

## Northern Region Consumer & Family Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 11th, 2021 | Microsoft Teams Meeting: 1 (980)221-1052 Conference ID: 748 930 06#

Committee Members	Voting Member Present = P Absent = A
Angelena Kearney-Dunlap (Northern CFAC Chairperson)	P
Martha Green (Northern CFAC Vice-Chairperson)	P
Bertha Hargrove	P
Dianna Talley	A
Lakeisha Perkins-Tabron	A
Ravetta Crockett	P
Marjorie Davis	P
Penny Tane	P
Michael Tane	P
Gladys Foster-Young	P
Shirley Robinson-Flood	P
Tameeka Williams-Burchette	P
Sheila Holt	P
Staff	Non-Voting
Deborah Hendren (Mgr. Member Engagement Dept.)	P
Monae Davis (Spec. Member Engagement Dept.   CFAC Liaison)	P
King Jones (Dir. Member Engagement Dept.)	P
Elliot Clark (Dir. Regional Affairs)	P
Terrell Alston (Mgr. Regional Affairs)	A
Trey Sutton (Chief Executive Officer)	P
Guests	Non-Voting
Joy Vermillion – Heinsohn NC State	P
Stacey Harward (NCDHHS)	P

**I. Welcome | Introductions | Call To Order | Opening Devotion**

**Angelena Kearney-Dunlap**

Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm

**II. Agenda and Minutes Approval**

**Angelena Kearney-Dunlap**

A quorum was established. Penny Tane motioned to approve the minutes. Marjorie Davis seconded the motion to approve the minutes submitted from the April 2021 Northern CFAC Meeting. Motion carried unanimously and the minutes from the April 2021 Northern CFAC Meeting were approved as written.

**III. NC State**

**Joy Vermillion - Heinsohn**

Joy Vermillion-Heinsohn introduced herself as the Philanthropy Liaison for the NC Office of Strategic Partnerships. Joy shared information about a free virtual program “Live Chat With Experts” to learn about submitting grants from GrantStation. Joy encouraged members to research grants on different websites and to attached themselves to an established non-profit, community agency or church to increase their chances for success and oversight. Joy also encouraged members to connect with fiscal sponsors.

Joy shared an ongoing pitfall of those who may be denied for a grant is not having people who are closest to the work participate in the grant application process. Joy indicated that the passion for the work comes across the application more when staff directly involved with the project participate in the application process. Joy also encouraged interested parties to make reasonable ask for funds – making sure agencies ask for enough money to support their cause, but also don't ask for an amount that they aren't able to responsibly manage.

#### IV. Cardinal Innovations Healthcare Updates

#### Trey Sutton, Cardinal Innovations Healthcare

Trey Sutton introduced himself as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Cardinal Innovations Healthcare and shared plans to prepare Cardinal Innovations and members for Medicaid Transformation which is scheduled to be effective for July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Trey shared information about Cardinal Innovations currently supporting 850,000 members with plans to shift to 53,000 members with the launch of Tailored Plans with North Carolina plans to transition with Medicaid Transformation. Members with more intensive needs will largely maintain with Cardinal Innovations. Beginning in 2022, Cardinal Innovations is excited to share responsibilities of Member's physical and pharmacy needs along with their behavioral health needs. This includes Cardinal Innovations addressing additional holistic care needs, such as transportation and job readiness for members. Trey shared that the current fee-for-service model will go away and move towards an integrated care management model to meet members' needs. Cardinal Innovations will continue to have CFAC Members and County Managers on their board.

There will be four (4) commercial entities responsible for standard plans: AmeriHealth Caritas, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, United HealthCare, and WellCare. Halifax Co. residents will have an additional option as they are members of Region 6.

Open Enrollment will end May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021. For members that have not selected a healthcare plan, they will be assigned a plan and get 90 day to change the selected option.

Trey encouraged CFAC Members to visit Cardinal Innovations' website, NC Medicaid's website, and contact the provided Medicaid Transformation Contact number on the related sites for additional information.

Trey reviewed updates on the County Action Plan which included outreach calls to high need Members and expansion of services with High Fidelity Wrap Around to meet the needs of youth and families. Trey shared that within the past year over 580 new services have been added. Trey acknowledged a growth in autism related services. Trey shared updates on new processes related to the Child Welfare Model, which included increasing alignment with local DSS offices, new services, and decreasing processing time with children accessing services. Information was shared about managing the NC Innovations Waiver and accessing B3 Services for members with IDD needs.

Elliot Clark, Regional Affairs Director, shared highlights for 2020: financial stewardship and increase of reinvestment into the community. Elliot also shared information on the TCLI Housing program, expanding peer support programs, launch of \*\*ASK, and related initiatives. Elliot discussed reinvested funds from Cardinal Innovations to support COVID-19 relief and related response initiatives. Initiatives in 2020 totaled

more than \$50 million throughout 20 county service area. Elliot shared information about \$192,935 worth of funding grants in the Northern Region with 15 organizations awarded to support the community. Cardinal Innovations continues to provide counties with Narcan kits to address the local opioid crisis. Cardinal Innovations will also continue to maintain the updated governance council which includes Community Advisory Committees and Regional Health Council.

Elliot reported ongoing collaboration with the Stepping Up Initiative to address IVC's and hospitalizations.  
(Q#: Question, A#: Answer)

Northern CFAC Members were able to ask questions of Trey and Elliot.

Q1: Will Cardinal Innovations be able to adequately sustain and support members with the reduction to 53,000 members?

A1: Yes, rates will be adequately set and the funding will be adequate. Trey indicated hopes that addressing members' holistic needs such as physical health and pharmacy will also help with sustaining.

Q2: How will Cardinal Innovations address transportation barriers for rural areas?

A2: Trey indicated hopes that the state will provide support to help address it and plans to support members not having to use their whole day traveling to an appointment.

Q3: Will there be anything put in place to support members maintaining scheduled appointments after release from the hospital?

A3: Yes, there is nothing established currently; however, working to partner with providers and peer support to support transition to intake appointments. Also working with providers to incentivize transportation and follow up support.

Q4: How does Cardinal Innovations plan to address members who are not getting their mental health needs met who don't have extreme issues or behaviors or don't know they need the help?

A4: Member Engagement has supports in place to try and support members with navigating the system; however, the support offered is voluntary. If a community member is making a referral for support for a member, the supportive community member helps the member to understand available services and supports. Trey discussed Cardinal Innovations offering training or presentation on how to help a loved one get connected to care.

Q5: 70% have coverage and the other 30% have no coverage that come through hospital - What does that mean?

A5: Yes, those individuals are either underinsured or uninsured meaning they don't have Medicaid.

Q6: In the Halifax area there is only one (1) provider that supports opioid and substance use treatment. Are there any plans to expand and/or provide additional substance use provider?

A6: We can review that concern and question with George Ingram (Vice President of Network Development) and the Network team.

Q7: Will there be more NC Innovations Waiver allotments for our counties? What is being done to decrease the extensive waitlist for the NC Innovations Waiver?

A7: Cardinal Innovations is currently working with legislators to increase slots for Innovations Waivers. Cardinal Innovations does not determine the number of waivers allotted or the waitlist time; however, we continue to advocate to expand NC Innovations Waivers. Cardinal Innovations does provide B3 Services to meet the needs of members in the interim.

Elliot shared updates about Community Advisory Councils (CAC) for the Northern Region counties. The Halifax CAC has plans to reconvene in June 2021. Elliot indicated barriers included consistency with attendance and understanding of CAC goals. Elliot indicated desires to have a spectrum of invested community members.

King Jones, Member Engagement Director, shared updates on the Clients Rights Council (CRC). The CRC is able to have a one (1) CFAC member from each Regional CFAC serve. King indicated desires to recruit members for the CRC. King shared information about the CRC and indicated they meet quarterly.

Deborah Hendren, Member Engagement Manager, declined having any Cardinal Innovations Updates to share.

**v. NCDHHS**

**Stacey Harward**

Stacey Harward informed Northern CFAC that May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Stacey encouraged members to view the CEE Newsletter for updates and information about upcoming events and podcasts.

Stacey shared information about upcoming state wide CFAC meetings: Regional CFAC Meeting scheduled on May 25<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 – 7:30 pm via Microsoft Teams – Stacey requested one (1) report for Cardinal CFACs, State CFAC Meeting scheduled May 11<sup>th</sup> @ 9 am – 1 pm, and the State To Local Call scheduled April 26<sup>th</sup> (4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the Month @ 6:00 – 7:30 pm). Stacey highlighted the time change for the State To Local Call.

Stacey informed Northern CFAC of upcoming conferences such as One Community Recovery Conference & i2i conference – both virtual and open for registration.

Stacey encouraged Northern CFAC Members to complete the CEE Survey to share with NC DHHS information about the type of trainings and webinars for the department. Stacey shared that the deadline to complete has been extended due to low participation from CFAC Members.

Stacey shared information about an upcoming testimony from Director Armstrong and upcoming webinars related to Medicare.

**vi. Old Business**

**Angelena Kearney-Dunlap**

*Mental Health Awareness Month: Radio PSA*

Tameeka Williams-Burchette provided an update on her correspondence with local radio stations to schedule radio PSAs and interviews for Mental Health Awareness Month. Angelana confirmed she and

Monae pre-recorded a PSA and interview with WARR (Warren County) on Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup> @ 10 am. Angelena also shared the recording was being played on a loop during May for Mental Health Awareness Month. Monae confirmed she, Angelena, and Gladys are scheduled to read their PSA and interview with WIZS (Vance Co.) on May 13<sup>th</sup> @ 11 am for their Town Talk. Monae confirmed Northern CFAC was booked to provide information about Mental Health Awareness and CFAC on the Maverick Talk Show on Maverick 102.3 (Halifax Co.) on Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 am.

Tameeka shared having difficulties reaching someone from a Granville Co. radio station. Elliot offered to connect Tameeka with the Granville Co. Manager to get in contact with a Granville Co. radio.

Angelena offered to reach out to Franklin Co. Radio to see next steps to book Northern CFAC and follow up.

#### *NAMI Chapter Updates*

Shirley Robinson-Flood spoke with Peg Morrison (NAMI – NC) and received information about NAMI programs and initiatives. Elliot agreed to follow up with other Cardinal Innovations staff and connect with Northern CFAC members and see if they are interested in supporting Northern CFAC Members restarting a local NAMI chapter.

#### *Monthly Meetings (Virtual vs. Inperson)*

Northern CFAC agreed to continue to discussion about returning to inperson meetings or maintain virtual meetings and gather the opinions of Northern CFAC Members who were not present at the April 2021 meeting.

Michael Tane – preferred virtual

Penny Tane – indicated flexibility

Dianna Talley and LaKeisha Perkins-Tabron were not present to provide discussion or insight for April or May 2021 Northern CFAC Meeting.

Martha Green indicated plans for Northern CFAC to begin meeting in person, preferably in Halifax Co. at Halifax Community College for their upcoming June 2021 Meeting. Martha indicated plans to contact Halifax Community College regarding availability to use facilities.

### **VII. State CFAC and Steering Committee Updates**

#### **CFAC Members**

#### *State CFAC Updates*

Next State CFAC Meeting scheduled May 12, 2021. Angelena invited Northern CFAC to join the State CFAC Meeting to receive information from an Indian Affair Representative and LGBTQAI community members. Angelena reported her State CFAC appointment will end June 2021 and encouraged interested Northern CFAC members apply. Angelena shared that subcommittee members can be from local/regional CFACs.

#### *Steering Committee Updates*

No updates were shared.

### **VIII. New Business & Action Plan Review**

#### **Angelena Kearney-Dunlap**

No updates or action plan to address.

**IX. Action Steps**

**CFAC Members**

Angelena inquired about any plans for Northern CFAC to highlight future awareness months such as IDD or Substance Use Awareness months. Angelena inquired about upcoming events in Franklin or Granville Counties to support Substance Use Prevention Month.

**X. Community Involvement Updates – Trainings/Conferences/Events CFAC Members**

*Provider Council*

Penny reported not having a Provider Council Meeting since last Northern CFAC Meeting; therefore no report.

*Regional Health Council (RHC)*

Michael reported identifying six (6) items to target for the Northern Region. Some of the topics included: Transportation Issues, increasing broadband access, expanded community paramedics programs in Northern region counties, sufficient and affordable housing options, addressing gaps to support the IDD community, crisis emergency services and detox supports, services to support military veterans, extending services for women, enhancing a bridge for integrated services and explore collaborative care models, wellness centers in the Northern region, post-partum services for mothers and families, shortage of IDD caregivers, and establish a shelter for youth coming into DSS care and establishing services and care.

Michael shared that RHC is currently working through the identified topics and prioritizing them.

*Mothers in Recovery (Halifax Co. Event)*

Attending members reported enjoying the event and reported it being well attended. Attending CFAC Members shared the event was age appropriate for youth and families with the activities and program. Monae requested that attending members provide their mileage and receipts via email to be reimbursed for travel and event related purchases.

**XI. New Member Appointment/Considerations**

**CFAC Members**

Angelena indicated plans to table discussion about nominating a new Chairperson for Northern CFAC.

**XII. Recommendations to the Board**

Angelena noted topics of concern from Trey Suttons' presentation to Northern CFAC. Areas of concerns included transportation, uninsured members of the communities needing care, and providers not having funds to support uninsured members of the community.

Shirley shared reports of community members not being able to make it to their appointments after receiving calls from KARTS that due to the current gas shortage they could not be transported to their medical and mental health appointments.

**XIII. Public Comment**

**Community Members**

No public comments were given at this time.

XIV. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

**Angelena Kearney-Dunlap**

*Monae Davis, MS NCC*

Member Engagement Specialist, Northern Region

*05/11/2021*

Date