

**Advisory Committee to the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program for the Deaf, Hard of
Hearing and Disabled**

**Meeting Minutes
December 11, 2013**

Members Present: Jason Weiland, Lauren Willis, Renee Davidson and Julie Doerrmann, Carol Uckar,

DMHAS Representative Present: Lily Britton

Members Excused: Nancy Yarosh, Lauren Casey.

Members Unexcused: Frank Latham, Kevin Sullivan

Visitors: Roger Borichewski, Tazee Mahjied (Advancing Opportunities), Lida Pascual (Rutgers University Behavioral Health).

Interpreters: Lori Adams, Dena Hazen, Jeanette Voight (CART)

Provider's Reports

Lida Pascual (Rutgers) passed out information regarding the program and gave an overview of services provided. They serve those who have Developmental, and physical disabilities with outpatient services. Questions were answered with transportation being the biggest issue. A site visit will be conducted by DMHAS representative, Lily Britton

Tazee Mahjied (Advancing Opportunities) reported that the key staff for this grant is no longer with the agency and that her replacement was being hired. No services were provided. An update will be reported at the next meeting.

Julie Doerrmann (Center for Family Services) reported that a new person was being hired for the south of Jersey to provide services and that Julie would be the northern counselor as well as the mobile counselor. An update on services will be reported at the next meeting.

September meeting minutes were reviewed and approved with minor changes or corrections.

Chairperson Report

Jason Weiland reported that the Division of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH) has scheduled a self-advocacy training with Northeastern University's Regional Interpretation Education Center to assist New Jersey in providing self-advocacy training and teaching. The training will provide education for those individuals who are Deaf about resources that are available.

Jason discussed that the Department of Treasury released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for foreign language and American Sign Language (ASL) services in late 2012 that would have one agency servicing

the state for any request for these types of services. Since that time, the RFP was put on hold and no re-release date is known at his time.

Jason also announced that two interpreters have set up Boston emergency management Interpreting (EMI) as a result of the bombing that took place in Boston. They are partnering with the Commission for the Deaf and hard of Hearing in Boston, the Massachusetts RID, as well as other Deaf and hard of hearing organizations in Massachusetts. Jason reports this to be a model that New Jersey and DDHH would like to incorporate in hopes of preparing better and having better communications access for the Deaf and hard of hearing populations, specifically in cases of emergency or disaster situations.

Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) Report/ Lily Britton

Lily reported that DMHAS continues its work toward implementing an ASO/MBHO which would move most current treatment services to a fee for service structure. DMHAS is currently working on an RFP for the ASO. A projected date for implementation of ASO would not be earlier than July 1, 2014.

Advertising for DMHAS services Available for Deaf, HOH and Disabled

A full report will be at the March meeting.

Meeting adjourned with the next meeting being March 12th.