

May 24, 2012

Dear CMHC Employees, Consumers and Family Members:

With the assistance of new Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) Director Ron Sorensen, Lancaster County is moving forward with modernizing and improving community-based behavioral health services. A cooperative agreement with Region V has been established to govern the Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) process for creating the new service model, and a diverse and talented committee has been put together to draft the document which will be the basis for gathering innovative and cooperative proposals from all providers in our community.

Committee members include:

- Ron Sorensen, who will chair the Committee
- Lori Siebel, CEO and President of the Community Health Endowment
- Pat Talbott, member of the Mental Health Association and CMHC Advisory Committee
- CJ Johnson, Region V Administrator
- Gail Anderson, member of the CMHC Advisory Committee
- J. Rock Johnson, a strong behavioral health consumer advocate
- Judy Halstead, Director of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department
- Captain Joe Wright of the Lincoln Police Department
- Gary Lorenzen, Chairman of the Lincoln/Lancaster Mental Health Foundation
- Tony Messineo, business leader and consumer advocate
- Jane Raybould, Lancaster County Commissioner
- Brent Smoyer, Lancaster County Commissioner

Ex officio members of the Committee include: Wendy Andorf, CMHC Program Manager for Community Support Services; Scott Etherton, Crisis Center Program Manager; Vince Mejer, Lincoln-Lancaster County Purchasing Agent; and Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer for the Lancaster County Board.

The first Committee meeting has been tentatively set for Wednesday, May 30, 2012. Meeting notices, agendas, and minutes will be available on the Lancaster County Clerk web site. Also, regular updates will continue on Channels 5 and 10, with the next installment now airing.

Finally, Lancaster County wishes to extend it's deep felt appreciation to Dean Settle, who has successfully guided the CMHC since 1999. Dean retires May 25, 2012, and he will be missed by all.

Sincerely,



Deb Schorr, Chair  
Lancaster County Board of Commissioners