

MEMBERS PRESENT

Springfield Location:

Michele Carmichael	Alan Dietrich	David Elder	Seth Harkins
Andrea Medley	Dee Ann Ryan	Gary Seelbach	Brooke Whitted

Chicago Location: (attending by Video conference)

Toni Hoy	Jason Johnson	Jane Kelly
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By teleconference:

Kathy Briseno

MEMBERS ABSENT

Bob Bloom	Linda Chapa La Via	William Delgado	Susan Fonfa
Merlin Lehman	Randy Staton	Julie Stremlau	

STAFF PRESENT

Springfield Location:

Mindy Miller	Lynn Lowder	Linda Prewitt	John Schornagel
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Chicago Location: (attending by Video conference)

Robert Watts

By teleconference:

Linda Prewitt

LIAISONS PRESENT

None

GUESTS

Springfield Location:

Ms. Tana Elder

Chicago Location: (attending by Video conference)

Ms. Laura Paul, OAG

By teleconference:

Dr. Renee Mehlinger, DHS/DMH

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Harkins called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Members and staff in attendance introduced themselves. Chairperson Harkins welcomed Laura Paul to her first meeting of the Authority.

II. APPROVAL OF AUTHORITY MINUTES

- **AUGUST 15, 2013**

The Authority reviewed the minutes of the August 15, 2013 Authority meeting.

MOTION: Gary Seelbach moved and Brooke Whitted seconded that the minutes of the August 15, 2013 Authority meeting be approved as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

- **DECEMBER 12, 2013**

The Authority reviewed the minutes of the December 12, 2013 Authority meeting.

MOTION: Dee Ann Ryan moved and Brooke Whitted seconded that the minutes of the December 12, 2013 Authority meeting be approved as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

III. STAFF REPORT

Director Schornagel referenced the following informational handouts:

- **Staff Activity Reports** for December 2013, January and February of 2014. During these three months, those cases at Staff review have been successfully resolved without the need for direct Dispute Resolution involvement by the Board.
- Update on **Affordable Care Act implementation as well as implementation of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008**, including four pages that apply specifically to Illinois.
- A **letter** written by Merlin Lehman to **U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, Kathleen Sibelius** pertaining to CMS recommendations which restrict medications to people with disabilities. He copied CMS, The Illinois ARC, the Illinois Council on DD and the CRSA.
- An **excerpt and graph from the State Superintendent's "Weekly ISBE News" on January 21, 2014** pertaining to ISBE Room and Board claims and reimbursement for the 2012-13 and 2013-14 school years. Director Schornagel commented that the information in this publication represents an abrupt shift in a stable, two decade long pattern of ISBE reimbursement to LEAs for residential room and board costs. He added that this document is also an interesting add-on to the CRSA Population Survey report later in this morning's agenda under Old Business.
- **CRSA Ad Hoc Committees Listing** has been updated to reflect current Committee membership. Director Schornagel urged members who wish to volunteer to participate on a Committee or who wish to be removed from a Committee to please contact Chairperson Harkins.

Director Schornagel informed the Authority about several recent changes in State agency leadership. In *January*, Candice Jones was appointed to head the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ) and in early March, Ms. Bobbie Gregg was appointed as the interim Director of DCFS for 60 days.

Director Schornagel commented on the **2014 Ethics Training** documents sent electronically to Authority members last week. It contains a 41 page document that needs to be reviewed. The Acknowledgement of Participation certificate then needs to be signed (page 41) and mailed or faxed to the CRSA Office. He thanked those members who have already completed this training.

Director Schornagel commented on an **ACMHAI Position Paper supporting an Illinois 1915(i) State Plan Amendment to Improve Children’s Family and Community-based Mental Health Systems** provided by Dee Ann Ryan. He commented that this is a very interesting document that addresses some of the barriers that impede the development and availability of intensive community-based services so often needed by CRSA kids and their families. He agreed to send an electronic copy of this document to the entire Authority following today’s meeting. Dee Ann Ryan encouraged members who have comment or recommendation to send them to HFS Director, Julie Hamos.

IV. CRSA FY 15 SPENDING PLAN

The Authority reviewed the CRSA FY 15 Proposed Spending Plan and a document comparing the CRSA line-by-line expenditures for FY 13, FY 14 and FY 15 budgets. Director Schornagel reminded the Authority that it approved an FY 15 overall budget amount of \$592,300.00 last fall and that it is now time to adopt a formal spending plan for FY 15. Jane Kelly inquired about the space allocation line item noting that DCFS has provided space and has covered related office expenses for a CRSA Regional Coordinator in it’s Joliet regional office building for nearly three decades and has not asked the CRSA for any reimbursement. Staff clarified that the space allocation line item covers the leased space that CRSA uses for its office suite at the Alzina Building in Springfield. Director Schornagel affirmed that DCFS has provided gratis office space and supports for CRSA staff in Joliet and also for another CRSA field worker who utilized office space at the Marion Regional DCFS office for several years. He commented that CRSA has offered to pay for those accommodations over the years but that DCFS has declined any reimbursement. Director Schornagel expressed gratitude to DCFS in-kind contributions to the Authority which have helped to lower agency operation costs over the years.

MOTION: *Brooke Whitted moved and Gary Seelbach seconded that the Authority adopt the Proposed CRSA FY 15 Spending Plan. The motion carried unanimously.*

V. AGENCY REPORTS

Dr. Renee Mehlinger of DHS/DMH presented highlights emerging from the ICG Transformation process including; crafting and articulating a new vision for a revised ICG program; incorporating CFT like service planning teams into the ICG process; re-conceptualizing, modernizing and updating the ICG eligibility criteria; incorporating a 90-day emergency ICG grant pathway to help stabilize kids and families in a “lock-out” crisis; development of a specialized CANs instrument and the blending of private and public funding to better serve ICG recipients. Dr. Mehlinger then provided a brief overview of the ICG Transformation Workgroups: Rule Revision, Levels of Care, Outreach and Training and Finance; all of which have finalized their activities and have submitted recommendations to DMH in recent weeks. Those recommendations are now being reviewed within DMH which will eventually culminate in the draft re-write of Rule 135 that will be put before JCAR (Joint Committee on Administrative Rules) for consideration. Dr. Mehlinger informed that Authority that Dr. John Lyons was invited to participate in the ICG Transformation process to conduct a data review and analysis of 33 ICG cases and to consult with Workgroup stakeholders on the implications from the data analysis. She shared some of his conclusions and comments with the Authority. Dr. Mehlinger added that DMH hopes to generate a preliminary report by the end of March. She concluded that the expansion and availability of intensive, community-based mental health services has been a critically important component in the discussion about transforming the ICG program and has fueled discussion about a concomitant revision of Rule 132 to achieve integration between community-based and residential supports to ICG recipients.

Open discussion ensued. Director Schornagel complimented DMH’s efficiency in assembling such a broad group of stakeholders, facilitating workgroup discussions and completing this phase of the transformation

process on schedule. Brooke Whitted encouraged DMH to consider the use of locked facilities in Illinois to meet the needs of runaways and to consider the Parks V. Pavkovic settlement as DMH processes the recommendations made by the ICG transformation workgroups. Gary Seelbach observed that data from the CRSA Population Surveys done for FY 04 and FY10 as well as data from other sources including more recent annual reports from the ICG program, demonstrate a clear pattern of children with intensive mental health needs and serious emotional disturbances being served less often through the ICG program and becoming more reliant on services from other state agencies. Dr. Mehlinger responded that DHS has recognized the need for Illinois state agencies to work more collaboratively with one another and that this has fueled renewed discussion about the needs for Interagency Agreements between DHS, DCFS, HFS and ISBE to impact the ICG population. She also reiterated DMH's focus on the expansion and availability of intensive, community-based mental health services for ICG recipients. Brooke Whitted commented that DCFS is increasingly being pressured to become responsible for services to children and families who rely on Lock-out and Involuntary Custody Relinquishment to get their mental health treatment needs met, largely because the mental health services that they require are not being addressed by DMH. Dr. Mehlinger responded again by mentioning the proposed 90-day emergency ICG grant pathway to help stabilize kids and families in a lock-out crisis. Jane Kelly commented on DCFS becoming intentionally less reliant on out-of-state residential placements over the last 20 years and DCFS encouraging the development of clinically competent treatment options within Illinois. Gary Seelbach echoed that trend observing the sharp decrease in reliance on out-of state providers by DCFS beginning in the mid-90s and continuing to date. Jane Kelly also commented that DCFS' Clinical Division looks at children with high end clinical needs through a "trauma" lens and applauds DMHs' consideration of routinely using the revised CANs instrument. Dee Ann Ryan commented that she participated on several of the transformation Workgroups and brought up a question that had been processed by the Workgroups in which she participated; who would ultimately make the decision about whether and when to use residential treatment for ICG recipients, community teams and parents or DMH? Dr. Mehlinger commented that discussion favored the team approach to decision making and that favored building in an appeals process through which ICG recipients could challenge the clinical appropriateness of decisions made about the use of residential treatment for either step-up or step down populations. Director Schornagel commented that he participated on the Rule Revision Workgroup and that a consistent concern among the Workgroup participants was that the espoused future expansion and availability of intensive, community-based mental health services needed to not only exist in theory, by intent, or in print, but needed to actualized and become routinely available in Illinois communities. He added that it would be unfair and unacceptable for critically important ICG treatment decisions to be based upon the use or availability of mythical pieces of community-based mental health infrastructure. Brooke Whitted commented that in his nearly four decades as an active participant in the Illinois service system he has heard many similar pronouncements of mental service expansion. He added that he is reluctant to buy-into such pronouncements now because few have actually materialized in the past. Chairperson Harkins remarked that we are still at the front-end of this transformation journey and thanked Dr. Mehlinger for taking the time to speak with the Authority twice this year regarding the ICG transformation process.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Appointment of a Staff Evaluation Committee

Chairperson Harkins informed the Authority that he has appointed a Staff Evaluation Committee to complete the Annual Performance Appraisal of Director Schornagel. Members include himself as Chairperson, Bob Bloom, Kathy Briseno, Alan Dietrich and Gary Seelbach. He shared that the Staff Evaluation Committee conducted an interview with Director Schornagel recently in conformance with the recommended performance evaluation process and added that the Committee will shortly complete the written portion of the performance appraisal process and make recommendations to the Authority by the June Authority meeting.

B. CRSA Future Direction

Chairperson Harkins reported to the Authority that the Executive Committee discussed the CRSA's future direction and related activities at the March Committee meeting and that the Committee concluded that it seemed prudent to wait to discuss changes to the Authority's Statute, Mission, Vision, and service activities until after the Authority has a clearer picture of where the state service system is heading. He informed the Authority that the Executive Committee has recommended that the Authority schedule a CRSA Strategic Planning Conference in the summer or early fall of FY 15. The Committee further recommended that the conference be held as a face-to-face event and that staff begin the process of selecting a time that is most advantageous to maximizing board and staff participation, exploring a venue and seeking out a facilitator for the event. There were no objections from the Authority regarding these recommendations. Director Schornagel informed the Authority that staff would begin arranging for a CRSA Strategic Planning Conference by polling Authority members and staff about availability for various conference dates and would report back to the Authority at the April Authority meeting.

C. CRSA Population Surveys

The Authority reviewed documents containing data collected from CRSA member agencies for fiscal years 2004 and 2010. Director Schornagel briefly overviewed the history and intent of CRSA population surveys. He urged the Authority to compare and contrast the FY 04 and FY 10 Survey results but cautioned that both the population data and the related cost data are *approximations*, and are both subject to some collection and reporting errors. In following, he urged the readers to view the data as they were intended: as snapshots in time of the number of Illinois kids in residential treatment and the approximate related costs across the state systems during those years with the intents to look for overall residential placement and funding trends. Director Schornagel urged members to draw their own conclusions as they compare and contrast the data.

Director Schornagel shared with the Authority a few of the observations he made after reviewing the data. He observed that the overall number of kids with severe emotional disturbances/behavior disorders (SED/BD) in publically funded residential treatment centers appeared to be stable over both sample years: 2,811 kids in FY 04 and growing only by about 2 % in to 2,866 kids in FY 10. He also commented on observed differences within individual agencies over the seven years of the sample noting clearly observable shifts among member agencies. He noted a nearly 25% increase in the number of kids placed into residential treatment by public school districts, an 8% increase of kids in the number of kids placed into residential treatment by DCFS, a 25% decrease in the number of kids placed into residential treatment by DHS/DMH, an 8% decrease in the number of kids placed into residential treatment by DHS/DDD and a 17% decrease in the number of kids placed into residential treatment through juvenile corrections over those seven years. He added that when he looked at the combined room and board costs by the Public Schools, DCFS, DHS/DMH and DHS/DDD for residential placements over the seven years of the samples, that the costs rose by slightly more than 12% increasing from approximately \$216 million for residential room and board for SED/MI kids in residential treatment in FY 04 to approximately \$246.2 million during FY 10. He then commented on the observed room and board cost differences within those individual agencies of the seven years of the samples, again noting clearly observable shifts among member agencies. He noted 46.6 % increase in room and board costs paid by public schools, a 13.5 % increase in room and board costs paid by DCFS, 4.6 % increase in room and board costs paid by DHS/DMH and a 13.8 % decrease in room and board costs paid by DHS/DDD. Director Schornagel concluded that the data sets when viewed as a whole show that the responsibility and costs for residentially treating Illinois children are shifting to those state agencies which are heavily subsidized by federal funds to underwrite the costs residential treatment. He noted that this conclusion is supported by more recently

published placement and cost data seen in DHS/DMH Annual Reports and by recently published public school district residential placement and cost data and by the lawsuits that are pressuring HFS to eventually become a significant residential funding silo for Illinois kids who require residential treatment.

Director Schornagel thanked Robert Watts from CRSA for his work on collecting the data during both years sampled and thanked CRSA member agencies for their outgoing efforts to provide the data for the Authority to review over the years.

D. ISBE/DHS Interagency Agreement

The Authority reviewed several documents pertaining to the Interagency Agreement between ISBE and DHS, mandated by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Those documents include the most recently published IDEA requirements for interagency coordination and the current interagency agreement between ISBE and DHS intended to implement those requirements. Director Schornagel urged members to compare the documents and to draw their own conclusions.

Authority members discussed the status of CRSA's FY 15 appropriation request. Director Schornagel updated the Authority that CRSA's appropriation request for FY 15 is being considered by the legislature and the Governor's Office and that he was asked to gauge the impact of a 15% cut in that appropriation level. He and ISBE staff wrote a one page response which in essence indicated that 15 % cut would inevitably lead to a layoff of one of the full time CRSA Regional Coordinators. Michele Carmichael stressed the importance of responding to such requests in specific impact terms and commented that in this action would lead to a CRSA serving approximately 85 fewer children and families in FY15.

E. Other

None

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Nomination of an Ad Hoc Nominating Committee

Chairperson Harkins informed the Authority that he intends to appoint a Nominating Committee in the coming weeks which will recommend a slate of CRSA Officers for FY 15, in advance of the Selection Officers scheduled to take place at the June Authority meeting. Alan Dietrich, Dee Ann Ryan, Gary Seelbach and Brooke Whitted volunteered to participate on the Committee. Chairperson Harkins thanked those volunteers and asked staff to set up a conference call for the Nominating Committee.

B. Other

None

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Ad Hoc External Communications Committee

Chairperson Harkins advised the Authority that the Ad Hoc External Communications Committee met recently to review a draft of the CRSA FY 12 Annual Report. He informed the Authority the External Communications Committee suggested numerous amendments to the draft Annual Report and recommended that the revised draft of the FY 12 Annual Report be put before both the Executive Committee and the Authority for review, comments and possible adoption at the March Authority meeting. He added that the Executive Committee reviewed the revised draft of the FY 12 Annual Report and recommended that it be put before the Authority for review, comments and possible adoption.

The Authority reviewed the revised draft of the CRSA FY 12 Annual Report.

MOTION: *David Elder moved and Gary Seelbach seconded that the Authority adopt the revised draft of the CRSA FY 12 Annual Report and authorize staff to publish the document. The motion carried unanimously.*

External Communications Committee Co-Chairperson Kathleen Briseno informed the Authority the External Communication Committee intends to convene later this month to review and comment upon the draft CRSA FY 13 Annual Report among other agenda items.

B. Executive Committee

Chairperson Harkins informed the Authority that many of the items discussed in Executive Committee have been covered in earlier agenda items with the following exceptions.

Chairperson Harkins informed the Authority the Executive Committee discussed recent contacts between the press and Authority members, as well as, CRSA staff seeking information and perspective pertaining to the children's service system in Illinois. The Committee recognized that the issue of development a CRSA press policy has already been steered to CRSA Policy Committee, but discussed the possibility that the development of a press policy and attendant board and staff press boundaries might be better suited the External Communications Committee, at least at this phase of discussion. He added that the Executive Committee, after discussion, suggested that the Committee assignment for development of a CRSA press policy be brought before the Authority for further discussion and that perhaps the External Communications Committee revisit its mission and scope. He also added that Director Schornagel has already begun the process of reaching out to member agencies to get examples of their press policies. Jane Kelly acknowledged that DCFS has a very explicit press policy and agreed to make an introduction between Director Schornagel and DCFS staff to discuss it.

Chairperson Harkins informed the Authority that the Executive Committee discussed several bills that have surfaced during the current legislative season, both sponsored by State Representative Sara Feinholtz and both focused on crafting a legislative solution to the practice of Involuntary Custody Relinquishment (ICR) Illinois. Director Schornagel added that he had participated in a planning discussion involving state agency directors and senior managers in mid-January, exploring possible solutions to eliminate ICR as a practice in Illinois and that with a few days of that multiple-agency planning discussion, Representative Feinholtz proposed two successive bills in the Illinois House to eliminate the ICR in Illinois. The first bill was House Bill 4739, which was replaced within few days with a subsequent bill, House Bill 5598. The Executive Committee reviewed the language of the two

bills and briefly discussed key elements of the bills. Director Schornagel commented that there is quite a bit of interest and discussion in human service planning circles about HB 5598 and that the bill has begun to move through the legislative process, most recently assigned to the Adoption Reform Committee in the Illinois House. He added that this bill represents the most concerted effort to address the CR problem in Illinois since the Authority recommended the appointment of an Involuntary Custody Relinquishment Task Force to the Governor's Office in February of 2012. Director Schornagel commented that as this bill moves through the legislative process the CRSA may wish to consider supporting the bill. As such, the CRSA staff is following the HB 5598 closely and will report back to the board as the bill moves through the legislative process. There was brief discussion by Authority members of the intent of the current bill and of the apparent resolve to move it forward.

C. Other

None

IX. OPEN DIALOGUE

None

X. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jason Johnson for the Office of Attorney General announced that he is leaving OAG this month to take another position and, as such, can no longer be Attorney General Madigan's appointee to CRSA. He stated that he has really enjoyed participating on CRSA. Director Schornagel commented that Jason has been an active member of the Authority for nearly three years, first as an alternate designee and then as primary designee from his agency. He added that Mr. Johnson has followed in the footsteps of many of the most effective Agency designees to the Authority, those who exhibit good attendance at meetings and who demonstrate willingness to become actively involved in CRSA cases as needed. Members and staff in attendance congratulated Jason on his new position, wished him well on his future endeavors and gave him a rousing round of applause.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: *Brooke Whitted moved and Gary Seelbach seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 11:26 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.*