

Oklahoma 2-1-1 Advisory Collaborative
Meeting Highlights
April 27, 2005
United Way of Central Oklahoma

In attendance: Brook Borden, Pam Cross, Toni Frioux, Nita Holstine, Mary Howell, John Hudgens, Jim Lyall, Madalyn McCollom, Pam Shepherd, D.J. Thompson, and Steve Wilt.

Jim Lyall called the meeting to order and asked for introductions and announcements. Pam Cross announced that the Oklahoma City-County Health Department is conducting a MIPP exercise on Friday at 11:45 am at the Centennial Building of the state fairgrounds. The Massive Immunization Prophylaxis Plan is a rehearsal in preparation for a three-day National Stockpile exercise in July. Pam said that HeartLine is preparing to be the emergency phone bank in case of an event even before 2-1-1 is implemented.

Madalyn announced that registrations are still being accepted for the Oklahoma State Conference on Aging at the Reed Center next week.

Jim asked for corrections or additions to the minutes. There were none and Madalyn moved approval of the minutes. Toni seconded and the minutes were approved.

Jim gave a legislative update. The bill that Rep. Lindley introduced passed one subcommittee and then became dormant. Rep. Ron Peters has helped keep a funding possibility alive with the hope of getting a \$1.1 million appropriation. Jim asked for additional support from Oklahoma City area folks to balance the strong Tulsa support. There is a lot of support at the state capitol for 2-1-1 but the question is if the money is there. No state agency wants to give up some of their budget.

At this time, the funding would be attached to DHS but the specific division within DHS is unknown. Jim feels hopeful and he has asked the Texas Secretary of Human Services to send a letter of support and address the cost benefits and service analysis from Texas.

Toni reported that the first 2-1-1 application has been received and has been reviewed by the formal committee, which includes Madalyn McCollom, Mary Howell, Kelley Riha, Toni Frioux, Shelley Ricker, Debra Price, Steve Willoughby, Kelly McNeel and Kay Seymour. The application has been accepted pending clarification of some issues and a site visit will take place April 29. Final determination and a recommendation will be brought to the collaborative at the May meeting.

John asked how the committee was selected. Toni said they expanded beyond the original volunteers to increase expertise around the table and to prepare enough committee members in case more than one application needed to be processed within the same time frame. The biggest challenge was delineating the committee's required timeline.

Pam Cross reported on information gathered recently at the American Association of Suicidology conference in Denver regarding crisis centers that provide 2-1-1 services. She stressed the importance of the collaborative ensuring that 2-1-1 providers handle crisis calls and suicidal callers appropriately. This would include policies and procedures, as well as quality training. Pam shared some preliminary results from two studies of crisis centers handling of calls

to a national toll-free suicide prevention line. Some strong recommendations resulted regarding adequate lethality assessment and follow up with these callers. She provided some handouts.

Mark Reynolds was not present to report about JOIN. Mary reported from the last JOIN meeting that JOIN is looking at providing the 2-1-1 centers with compatible software and looking at the varying capacities among the current I&Rs in the state. Jim asked for more 2-1-1 representation on the JOIN Planning and Coordination Committee. Madalyn believes this will be helpful to increase their understanding of I&R.

Pam Shepherd reported that 16 people attended the AIRSO conference and 16 took the CIRS exam, with more taking the aging test. Carrie presented on 2-1-1 at the conference and answered all their questions. The conference also included presentations on COPE, child abuse, and workplace yoga. Lillie Land gave a cram session to help prepare for the exam. Senator Tom Adelson spoke on the condition of health care in Oklahoma. Judy Leitner spoke on aging services and Richard Cook shared information about JOIN. It was decided to have two conferences per year rather than one. The fall conference will be in Oklahoma City and membership will consider revisions of the bylaws and election of officers.

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

(Pam Cross for)

Helene Schwartz

Secretary, Oklahoma 2-1-1 Advisory Collaborative