

# **New Jersey Mental Health Planning Council (MHPC)**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**March 14, 2012**

Notices to announce the date, time and location of this meeting were sent out to the following news outlets: *Newark Star-Ledger*, *Asbury Park Press*, *The Times* (Trenton), *Bergen Record*, *The Press* (Pleasantville), and the *Courier-Post* (Cherry Hill)

### **Attendees:**

Jacob Bucher	Winifred Chain	Lisa Negron
Karen Vogel Romance	Helen Williams	Annette Wright (phone)
Damyanti Aurora	Donna Best	Karen Carroll
Patricia Dana	Gregory Karlin	Maryann Evanko
Angel Gambone	Alice Garcia	Theresa Buxton
Ana Guerra (phone)	Joseph Gutstein (phone)	Julian Fowler
Barbara Johnston	Bruce Blumenthal (DOC) (phone)	
Phil Lubitz	Tracy Maksell (phone)	Brenda Pateman (phone)
Hazeline Pilgrim (phone)	Harry Coe (phone)	Robin Weiss
Catherine Vern (phone)	Marie Verna	

### **DMHAS, DCBHS & DDD Staff:**

Patricia Bernabe	Suzanne Borys	Robert Culleton (phone)
Lynn Kovich	Jonathan Sabin (phone)	Dona Sinton
Darlene Yanetta (phone)		

### **Guests:**

Louann Lukens	Rachel Morgan (phone)	Peggy Reiff
Dave Sedar		

- I. Administrative Issues/Correspondence/Review of Previous Minutes
  - A. Minutes from the February meeting were reviewed and approved with an edit to page 3 item j
- II. Announcements
  - A. A public hearing will be held on the closure of Hagedorn from 1-4 on March 19, 2012
  - B. The call for members for the Planning Council was distributed and members were encouraged to disseminate it; it's also on the MHPC website
  - C. Marie Verna distributed the Quality Assurance fair flyer which is being held on 6/14/12 in Somerset County
  - D. National Children's Awareness Day is May 9, 2012
  - E. Teacher's Teaching Teachers Financial Seminar is on 4/2/12
  - F. DVR public forums are on the NAMI-NJ website
  - G. Community Health Law Project conference is one 3/23/12

- H. NAMI-NJ walk in Seaside Park is scheduled for 5/12
  - I. Gambling Awareness month is in March and the Governor's proclamation is on the website
- III. Waiver Subcommittee Updates - Phil Lubitz
- A. Waiver submitted in September to Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services to get approval for change in how the State does business
    - 1. Moving to an ASO/MBHO, re-aligning state hospitals and the merger of mental health and substance abuse are key
  - B. Four subcommittee have been meeting and will finish up shortly to present to larger steering committee
  - C. Mercer Consulting Group has been contracted by State to assist in the waiver RFP process, including the business requirements and core functions
  - D. We don't know how much of the subcommittee recommendations will play into the larger paper or the RFP
    - 1. Tracy Maksell said the ACCESS subcommittee has been working fast and furiously and this really did require a large time commitment
    - 2. Marie Verna said the OUTCOMES subcommittee in discussing incorporating peer specialist (peer bridgers)
- IV. Behavioral Health Proposed Budget Update – Lynn Kovich
- A. As a whole the Department of Human Services fared well in the Governor's proposed budget
  - B. Aging and Community Services from the Department of Health and Senior Services will be coming to DHS.
    - 1. Lowell Arye will be a new Deputy Commissioner, and will oversee the Division of Aging Services and the Division of Family Development
  - C. DMHAS still reports directly to the Commissioner
  - D. Adolescent substance abuse and disabilities services will be transitioned to the Department of Children and Families (DCF) in January 2013
    - 1. We had our first adolescent addiction stakeholder group meeting on 3/13
    - 2. will develop small working group as well
    - 3. 18-21 year olds who already touch DCF will stay with them and those we serve currently will transition to DCF at some point; those who haven't touched either system will stay with us for now
  - E. DMHAS has growth
    - 1. \$10 million in Olmstead (\$5 million to annualize projects this year and \$5 million to start 2013 placements which includes 245 new beds [145 CEPP and 100 at-risk])
    - 2. \$5.6 million to \$12.8 million in 2014 annualized Hagedorn savings
    - 3. expand outpatient psychiatric services in FY 13 (\$825K to \$2.5 M in FY 2014)
    - 4. rental assistance for 100 mental health and substance abuse consumers
    - 5. \$1M diversion in FY 13 to \$4M in FY 14 (behavioral health home which would help as match for chronic health conditions and emergency room usage)

6. More EISS across the State
7. Received funding for 133 more CEPP beds out in the community

F. Questions/Comments

1. Robin Weiss – Have boarding home consumers classified as at-risk so they are more eligible
2. Ann Wright – really need boarding home residents to be moved into at risk category
3. Jack Bucher- there are multiple position papers on the system's reliance on boarding homes, rooming houses and residential healthcare facilities
4. Lisa Negron- echoed the boarding home comments
5. Phil Lubitz- lessons from Hagedorn – we need to work on appropriate admissions as the most effective way of ending inappropriate placements
6. Bob Culleton – linkage between supportive housing and supported employment; this will impact addictions
7. Joe Gutstein- When will providers receive information about how the ASO/MBHO will impact their funding streams? Answer – We are meeting now with stakeholders and are talking about agency pilots and maybe having addictions fee-for-service agencies serve as mentors to agencies
8. Joe Gutstein- Wellness and Recovery Action Plan; where does it stand? Answer – I did review a draft and will follow up
9. Karen Carroll stated that they did have Jessica Trombetta from DCF meet with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation transition team
10. Marie Verna – the smaller adolescent addiction transition group meets on 3/28
11. Jack Bucher – What is your take on our Olmstead status? Answer – we are getting RFP's out quicker
12. Phil Lubitz – For general infrastructure, we have no increases to cover general cost of business? Answer – We know we have to address the rates. We have the savings from Hagedorn and OMB is on notice that we are going to ask for more funding for a rate analysis by an outside firm

V. Addictions Pay for Performance Drug Court Project - Suzanne Borys

A. A powerpoint was presented

1. Discussed incentive program for Drug Court
2. Allowable use of incentive dollars
3. Survival analysis data technique used to establish targets to be reached
4. Need to keep clients in treatment early on in treatment for better success
5. The results are positive since we implemented the incentives

B. Questions/Comments

1. Phil Lubitz – Any data on recidivism? Answer- The Administrative Office of the Courts would have that data
2. Joe Gutstein – How is treatment completion defined vs. non-completion? Answer – Based on provider report into the NJ Substance Abuse Monitoring System (NJSAMS)

3. Brenda Pateman – How did you do the formula because they are already highly motivated because of their legal status? Does self selection impact this? Answer – These are the clients we serve so we can't account for their motivation
4. Barbara Johnston – Are there behaviors that influence retention? Why is there retention? Answer – That would be an interesting study and we'll have to look into it
5. Joe Gutstein- How much do you think the improvement had to do with just being monitored because it's a relatively small incentive? Answer – They are always monitored by the State Project Officer and its extra funds they wouldn't have had. There are different types of incentives.
6. Comment - Karen Carroll – I wonder if there is an increased morale for staff too since clients are staying longer.
7. Comment - Bruce Blumenthal – there are 3 populations; highly motivated, highly unmotivated, and those in the middle. Has any client data on motivation/attitudes been studied? For example, the program that gets the highest retention out the middle group would be interesting. Suzanne said this also sounds like a good idea for a study.
8. Comment - Brenda Pateman – It would be interesting to know if the study had anything about substance abuse being neurobiological and not just behavioral because they may need some medical intervention.

VI. Planning Activities and Recommendations – Phil Lubitz

- A. Phil asked if members were interested in participating on an advocacy subcommittee regarding boarding homes?
  1. Sign up sheet was passed around and members can also email Dona Sinton
- B. For future meetings topics for consideration include:
  1. Boarding homes
  2. Robin Nighland to provide update on transition of adolescents to the Department of Children and Families
  3. Wellness and Recovery Action Plan

**Next Meeting**

MHPC General Meeting: 4-11-12, **10:00am-12:00** noon, Room 336