

**SHAWNEE COUNTY COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS  
MINUTES  
OCTOBER 24, 2007**

**Present:**

Nick Cobos, Chair  
Lisa Smith  
Elda Remington  
Kelly Zink  
Gary Cooper  
Ramona Macek, Director, Shawnee County CDDO  
Mary Ann Keating

**Welcome**

Nick Cobos, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. A quorum was not present.

**Minutes:**

The minutes of the September 26, 2007 could not be approved without a quorum.

**Presentation**

Lisa Smith presented an overview of the on-line resource: The Community Tool Box developed by the University of Kansas. The Tool Box is the largest resource for free information on essential skills for building communities. It consists of 42 Chapters, links to best practices and allows for communication through online forums. It can be found at [ctb.ku.edu](http://ctb.ku.edu).

She reviewed a number of different screen examples to show the content available through the Tool Box and felt that the Council might use the Community Tool Box to assist with organizing a step-by-step process for organizing activities, goal setting, achieving goals and tracking progress. She stated that the Executive Committee has utilized portions of the tool to assist them in their planning for the Council. They had planned on using the Tool Box for a community needs assessment survey but it was not completed.

Lisa also shared information on the Shawnee County Council of Community Members group email. The purpose of the group is to provide a forum for members to address issues specific to home and community based services for those with mental retardation or developmental disabilities. Members can post messages at [SCCCM@yahoogroups.com](mailto:SCCCM@yahoogroups.com). A handout with the purpose of the list-group was provided to the members.

Elda Remington shared a summary of federal audits, review and deferrals from the 2007 SRS Business Plan. Concern was expressed by the number of deferrals and the potential pay back the state would be responsible for.

**New Member Orientation**

The members in attendance discussed the need for orientation for new members joining the Council in 2008 to assist with continuity of the Council. A need was also expressed for transferring gathered information from those members who will be leaving the Council to new members. It was felt that the orientation should include a history of the Developmental Disabilities Reform Act (DDRA), an overview of the CDDO, as well as the history of the Council including goals and capacity planning.

A handout showing the status of current members was shared as well as members who have resigned. It also listed four individuals who were nominated in 2005 but not officially cited in as members.

### **CDDO Report**

Ramona Macek, Shawnee County CDDO Director provided the CDDO update. She reminded the members that the Shawnee County CDDO website has the minutes for all of the meetings held.

In September, 954 persons were receiving services in Shawnee County. 681 were adults and 273 were children. 888 individuals were receiving case management services.

In September three crises requests were reviewed. One was approved and two were denied by the CDDO Funding Committee.

Referral sources in September were Sheltered Living, Big Lakes, COF and parents.

Ramona reported that the CDDO sends a Satisfaction Survey following the BASIS Screenings.

Ramona stated a needs assessment has been developed for children in SRS custody who are in foster care to assist with determining their actual need for DD services and the associated costs.

Ramona announced that Rachel Randa was hired as the CDDO Transition Coordinator. Dolores Cummings, who formerly held the position, transferred to the Self-Determination Program at TARC. Billie Padilla was hired as the new CDDO Administrative Assistant.

Lisa Smith asked for clarification on what the definition of crisis was and who was eligible for funding. Ramona shared that the crises definition was changed somewhat in the 2007 contract. The language is stricter and the person has to be in eminent danger to themselves or others.

### **Other Business**

Mary Ann Keating shared that SRS Secretary Don Jordan presented the proposed SRS Budget to stakeholders. Among other things it recommends additional funding for rates and waiting lists for developmental disabilities. SRS is also hoping to receive additional funding to increase the autism waiver from 25 to 100 participants.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Council of Community Members meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 30, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. An optional dinner and social time will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the TARC Board Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Keating