

Colorado Child and Adolescent Mental Health Coalition
Minutes of Board Meeting December 6, 2002

Future Meetings:

Next Coalition Board Meeting: Friday, February 6, 2002 12:00-2:30, at Jefferson Center for Mental Health, 5265 Vance, Arvada.

Board Members in attendance at 12/6/02 mtng.:

Debbie Curtis, David Feinman, Elissa Stein, Howard Shiffman, Allen Pollack, Marilyn McIntyre, Bill Bane, Barbara Ryan, Christine Ely (by telephone), and John Dengler. Also in attendance were Kathy Snell, and Marjorie Genova from the Mental Health Centers' Children's Directors' group.

The meeting was called to order by President, **Elissa**. After the minutes of the October meeting were approved with no changes, **Elissa** opened the meeting to discussion of issues of concern to members.

Howard began the discussion by noting that the Joint Budget Committee of the Colorado General Assembly was holding a meeting at the same time our Board was meeting. Their purpose was to discuss the Administration's proposed 6% across-the-board cuts to all state departments. He said that one of the issues to be discussed was to be the possibility of the committee's holding the child welfare budget harmless in the cuts.

Elissa told us that the Mental health Centers Children's Directors would like to "piggy back" their meetings to be held just before ours so that they wouldn't have to make two separate trips to Denver for meetings. She asked if the Board thought it would be a good idea to change the Coalition Board's meetings to quarterly instead of bi-monthly to coincide with the children's directors' meetings. After some discussion—mostly opposing the switch due to the Coalition's having too much to do to meet just quarterly—it was agreed to table the idea until the next meeting after the idea has been presented to all Coalition Board members.

RALLY AT CAPITAL JANUARY 16!!!

Elissa told us about the upcoming rally to be held on the West Steps of the state Capital Building at 11:30 on January 16. It was agreed that we do want to have some kind of representation at the rally. After a number of suggestions, it was decided that **Elissa** will arrange for the students in Jeffco's school-based program will make a banner for the rally which will say, "No more Mental Health Cuts for Kids."

We then discussed the actual impact of the recent 4% cuts mandated by the governor.

Southeastern Mental Health is now able to provide only mandated services and no more.

Adams Mental Health has had to make cuts in their school-based programs.

Boulder Mental Health has had to make cuts in its home-based programs.

Parkview is looking at having to combine mental health and substance abuse programs.

Ft. Logan has experienced a big impact in their children's programs due to the cuts.

Many **RTC's** are closing/selling out due to high costs and low reimbursement.

Howard also noted that there have been problems implementing HB 1116 due to the lag time in accessing the funds.

Howard then discussed the Sex Offenders Management Board. He expressed his frustration with the new rules and regulations, as no RTC is mandated to implement them unless they can afford to.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Linda was unable to make it to the meeting, but sent her report, which itemized little activity since the last report with the exception of lunches for the Board and mailing of the announcements of the Conference. The report was accepted without question.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Debra reported to the Board that all is going well with the conference. Since the majority of contacts had been made prior to the last meeting, and since **Frank** was not able to be present at this meeting, the Board adjourned in favor of the Conference Committee meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Dengler
CCAMHC Board Secretary