



**Story County's Three Year Strategic Plan for
MH/DD Services**

Progress Report

**Presented to the Story County Board of
Supervisors on January 15, 2013**

**First Half of Fiscal Year 2012-13
(July 2012 – December 2012)**

I. Appeals and Contracts

Number of appeals filed: 3 and all were resolved at the reconsideration stage
Number of service provider contracts: 65

II. Goal Progress

Goal 1:

The Story County Managed Care Team will continuously, throughout the duration of the plan, evaluate the service delivery system for methods and opportunities to stabilize and maximize funding for plan-covered services.

Objective: The fluctuation of state funding has impacted the availability and accessibility of services, specifically those services that are considered to be discretionary and non-mandated. The Story County Managed Care Team will find ways to ensure that the maximum number of covered persons receive service in a timely and effective manner.

Action steps:

1. Annually, throughout the plan duration, the Story County Managed Care Team or its agents will help sponsor a minimum of three advocacy activities to educate consumers, families, funders, and legislators on the need for adequate funding for MH/DD services.

Progress:

Story County staff attended Board of Supervisor meetings to discuss changes in services and the implementation of a waiting list as a result of the impacts of Senate File 2315.

Other activities included:

July 18, 2012—Community Life Program staff participated in a conference call with DHS Director Palmer to discuss impact of Redesign on non-Medicaid services.

August 13, 2012 – Community Services staff was invited to present on MH/DS Redesign at Ames Noon Rotary.

September 11, 2012—Community Life Program staff presented information to the Legislative interim committee on behalf of community providers who have been impacted by the MH Redesign.

September 18, 2012 – Story County Supervisors and staff met with DHS Director Chuck Palmer and DHS MH/DS Division Director Rick Shults to discuss how Story County is managing the funding and regional changes related to Senate File 2315. Community Life Program also hosted a meeting with RCF providers with Palmer and Shults regarding these changes.

October 12, 2012—Story County Board of Supervisor Paul Toot, HR Director Alissa Wignall, and SCCLP Director provided educational session to SCCLP staff to address the impact of SF 2315.

October 2012 – Story County agreed to host a Community Conversations meeting on MH/DS Redesign presented by ID Action. The meeting will be held on January 3rd.

November 15, 2012 – Story County staff hosted a meeting with local MH/DS providers to discuss transition funding and regionalization.

November 27, 2012 – Community Services staff attended the Story County Quality of Life Alliance meeting and shared information about MH/DS Redesign.

December 4, 2012—SCCLP Coil Leadership class met with Board of Supervisors to gain an understanding of local government so that they may better advocate for continued access to services.

2. Story County MH/DD staff will evaluate current service authorizations and utilization on a semi-annually basis to ensure that appropriate services and units are in place for consumers. Services and units being under-utilized or not utilized at all will be re-allocated to potential consumers who may be on the waiting list for services.

Progress: The evaluation process continues to be incorporated into the work of the Community Services and Community Life Program staff as they review and develop quarterly and annual consumer reports and service plans.

3. By June 30, 2011, three consumers will be assisted in moving from institutional care to community-based services by accessing funding sources such as Money Follows the Person.

Progress: During the reporting period, there was one individual who moved from Woodward Resource Center to an ID Waiver home in Ames.

Goal 2:

The Story County Managed Care Team will continue supporting a service system that addresses the needs of consumers with mental health, substance abuse, and corrections issues.

Objective: External funding sources will be researched to ensure the continuation of the Story County Mental Health Jail Diversion program. Also, the Story County Managed Care Team will continue to support collaboration between providers of mental health, substance abuse, corrections, and law enforcement to address the needs of persons involved in these systems.

Action steps:

1. Continuously throughout the plan duration, identify and share education regarding best practice for this service area.

Progress: Community Life Program staff participated throughout the reporting period in training provided through ACORN which addressed the ability of providers to be co-occurring capable. Additionally, SCCLP staff participated in numerous Jail Diversion provider meetings to share information. Information about Jail Diversion programs was compiled and forwarded to the DHS for use in the MH Redesign.

2. The Mental Health/Criminal Justice Task Force will meet a minimum of once per quarter for the plan duration to continue to address the needs of persons who have disabilities and have substance use and/or law enforcement issues.

Progress: The Mental Health/Criminal Justice Task Force met in August and November. Updates were provided on MH/DS Redesign and at the November meeting, Luke Jensen from Story County Veterans Affairs presented information on the Operation Warrior program and other changes in VA services.

3. Continuously throughout the plan duration, to partner with groups who are seeking or utilizing grant funds or other new monies for support of this service area.

Progress: Story County applied for MH/DS Transition funds in order to restore services and address the waiting list. DHS announced its recommendations in early December to only fund 3 counties at the amount of \$1.4 million. Story County is not one of the 3 counties. The legislature will be addressing this further during next session.

4. By February 2010, funding will be secured to continue the Story County Mental Health Jail Diversion program.

Progress: In an effort to preserve the program, the Story County Board of Supervisors in consultation with Community Life Program and the Sheriff's Office, agreed to transfer Jail Diversion to the Story County Sheriff's Office. General fund dollars will help support the program as well as remaining funds from the REACH program that will specifically be used towards the educational/counseling aspect of Jail Diversion.

Goal 3:

The Story County Managed Care Team will continue to work with providers and businesses throughout the county to educate, promote, and support community employment for persons with all disabilities.

Objective: Outreach between providers and businesses will occur to form partnerships that will enable persons with disabilities to gainfully engage in community employment.

Action step:

1. Throughout the duration of the plan, opportunities to educate, promote, and support supported employment services will be provided by the Managed Care Team or their agents. These opportunities will be offered to businesses, families, persons with disabilities, educators, providers, and planners of services at a minimum of three times per year.

Progress: During the reporting period, Community Life Program made 12 employer contacts and initiated numerous meetings to provide community education. They included, Employment First meetings that featured HR representatives from 3 businesses in the Ames community, Transition Advisory Committee, and hosting of a Chamber of Commerce breakfast event.

Community Life Program had a technical assistance visit from Ellen Cogden from Washington State who offered insight and advice to the agency's supported employment program staff regarding creating new placements in our community.

Community Life Program was one of 4 recipients of an Employment 1st grant. This grant focuses on finding employment for persons who had been previously identified as difficult to place or maintain meaningful work. It is also providing information to funders about what the real costs associated with finding employment for persons with disabilities.