



Thomas Newton, MPP, REHS
Director

Chester J. Culver
Governor

Patty Judge
Lt. Governor

**Minutes of the Iowa Gambling Treatment Program Advisory Committee
July 24, 2009 Meeting**

<u>Advisory Members Present</u>	<u>Advisory Members Absent</u>	<u>Others Present</u>
Cynthia Steidl Audrey Carlson Candace Peters Chuck Tornblom Dr. Gene Lutz Rev. David Clark Doug Borkowski Mary Neubauer	Fred Breen Stephanie Lawrence Stan Landon Wes Ehrecke	Sue Stannard, Diane Thomas Mark Vander Linden, Lisa Pierce, Kevin Glenz, Monica Stutzman, Doug Billingsley, T.J. Gorman, Peg Naylor, Andrea Meylink, Matt Cihak, and Bob Kerksieck

- 1) Past-Chairperson Candace Peters called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. in the absence of Fred Breen and introduced participants at all sites.
- 2) The April 3, 2009 meeting minutes were approved with no changes.
- 3) Iowa Department of Public Health Director Tom Newton has appointed Iowa Gambling Treatment Program Advisory Committee Members for FY2010. The Advisory Committee welcomed the new and reappointed members who will be serving through 2011:
 - Fred Breen
 - Audrey Carlson
 - Rev. David Clark
 - Wes Ehrecke
 - Stan Landon
 - Dr. Gene Lutz
 - Mary Neubauer
 - Candace Peters

The Advisory Committee also thanked the members whose terms expired in June of 2009:

- Rev. Timothy Bonney
- Rev. David Digby
- Peg Naylor
- Bob Winkler

The following continuing Advisory Committee members have appointments that expire in 2010:

- Doug Borkowski
 - Stephanie Lawrence
 - Cynthia Steidl, LISW
 - Chuck Tornblom
- 4) Two members were nominated to be vice-chair of the Advisory Committee for FY2010: Candace Peters and Doug Borkowski. Candace withdrew and Doug was elected to the position.
- 5) Bob Kerksieck gave an overview of FY2010 program changes:
- An RFP was issued for problem gambling Transitional Housing services for two years ending June 30, 2011. This RFP selected two applicants (Heartland-Council Bluffs and MECCA-Des Moines) to provide Community-Based Problem Gambling Transitional Housing and one applicant (CFR-Fort Dodge) to provide Provider-Based Problem Gambling Transitional Housing. See the April 3 minutes for the details of the differences between these two.
 - An RFP selected MECCA to provide gambling treatment and educational services in Gambling Treatment Service Area #10 after CIGTP withdrew from the RFA process.
- 6) Mark Vander Linden provided an overview of the FY2010 budget, working from a handout. The total budget was reduced by \$509,080 in five areas for FY2010. The total reduction for treatment and education of \$205,560 was about the same as new funding of \$206,500 for a new data system to replace and improve on GTRS. Comments from the advisory committee and public included:
- There were concerns about media being cut by \$240,000 to \$680,000. We are concerned that when the media budget is cut, then calls to the Helpline drop. The FY2010 media purchases will remain strong on cable, radio and billboards. Broadcast TV media purchases were cut.
 - There were questions about the data system purchase. There is \$206,500 budgeted for FY 2010. This will pay most of the cost of the system. In FY2011 the balance (approx. \$50,000) of the system will be paid. In FY2012 and subsequent years there will be recurring annual hosting, maintenance and license fees of \$48,000.
 - Several advisory committee members asked what advisory committee members can do in looking for the future to support problem gambling prevention and treatment. Candace Peters recommended advisory committee members and program staff educate legislators about what is being done by programs. The UNI outcome data is particularly useful in showing how successful problem gambling treatment is in Iowa.
- 7) Dr. Gene Lutz reported that a draft of the Year 4 UNI outcome study on Iowa problem gambling treatment was sent to Mark Vander Linden today. Gene said that there are very dramatic positive results being demonstrated in the study
- 8) Mark Vander Linden gave an update on progress on the strategic plan (sent out by e-mail yesterday). Mark was able to show progress using the computer in the ICN with the goals/action steps set by the advisory committee. One new item is that there will be a gambling prevention track at the Iowa Prevention Symposium tentatively scheduled for November 5.

- There was a question from one of the providers about the move toward setting up an on-line chat ability between Helpline staff and crisis callers. Mark clarified that the goal for the Helpline is still to expedite a referral to the provider in their service area. Some people may be more comfortable making this connection on-line.
- 9) Bob Kerksieck gave an update on the Iowa Gambling NIATx project. The Department and Prairielands Addiction Technology Transfer Center (PATTC) are working with nine state funded problem gambling treatment programs to apply NIATx to co-occurring/problem gambling/substance abuse treatment. We are primarily working on the aims of increasing admissions, increasing continuation in treatment and decreasing no-shows. Janet Zwick (lead coach), Mark Vander Linden and Bob Kerksieck did walk-throughs at each participating agency, and 35 crisis call walkthroughs at various times. NIATx was formerly the acronym for the Network for the Improvement of Addiction Treatment. Now, they're known simply as NIATx. This reflects growth and expansion into fields other than addiction treatment. A PowerPoint on the progress to date was presented during the meeting. This was a preview of the PowerPoint that will be presented by Janet Zwick at a national NIATx conference in Tucson a week later.
- 10) Mark Vander Linden gave the advisory committee an update regarding a proposed draft of problem gambling diversion legislation for Iowa. We would like feedback and concerns – support if this body supports it. Some points:
- Mark has talked to someone at the Department of Corrections – she thinks this is good timing and thinks they can support this. Note: Corrections hasn't seen a draft proposal yet.
 - This is modeled on legislation passed in Minnesota and Nevada:
 - Screenings are conducted by Corrections staff in Minnesota. The influx in referrals wasn't so great that it overwhelmed their system.
 - Nevada's law went into effect July 1. Screenings are conducted by Corrections staff and then if appropriate referred to a Mental Health professional. They originally wanted to refer to certified problem gambling counselors in Nevada, however only two cities (Reno and Las Vegas) have certified problem gambling counselors.
 - Iowa has capacity in gambling treatment and has problem gambling counselors throughout the state.
 - There is great research for this that is Iowa specific: Pathological Gambling in Arrestee Populations in Des Moines, Iowa, and Las Vegas, Nevada, 2000-2001 by Richard McCorkle at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Department of Criminal Justice.
 - Hopefully this would result in more people being diverted to treatment.

Comments from the advisory committee and the public included:

- This really holds some merit.
- Pre-sentence screening and assessment is a good idea. Motivation is higher to follow through on treatment that might result in a less strict sentence.
- MECCA has been doing a NIATx project screening inmates in the Polk County jail. MECCA has had a lot of response and good follow-through.
- Make certain to include integrated co-occurring language in the proposal.

- With the major study being done on the Des Moines population, these are perfect figures to gain legislative support.
- The figures show this is needed.
- Fascinating research.
- Funding question: Do we have the capacity to assess and screen? Mark believes we clearly have the capacity to assess across the state, but is concerned about our capacity to do all the screenings.

The Advisory Committee voted unanimously to support this legislation.

11) Sue Stannard from ISAIC gave an update on their services. ISAIC has purchased new shelves, bought a forklift and is moving to a new location. Mark Vander Linden and Bob Kerksieck added that the Choices workbook is available free from ISAIC (also available on-line), many of the problem gambling materials are again available from ISAIC and that the Website is easy to access and order materials.

12) The following trainings are scheduled for 2009:

July 28-29, 2009:

Responsible Gambling Training at Riverside.

Facilitators/Trainers include: Dr. Don Black, Wes Ehrecke, a panel of staff from Riverside Casino and Golf resort, Candace Peters and Bob Kerksieck. We will also take the participants on a "behind the scenes" tour of the casino.

August 12-14, 2009:

Sixth Annual Midwest Conference on Problem Gambling and Substance Abuse, St. Louis, MO. Scheduled presenters include current and past members of this advisory committee: Candace Peters, Fred Breen and Stan Landon. Other Iowan scheduled to present include Janet Zwick, Anne Helene Skinstad, Camilia Mendoza, Beth Hansen, Mark Vander Linden and Bob Kerksieck. The Website for this conference is:

http://www.888BetsOff.org/links/midwest_conference.shtm

November 5, 2009:

Annual Iowa Prevention Symposium.

This annual symposium on substance abuse prevention will include a problem gambling prevention track this year. Watch for more details!

13) Public Comment and Other Business: None (ran out of time)

14) The next meetings of this Advisory Committee are scheduled for:

- October 2, 2009
- January 8, 2010
- April 2, 2010

- July 9, 2010
- October 1, 2010

15)The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Kerksieck, LMSW, ACADC
Health Facilities Surveyor for Gambling Treatment Programs
Division of Behavioral Health and Professional Licensure
Iowa Department of Public Health