

Tri-Valley Developmental Services, Inc.
Board of Director's Meeting
TVDS Administrative Office, 521 W. 35 Ch Pkwy, Chanute, KS/Zoom
August 24, 2023

Present: John McRae, Susan Jones, Matt Morgan, Janet Rash, Connie Hey, Jim Hogan, Angie Morrison, Georgia Masterson, Sharon Suske, Derrick Payne, Rita Cornett, Lindsay Madison

Not Present: Steve Sewell, Anna Methvin, Van Bettega, Randy Lemasters, Devin Johnson

Staff Present: Bill Fiscus, Joe O'Rourke, Lea Chickadonz, Tricia Campbell

Staff Not Present: Melissa Cannon-Smith

1. Call to Order

Chair John McRae called the meeting order at 6:04 pm.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Motion made to adopt the agenda as presented (Sharon Suske/ Rita Cornett). Motion passed.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes from the June 29, 2023 meeting were presented. Motion made to approve minutes as presented (Georgia Masterson/Janet Rash). Motion passed.

4. Treasurer's Report

Lea Chickadonz, VP of Administration, presented the financial report for the period ending July 31, 2023. Motion made to accept report as presented (Angie Morrison/Sharon). Motion passed.

5. Staff Reports

A. CEO Report

1. Bill Fiscus, CEO, has visited with the commissioners in Allen, Bourbon, Neosho, and Woodson counties to discuss the FY24 budget requests. We asked for an increase in Bourbon and Neosho counties. No increase was requested in Allen and Woodson. Bill listened to the Neosho County budget meetings; they were discussing a 10% cut for all external entities. If they make that 10% reduction, our funding level will drop down to \$54,000. We hope that the cut does not happen.
2. Last year, we received \$268,000 from the state as part of their Workforce Incentive Grant. We spent all but \$17,000. That money has been returned to the state. We were not alone; several other providers returned funding as well. Hopefully, the state will reallocate those funds.

B. Program Report

1. Tri-Valley's staff vacancy numbers remain the same as previously reported. Currently, we have 18 DSP openings. Bill reported that we now have two full-time Residential Coordinators in our Fort Scott area.
2. DSP Recognition Week is set for September 10th through 16th. This event is a weeklong celebration that recognizes and honors the work of DSPs. This year, Tri-Valley management are planning something special for each day of the week.
 - a. Monday, 9/11- *"Noone is BUTTER than you!"* Directors will hand out bags of popcorn to DSPs. We have ordered t-shirts for staff and those will be handed out at this time.
 - b. Tuesday, 9/12- *"We DONUT what we'd do without you!"* The DSPs are invited to stop by the Service Centers to have donuts for breakfast.
 - c. Wednesday, 9/13- *"Thanks for always helping us out in a CRUNCH!"* The DSPs are invited to stop by sites for some sweet treats.
 - d. Thursday, 9/14- *"We are so FORTUNATE to have you!"* DSPs will stop by to grab a fortune cookie and thank you notes from Management.
 - e. Friday, 9/15- *"Any way you slice it, our TEAM is the best!"* We will hold pizza parties at each of the Service Centers in honor of the DSPs.
3. Twelve persons served and five DSPs are going to the August 26th Kansas City Chiefs game. The Chiefs are playing the Cleveland Browns in this pre-season game.
4. On September 22nd and 23rd, fourteen persons served will go to Parsons to participate in the 42nd Annual Gary J. Daniels Sunbelt Rodeo. The rodeo is sponsored by the Parsons State Hospital Endowment Association. Participants come from Oklahoma, Missouri, Texas, and Kansas.
5. On September 1st, the Kansas Medicaid program will begin covering sedation dental access.

C. Operations Report

1. Joe O'Rourke, VP of Operations, reported on the process Tri-Valley uses for routine maintenance/repairs. It is the goal of the maintenance department to get repairs completed within 30 days of complaint. Tri-Valley has two maintenance staff that cover all eight counties. In 2022, they completed 580 repairs. Our most common complaints are with washer and dryers, vehicles, and bathrooms.
2. Joe's son, Ian, helped out this summer by painting the Foundation homes. He painted the interior for the homes in Chanute, Fort Scott, Humboldt, Iola, and Neodesha.
3. Tri-Valley has 65 vehicles in our fleet. Within that number, we have several vehicles sponsored by a KDOT grant. These KDOT vehicles are inspected annually. This year, the inspections are set for late September/early October.
4. Joe is visiting all 27 physical locations/sites to gather information on all the appliances, such as age.
5. Once he has completed the review of appliances, Joe will review at our utilities to look for excessive usage at sites. One example Joe gave was with the home in Buffalo. We had a repair person come out three times because there was no hot

water in the kitchen. The issue was finally addressed when they discovered that the lines were not correct.

D. Friends of Tri-Valley Foundation

1. Tricia Campbell, Special Projects Coordinator, reported that the Foundation has a state license to conduct a raffle in 2024. The prize will once again be a full-size truck. Bid letters will go out to local dealers soon. Kurt Kluin is in the process of reviewing the raffle documents; it has been several years since they have been reviewed.
2. So far, the Foundation has held three golf tournaments.
 - a. Erie's tournament had been set for June 10th. Due to rain, we moved it to July 29th. We had seventeen teams play with seven corporate sponsors and twelve hole sponsors. Jennifer Dietsch State Farm sponsored the Longest Drive contest.
 - b. Fredonia's tournament was held on July 12th. We had six teams play with five corporate sponsors and eight hole sponsors.
 - c. Chanute's tournament was set for August 12th. The morning of the 12th saw a large weather system move in and the tournament was postponed due to rain. It was moved to the following Saturday, August 19th. Seven teams (down from 10) played. We had ten corporate sponsors and eleven hole sponsors. Tioga Territory, Opie's Pizza, and Stone Creek Golf donated items for the door prizes. Stone Creek also sponsored a second Closest to the Pin contest.
 - d. Between these three tournaments, we are projecting \$12,681 in profit. We still have one more tournament scheduled. The Fort Scott tournament will be held September 16th at Woodland Hills Golf Course. We have fourteen teams signed up with three corporate sponsors and eleven hole sponsors.
3. We are excited to announce that Tri-Valley will hold a mum fundraiser in Fort Scott this year. Austin is growing mum plants for Heidrick's True Value and other organizations in Bourbon County. The plants not sold to businesses or organizations will be offered at our fall plant sale. If the sale goes well, we may expand it next year.
4. This October, Tri-Valley will hold the annual Poinsettia fundraiser in Chautauqua, Elk, Greenwood, and Wilson Counties. We have two delivery dates: November 15th and December 6th. Prices will stay the same as last year: \$15 for 6.5" plants and \$20 for 8" plants. The plants will be red, pink, white, and red glitter. We are purchasing the plants from Neosho Gardens in Council Grove.
5. Tri-Valley will once again sell holiday cards during November and December.
6. Tri-Valley was named as recipient for Akbar Ziglari's memorial.

E. CDDO Report

1. Bill reported that the state has expanded the CDDO contract for one year. It had previously looked as though the state wanted to negotiate the contract, but the issues were resolved.

6. Old Business

None

7. New Business

7.1 14c Certificate

Bill gave a brief description of the 14c certificate. The federal government allows employers to obtain certificates to pay below than federal minimum wage or subminimum wage. The program was developed years ago to assist in job training. The plan was for providers to bring work into a setting and individuals would learn the job and move to a community work setting. Over the years, the original goal has been forgotten.

Under this certificate, organizations pay piece rates, or subminimum wage. Every two years, the Department of Labor reviews an organization's certificate. Over the years, the sub-minimum wage has become an issue. There is now a push by the federal government to eliminate 14c certificates. The State of Kansas is working on ways to move away from the 14c certificate. Staff at Tri-Valley have an idea for a pilot project for the Chanute Day program. They are excited about the possibilities.

Interhab is also working on a few ideas. They plan to present an idea for a 3 year grant to the state legislature. Agencies would receive incentives to move away from subminimum wage. Individuals would be placed in a community job with a competitive wage. They have been discussing this idea for years and feel that now is the time to move forward.

7.2 TCM Conflict of Interest

For the last 10 years, Centers for Medicaid Services (CMS) has been looking at a potential conflict of interest for organizations that provide both day/residential services and case management. The State of Kansas has lagged behind and CMS is now saying it is time for something to be done. The state must have a model in place by July 1, 2024 or CMS will stop funding case management.

The state is looking into several options.

- A. We could use the Health Home model. Tri-Valley case managers would continue to provide case management but they would have an external entity oversee the service to make sure that everything is being done correctly. DPOK is already using a Health Home model with some success. They currently oversee the Tri-Valley CDDO.
- B. We could separate Case Management from Tri-Valley.
- C. The State could have only one case management provider for the entire state.

Most agencies like the Health Home model. Information on Health Homes has been sent to CMS and they like it. Their approval would be the first hurdle.

8. Comments from Groups or Individuals

None

9. Announcements

The next Board Meeting will be October 26, 2023.

10. Adjournment

Motion made to adjourn (Rita/Sharon). Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Jones

Vice-Chair

10/25/23

Date