



Washington State Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists,
And Social Workers Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes

December 12, 2014

Physical Location:

Washington State Department of Health
Town Center Two
111 Israel Road S.E., Room 158
Tumwater, WA 98501
Telephone: 360-236-2912

Committee members present in person:

Janys Murphy, Ph.D., LMHC, CDP – Acting Chair
Jennie Lindberg, LMFT

Committee members absent:

Carlos Carreon, LICSW, ACSW, BCD, Chair
Audrey Dangtuw, MA, LMFT, LMHC

Committee members who called in:

Fredda Jaffe, LMFT

Others present in person:

Tanya Stephenson, Prosperity Wellness

AAG present:

Debra Defreyn, Assistant Attorney General

Staff members present:

Mariama Gondo, MPH, Program Manager
Betty J. Moe, Program Manager
Sonia Ferguson, Program Support
Debra Mendoza, Program Manager
Nancy Tyson, Executive Director
Joanne Miller, Credentialing Manager
Hyon Yi, Credentialing Manager
Kim-Boi Shadduck, Department of Health

Others who called in:

Kim Gilliland, President, Washington Association
for Marriage and Family Therapy
Karen Langer, City University
Tom Field, Washington Mental Health Counselors
Association (WMHCA)
Kirk Roberts, Washington Association for Marriage
and Family Therapy

On December 12, 2014 the Washington State Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee (committee) met at the Department of Health (department), 111 Israel Road, Room 158; Tumwater, WA. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the meeting agenda was emailed to members of the licensed counselors' professional Listserv and posted to the professions' webpages.

Open Session

1. Call to Order – Janys Murphy, Ph.D., LMHC, CDP, Acting Chair 9:04 a.m.

- 1.1 Introductions-** Dr. Janys Murphy conducted a roll call to identify committee members and participants within the room. The roll call also included an account of other participants in attendance via phone.
- 1.2 Staff updates –** Ms. Mariama Gondo introduced the new Executive Director, Ms. Nancy Tyson. Ms. Gondo also announced that she will leave the department to relocate home to care for her parents; her tentative last day will be January 6, 2015. She said the department has been proactive in finding someone for the position. Ms. Gondo introduced Kim-Boi Shadduck as her replacement. Ms. Shadduck will start December 16, 2014, to allow for a period of cross-training.
- 1.3 Approval of the agenda-** Ms. Gondo asked to add a discussion for selecting the 2015 meeting dates under item five on today's agenda. The agenda was accepted and approved with Ms. Gondo's addition.
- 1.4 Approval of the August 15, 2014 meeting minutes-** The August 15, 2014, meeting minutes were accepted, approved, and signed as presented.

2. Manager Reports – Mariama Gondo, MPH, Program Manager

- 2.1 Budget report-** Ms. Gondo presented the budget information for all three professions. The social workers' budget has a positive operating balance of \$727,790; mental health counselors' budget has a positive operating balance of \$809,333; and the marriage and family therapists' budget has a positive operating balance of \$70,694.
- 2.2 Current licensing statistics-** Ms. Gondo presented licensing statistics as of November 25, 2014. Statistics presented are as follows:

Profession	Current Number of Credential Holders
LMFT	1,397
LMHC	5,861
LASW	120
LICSW	3,747
LMFTA	450
LMHCA	1,709
LSWAA	201
LSWICA	1,259
Total among all professions	14,744

2.3 Committee member appointment/recruitment update- Ms. Gondo reported the committee has lost two members since the previous meeting. Ms. Julie Rowland had stepped down because of other commitments and Ms. Jenny Cooke-Malstrom has stepped down to further her education in marriage and family therapy. This means the committee has two public member vacancies and a licensed advanced social worker vacancy.

2.4 Legislative Update – Agency-proposed legislation for certified counselors and certified advisers, and gearing up for the 2015 legislative session – “Meet Me Call”. - Ms. Gondo said the department has proposed agency request legislation to clarify the scope of practice language within the Revised Code of Washington in removing the terms global assessment of functioning (GAF) and the diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders version 4 (DSM-IV). The latest version of the DSM, which is the DSM-5, does not mention or describe the GAF. Dr. Murphy asked if the department will replace the language with the World Health Organization Disability Assessment Schedule (WHODAS) as the DSM-5 suggests in replacing the GAF.

Ms. Gondo said the initial request is to remove the current language first; the proposed legislation would allow the department to conduct rulemaking to define more industry-recognized terms or assessment tools.

Meet Me Calls – Ms. Lindberg volunteered to listen into the Meet Me calls, which will be held every Tuesday from 8:30 to 9 a.m. during the 2015 legislative session. Ms. Fredda Jaffe will be the backup.

2.5 Update about the Affordable Care Act presentation –

Ms. Gondo reported that Mr. Carlos Carreon wants to get more information about the changes from the Affordable Care Act and how the act will affect the committee’s represented professions. Ms. Gondo asked the members to think more about the specifics of what more they want to know about the topic so she could let the presenters know this information in order to have a more robust discussion. These suggestions should be emailed to Ms. Gondo (or her replacement) before the next meeting so she can schedule the speaker.

3. Assistant Attorney General Report – Debra Defreyn, AAG

Ms. Debra Defreyn had nothing to report. She asked for this section to be removed from the agenda. She said if she has anything to report, she will inform the program manager.

4. Rules Workshop – Mariama Gondo, MPH, Program Manager

Ms. Gondo began the discussion by restating the intent of the rulemaking. House Bill (HB) 1213 required the department to provide standards for continuing education (CE) for all licensed associates renewing their license. She said associates can renew their credentials up to six times and must complete 18 hours of CEs every year before renewing their licenses. Every two years the associate must have completed six hours of the 18 hours in law and ethics. Only the licensed social worker associates are required to complete six hours in suicide assessment, treatment, and management every six years. The rulemaking will also clarify the supervisory requirements for approved supervisory and address other housekeeping cleaning throughout the chapter 246-809 Washington Administrative Code (WAC). This legislation should also make it easier for

associates once they apply for full licensure given the licensure requirement is to have 36 hours of CEs before licensure.

Some of the changes to the approved supervisory requirements may require the department to open another rulemaking intent if the suggestions do not clarify, but rather change, the current standards.

Discussion on continuing education for licensed associates:

Ms. Gondo said she is proposing a creating a new section within WAC that would have a different WAC number to be established by the Code Reviser's Office. This section will have a narrative explaining the requirement as well as having a table that visually lays out the requirement.

Ms. Gondo wants to clarify the professional law and ethics courses to show that the associates are required to complete this CE course type every two years. Also, because the licensed social worker associates are the only group required to complete the six hours in suicide assessment, treatment, and management, it's important to make that distinction. The table makes it easier to view all the CEs types required throughout the six renewal cycles that associates can use, while grouping the credential types.

Mr. Kirk Roberts asked if this rulemaking would affect any of the requirements for the postgraduate supervision hours. Ms. Gondo said no, this rulemaking is specifically for the CE requirements for associates. Once the group is satisfied with the CEs language, the group will tackle the discussion of the second goal on the approved supervisory requirements.

Dr. Janys Murphy said she thinks the table would be good for the associates because they can get overwhelmed with everything they are learning and doing. She also said this table will help approved supervisors who are training associates to make sense of which courses are needed and when.

The group reviewed the narrative language as well as the table. All participants agreed that the layout of the information was satisfactory. Ms. Gondo thanked the committee members and public for making this part of the discussion easy on her by not having too much opposition.

Ms. Murphy made the recommendation to have the same chart added to the profession's website.

Ms. Gondo said she wanted to talk about an effective date or dates for when the rule should go into effect. She said some rules start immediately after the rule is filed and others give a specific date.

Mr. Kirk Roberts said he would like to see licensed associates have at least a year to get the 18 hours of CEs for their renewal. He believes this year will allow people a good transitional time as they are currently operating under a different set of rules.

The group liked allowing a year after the rule is filed to give all associates an opportunity to comply with the rule. The group discussed a possible rule filing date with the understanding that

the 2015 legislative session may affect whether the department is able to continue the rule making process according to that timeline.

The group wanted to discuss the suicide assessment, treatment, and management requirement for the licensed associates a little. Mr. Roberts wanted to ensure that it was clear given the current language for the licensed counselors are every six years as well as exemption for this requirement. Ms. Gondo stressed that the intent of this rulemaking was not change any of the current suicide assessment, treatment, and management requirements described in WAC 246-809-615, but rather to ensure the licensed associates requirements align with the current CE standards. The group finally came to a consensus of the CE requirement language and Ms. Gondo suggested the group take a break before discussing the approved supervisory requirement.

Discussion on the approved supervisor requirement:

Ms. Gondo reported she gets a lot of questions on the supervisory requirements for licensure candidates. One of the questions is whether a licensed professional from Oregon (or a bordering state) can supervise a licensure applicant in Washington. Ms. Gondo believes for public safety the approved supervisor needs to be licensed in the same state where the licensure candidate is providing services. The current rule (WAC 246-809-134, WAC 246-809-234, & WAC 246-809-334) states the approved supervisor is expected to be the backup for the licensure candidate client in his or her absence, but the rule does not explicitly state that the two individuals must be credentialed in the same state.

The group discussed this topic for a while, bringing up that the current process for validating an approved supervisor is to check the attestation form. The attestation form could be modified to identify the state in which the supervisor is licensed. The group agreed that supervisors should be licensed in the same state where the licensure candidate is providing services. This will allow the department to continue to accept transfer supervision hours from other states as long as those hours are completed by an approved supervisor who attests to meeting the other supervisory requirements.

Ms. Gondo also presented that there are questions around what is meant by having “a license without restrictions that has been in good standing.” Ms. Defreyn said with the signed attestations, they were saying their licenses were in good standing from disciplinary action. Ms. Defreyn also wanted to make a clarification about the two-year standing in this portion of the rule. She wanted the group clearly define what is meant by the two years; for example ensuring that people haven’t had their license expired the past five years, but because the rule just says “in good standing” they qualify because their license was in good standing several years before it was expired. The group discussed this topic and agreed that the two-year expectation needs to be clearer. The group would like to see the language to state the license was in good standing within the past two years.

Relating to this same section, Ms. Gondo said she also receives a lot of questions from associates wanting to know if they can provide supervision or if they can count the time they held their associates to factor into the two years. Mr. Roberts said the rules say they must hold a license, but it doesn’t say they need to be fully licensed. Ms. Gondo clarified, saying that based on the current language, the associate does have restrictions. She said that though the term restrictions may be in the sense of discipline, the associates are restricted in that they cannot provide counseling services without being under the supervision of an approved supervisor. Ms. Defreyn also said this

language should not be that confusing, because the definitions identify which type of licenses qualify for approved supervision in the definition, and the language does not say associate.

The next topic that has raised several questions is about the meaning of how one obtains the 25 hours of clinical supervision, if the person is not yet considered an approved supervisor. Ms. Gondo said she received some guidance on how to address this topic from Mr. Kirk Roberts. Ms. Gondo discussed the information Mr. Roberts sent to her on the 25-hours clinical supervision hour requirement. Ms. Gondo asked Mr. Roberts to clarify some of his organization's point of view. The recommendations included:

- Eliminating the 25-hour supervision requirement entirely.
- Reduce the number from 25 to maybe a range of five to 25 hours within the first year of supervision and then after that, the person becomes an approved supervisor.

Ms. Lindberg said she wasn't comfortable with eliminating the 25-hours requirement. Given the department has a definition of "supervision of supervision," the group discussed the second potential to develop a way that the clinical supervision could potentially be gained through supervision of supervision. The idea would be that a person would have an approved supervisor (meta supervisor) who would supervise the soon-to-be-approved supervisor until that person meets the 25 hours of supervision of the supervisee. In order for the supervisee to get credit for this and not waste resources, the meta supervisor would sign off on the licensure candidate's hours until the soon-to-be-supervisor completed the hours of training, and then that person would be able to sign off on the hours. She thinks people need more guidance. Ms. Moe said she thinks it is good to limit the amount of time it takes for the supervisor to become approved as a supervisor. The Marriage and Family Therapists (MFT) and the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) have standards for the amount of hours needed for supervisors. Supervisors need 24 hours, which would be two hours a month for one year.

The group discussed this topic in great detail and ultimately decided that more information was needed. The various state associations said they would work together to develop a survey and collect information from approved supervisors on how they received their training.

The last of discussion for approved supervisor requirement was that the language does not have any protection for the licensure candidate if something were to happen in the middle of the supervision. Ms. Gondo suggested applicants should set up a time to meet with their supervisors to have them sign off on their hours periodically in case something were to happen. The group discussed having language in the rule saying the supervisor and supervisee will have some type of contract.

Ms. Moe suggested using the language from the Examining Board of Psychology WAC 246-924-059(2).

Ms. Gondo reported she will share a copy of the rules once she has it cleaned up.

5. Appointing New Committee Executive Leadership – Mariama Gondo, MPH, Program Manager

The committee voted the following members to serve as 2015 committee leadership for.

Chair: Janys Murphy

Vice Chair: Jennie Lindberg

The committee also discussed the potential meeting dates for the 2015 advisory committee meetings. Ms. Gondo will confirm with all the committee members via email if the proposed dates work with everyone's schedules before they are finalized and sent to the Code Reviser's Office. The dates will be posted on the department's website once final.

6. Consent Agenda – Janys Murphy, Ph.D., LMHC, CDP - Acting Chair

The consent agenda was approved and accepted as presented.

7. Public Comment – Janys Murphy, Ph.D., LMHC, CDP - Acting Chair

None

8. Future Agenda Items – Janys Murphy, Ph.D., LMHC, CDP - Acting Chair

- Update CR101 file for supervision requirements
- Discuss electronic supervision

9. Items to Monitor – Janys Murphy, Ph.D., LMHC, CDP - Acting Chair

- CACREP reported starting in July 2015. NBCC is accepting only people who have attended a CACREP accredited school. It is not a Department of Health requirement, but the committee may want to discuss this issue.
- Tele-therapy/Tele-health - the 2015 legislation may bring some new light to this.
- Parenting evaluation standards – some of the cases the department receives involve licensed counselors not adhering to parenting plans. They are not honoring both of the parents' wishes.

11. Adjournment

1:11 p.m.

Submitted by:

__ **Signature on file** _____

Kim-Boi Shadduck, MBA, Program Manager
Washington State Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapist and Social Worker Advisory Committee

Approved by:

__ **Signature on file** _____

Janys Murphy, Ph.D., LMHC, CDP, Acting Chair
Washington State Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapist and Social Worker Advisory Committee