

Members

Sen. Connie Lawson, Chairperson  
Sen. Vi Simpson  
Rep. Charlie Brown  
Rep. Cindy Noe  
Loretta Kroin  
Kathleen O'Connell  
Chuck Clark  
Stacy Ryan  
Margie Payne  
Ronda Ames  
Valerie N. Markley  
Bryan Lett  
Caroline Doebbling  
Kurt Carlson  
Chris Taelman  
Jane Horn  
Abigail P. Flynn



# COMMISSION ON MENTAL HEALTH

Legislative Services Agency  
200 West Washington Street, Suite 301  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2789  
Tel: (317) 233-0696 Fax: (317) 232-2554

LSA Staff:

Susan Kennell, Attorney for the Commission  
Sarah Brooks, Fiscal Analyst for the Commission

Authority: IC 12-21-6.5

## MEETING MINUTES<sup>1</sup>

Meeting Date: July 24, 2007  
Meeting Time: 1:30 P.M.  
Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington St., Room 233  
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana  
Meeting Number: 1

**Members Present:** Sen. Connie Lawson, Chairperson; Rep. Charlie Brown; Loretta Kroin; Kathleen O'Connell; Chuck Clark; Stacy Ryan; Margie Payne; Ronda Ames; Valerie N. Markley; Bryan Lett; Caroline Doebbling; Kurt Carlson; Chris Taelman; Jane Horn; Abigail P. Flynn.

**Members Absent:** Sen. Vi Simpson; Rep. Cindy Noe.

**I. Call to order:** Senator Connie Lawson, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 1:35 P.M. She asked the members to introduce themselves and commended the members for their active participation on the Commission. Senator Lawson reported to the Commission that two bills that were recommended

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<sup>1</sup> Exhibits and other materials referenced in these minutes can be inspected and copied in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, 200 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for copies. These minutes are also available on the Internet at the General Assembly homepage. The URL address of the General Assembly homepage is <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>. No fee is charged for viewing, downloading, or printing minutes from the Internet.

by the Commission last year passed in 2007. The first, HEA 1338, concerned medical and mental health records following incarcerated individuals. The second, HEA 1339, concerned self incrimination of juveniles when talking with mental health professionals. She commended the Commission on the Commission's work last summer and said that the two bills will make a huge difference.

The Chairperson indicated that the plan for making changes to the state's mental health delivery system (Transformation Plan), which is a result of the President's New Freedom Commission report, will be considered in various parts this summer by the Commission.

**II. Mental Health Initiatives: Ms. Cathy Boggs, Director, Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA), Division of Mental Health and Addiction**

**(Division)**, discussed the initiatives the Division undertook during the last year. (Exhibit 1) Ms. Boggs discussed the four strategic initiatives and the four transformation workgroups listed in Exhibit 1. Ms. Boggs provided the members with a study done with Indiana University concerning consumption of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs in the state. (Exhibit 2) (This study may be found on line at the following address: <http://www.in.gov/fssa/mental/spfsig/profile.html>)

Ms. Boggs called special attention to pages 2 through 6 of the report where prevention priorities are detailed. Ms. Boggs discussed incentive grants for prevention of alcohol, cocaine, and methamphetamine abuse. She provided the members with a map showing where grants for prevention programs have been made. (Exhibit 3)

Ms. Boggs reported that the previous Friday - July 20 - the plan for contracting for the administration of Richmond State Hospital was put on hold when objections were raised by the Budget Agency. She will update the Commission on future developments concerning Richmond State Hospital. Ms. Boggs also shared a guide for mental health intervention in disaster situations. (Exhibit 4) The guide provides a basic outline for the type of mental health services needed in disaster situations. The guide was developed in the aftermath of the shootings at Virginia Tech and in anticipation of a pandemic flu situation as well as other disaster situations. Ms. Boggs reported that in January an RFP was sent out for the rebuilding of LaRue Carter Hospital. The plan is for the new facility to provide for hospital care and research. The Division is looking at property on Stadium Drive and talking with Indiana University about the research component of the new facility.

Ms. Boggs further reported that a new unit with 21 forensic beds was opened at Logansport State Hospital, and a fifth unit will be opened as soon as there is staff available. Logansport is taking individuals who have been waiting in jails for psychiatric placement. Further, the Division has been working with universities developing internship programs. For example, they have pharmacy internships for Butler students. Ms. Boggs reported that the Division is preparing for the Joint Commission on Hospital Accreditation for all state hospitals this year.

In response to questions from Representative Brown, Ms. Boggs reported that the Division is working on plans to integrate mental health care with the provision of primary health care.

**III. Mental Health and Addiction and Other State Agencies: Mr. Willard Mays, Deputy Director, FSSA, Division of Mental Health and Addiction,** provided the members with information concerning mental health and addiction related expenditures in other state agencies. (Exhibit 5) There was concern expressed about the expenditures of the Department of Education concerning residential services. The Department of Education spent in excess of \$19 million last year for services for 400 students. The Commission asked for further information on this issue.

**IV. Transformation Plan: Mr. Stephen McCaffrey, President, Mental Health America of Indiana,** discussed the Transformation Plan. (Exhibit 6) In his presentation, Mr. McCaffrey suggested that the Commission consider the following topics related to the Transformation Plan:

- (1) public health;
- (2) forensics; and
- (3) early identification.

During Mr. McCaffrey's presentation, Representative Brown indicated that he thinks the Commission needs to discuss issues surrounding the Quality Assurance Committee and the Drug Utilization Review Board. Additionally, Rep. Brown thinks the Commission should discuss progress with crisis intervention programs.

**V. Consumer Services Reviews: Ms. Gina Eckart, Assistant Director, FSSA, Division of Mental Health and Addictions,** provided the Commission with information on data from consumer service reviews. (Exhibit 7)

**IV. Other Business:** The chairperson announced that there will be the following four additional meetings:

- August 14
- September 11
- October 9
- October 30 (if needed)

All meetings will be at 1:30 P.M. in the Senate Chambers.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 4:05 P.M.

Mr. Mays provided additional information on Prenatal Substance Use Prevention program at the Commission's request. (Exhibit 8)