



## VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System

Nebraska Hospice Veterans Partnership

June 1, 2010 at 10-11:30 am Meeting Minutes

Pictel: Omaha-site 1, Lincoln-site 2, Grand Island- site 1

Direct Dial-In Number (402) 943-5467 (after 10 am)

**Chairperson:** Jennifer Eurek, Rick Missell

**Recorder:** Cindy Rosa

**Present:**

Omaha- Kathy Gast, Cynthia Longstreet, Carol Madsen, Diane Randolph, Joni Vallier, Shane Van Dorin

Lincoln- Renee Pickerel, Tracy Rathe, LaDonna VanEngen

Grand Island- Janelle Brock, Lonnie Logan, Brenda Schmid, Diana Wing, Theresa Wood, Sue Boyd

**Phone:** Howard Googins, Aloha Schmid, Kathleen Hanline, Marty Carlson

**Presenter:** Chris Heaney

Topic	Discussion	Decision	Vote/ Consensus	Recommendations/Actions	Responsible Person
Approval of the Minutes	No corrections were noted on the previous minutes.	Agreed	All agreed	Post the minutes	Jennifer Eurek
Educational presentation on "Primary Care and Mental Health Integration- Psychology's Role"	<p>Jennifer Eurek introduced Dr. Chris Heaney and thanked him for being with us today. Dr. Heaney, Omaha VA Home Based Primary Care Psychologist, began his presentation by thanking our group for allowing him to be allowed to present at our meeting. He requested that none of the slides presented today be posted on the internet. Dr. Heaney presented information on how mental health can be integrated into the primary health care team in an effective manner. He stated many key reasons why/how mental health should be part of the health care team, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated mental health ultimately <i>increases patient satisfaction</i></li> <li>• Mental health professionals should be <i>visible and introduced as a member of the team to reduce the negative stigma</i> that may be associated with mental health</li> <li>• One small behavioral intervention can <i>improve numerous medical symptoms, ultimately reducing medical costs</i></li> <li>• Much of what patients need is the <i>right kind of mental health education</i></li> <li>• Only _ of patients with diagnosable mental health disorders receive treatment</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A	None-informational	Dr. Heaney

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical health and mental health are <i>equally important in treating the whole person</i></li> <li>Behavioral interventions <i>significantly reduce the number of primary care appointments</i>, reducing cost and increasing provider time with other patients</li> <li>Providers often <i>treat the symptoms of mental health disorders</i> but not the cause</li> </ul> <p>Dr. Heaney received several questions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(Question) When is it appropriate to ask for help from a mental health professional? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(Answer) When staff or family observe significant changes in mood or behavior, patient seems depressed, patient reports problems with sleep, family requests interventions, etc.; mental health provider may be necessary when patient receives new diagnosis</li> </ul> </li> <li>(Question) Are there any tools that we can use to send up warning flags in the primary care setting? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(Answer) Not that he is aware of. However, he suggests calling your mental health staff member if you have any questions or concerns before, during, or after talking with a patient.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>More information on how to integrate mental health is available at the primary care mental health integration website: <a href="http://vaww4.va.gov/pcmhi">http://vaww4.va.gov/pcmhi</a>. Jennifer Eureka and Rick Missell thanked Dr. Heaney for his time.</p>				
<b>Subcommittee Reports</b>	<p><b>Education Subcommittee:</b> Shane Van Dorin briefed that Amy Rosauer had sent a letter requesting case studies and potential speakers be suggested to the subcommittee for consideration. Shane reported that team decided on a 1 1/2 hour panel presentation on a particular case study and 1 1/2 hour presentation on dementia. Next meeting will be on June 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 pm.</p> <p><b>Marketing Subcommittee:</b> Renee PickereI briefed that the committee is in the process of ordering new brochures. Additionally, Tracy Rathe stated that Kathy Gast will be recording 15- and 30-second public service announcements next week.</p>	Agreed	All agreed	Continue working on subcommittee tasks.	Shane Van Dorin Renee PickereI Cynthia Longstreet

	<b>Coordination of Care Subcommittee:</b> Cynthia Longstreet briefed that there is nothing new to report due to committee members not being a part of the last meeting. Next meeting is scheduled for June 10 <sup>th</sup> .				
<b>VA Updates</b>	<b>Updates:</b> Rick stated that Amy Rosauer accepted the position of the medical foster home program coordinator and will be back to work on Jun 23 <sup>rd</sup> . Also, the new Omaha HPC nurse practitioner should begin work around July 19 <sup>th</sup> and the coordinator position will be advertised shortly.	N/A	N/A	None-informational	Rick Missell
<b>Palliative Care Conference</b>	Shane Van Dorin briefed the key points from the conference that applied to this forum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training: EPEC training may become available in LMS; ELNEC training tentatively scheduled for August 2010-each VA site can send 8 people</li> <li>• Strengthening Community Hospice Partnerships: Teams should work on building strong ties with community agencies</li> <li>• Evidence shows that HPC makes the most difference to patients with dementia and cancer</li> <li>• Conference proved to be a great opportunity to network with other facilities and share information</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A	None-informational	Shane Van Dorin
<b>Lapel Pins</b>	Jennifer Eurek asked how the organizations felt about the lapel pins and if they may need more. Feedback given by Kathy Gast was that they are giving them out but would like a script written to help formalize the process.	Agreed	All agreed	Produce a script that can be used when presenting the lapel pin to veterans to help formalize the procedure.  Send lapel pins to Omaha Select.	Marketing Committee  Cindy Rosa
<b>Future Meetings</b>	Next meeting is August 3, 2010 from 10-11:30. The educational topic will be on spirituality and Lonnie Logan will be the presenter. Reminder that the meetings have been moved to the first Tuesday of the month. Please send in suggestions for future educational topics. Kathy Gast suggested that VA 101 be presented.	Agreed	All agreed	VA 101 should be a topic for future meetings.	Jennifer Eurek Rick Missell
<b>Adjourn</b>					