

**Strategic Plan
Mental Health Group**

**August 11, 2008
Breadworks Café, Boulder**

Present: Susan Marine, Kym Hansler, Ruth Waukau, Rhonda Racicot, Helen Balis,
Teresa De Anni

Next meeting: August 25, 8:30, Longmont Senior Center, Room G

The group reaffirmed the commitment to develop a list of mental health practitioners specializing in senior issues. Teresa mentioned that Aging Services is involved with compiling resources for the Network of Care database and that it would be helpful to work in alignment and support the process. Network of Care is an on-line database system that Community Services Department has purchased and will implement and manage. It will contain resources for all walks of life, and Aging Services is “populating” or putting in the resources for the aging and disability sector.

Network of Care will launch in October 2008. See www.networkofcare.org to see how this database will look. (Look at the following in particular:
<http://sandiego.networkofcare.org/aging/home/index.cfm>.)

Teresa handed out a document that had the list of “data elements” that needs to go into the database. The group can also use this list as elements for their own directory should they choose to go forth and create a directory for seniors and mental health. The group acknowledged that not all seniors are computer-savvy and having something tangible to give out would be of great benefit.

The group agreed to work in partnership with Aging Services in getting private therapists for the database, and thus, for their proposed directory. Aging Services will put in the information about clinics, crisis, support groups, advocacy and education, but welcomes the groups input and gathering of information of some private therapists for the database. The group looked at the “data elements” that are instrumental to the information gleaned for Network of Care, made some comments and had questions. They wondered if the questions about handicap accessibility could be added. They wanted to add questions about accepting Medicare, insurance, and sliding scale to the element “Accepted Payment.”

They began to mention therapists to contact. Teresa will put together an initial list and send it out for the group members to add to—send info to Teresa. Teresa will update the list with these additions and members will be assigned or assign themselves to a minimum of three therapists to contact and get information from. Rhonda and Ruth will call therapists from the Longmont area. Rhonda will also contact Mesa Vista about therapists that visit nursing homes.

Teresa mentioned an anti-stigma campaign that the state of Washington did and the campaign included a guide to mental health services. She will send that information along.

Submitted with tender loving care,

Teresa De Anni