
- Practice without a license
- Need to identify # of licensed people in an exempt setting
- Federal monies
- Dialogue with the Board of Regents and other entities
- University classes inside of child welfare agencies
- Unlicensed people making major life decisions
- Vulnerable populace
- Contact Board of Regents
- The civil service exemption results in a great deal of services to Ohio's most vulnerable population by unlicensed practitioners. No one would accept unlicensed doctors or nurses, why do they accept this situation?

#### **D. Consumer Education 5:00 – 6:00**

- Consumer Pamphlets sent to colleges and universities
- Consumer Pamphlet available on line
- Budget issues with printing and mailing
- How to get information into hands of consumers
- Use of ADAMH Boards
- Specialist availability – listing on licensure website – access by zip code
- Partner with colleges and universities
- Partner with Mental Health of America/NAMI/Children & Family First/ United Way
- Informed Consent discussion – the existence of the Board
- Work with Client Rights advocates
- Use of Professional Disclosure Statement or do away with PDS
- Educate licensees about the Board
- Illiterate population
- County action lines
- Use of libraries
- ODMH website link-up as well as others
- Contact Board of Regents
- How do we engage licensees in this?
- Do we have a Consumer Bill of Rights?
- Can we work with media to get PSAs?

#### **E. Wrap-Up 6:00 to 7:00**

- Group dialogue extremely meaningful

- Need for this type of meeting to continue
- Can the Board advocate for itself? – political realities; outreach to potentially affected parties; be a part of the discussion. Abused children cannot advocate for themselves.

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**Board Chair**  
**Kenneth Trivison**