

**New Jersey Mental Health Planning Council (MHPC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**September 12, 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	Joe Delaney (phone)	Lisa Negron
Karen Vogel Romance	Helen Williams	Damyanti Aurora
Julian Fowler	Irina Stuchinsky	Angel Gambone (phone)
Marilyn Goldstein (phone)	Michael Ippoliti	Michael Jones (phone)
Gail Mesavitch	Philip Lubitz	Christopher Lucca
Hazeline Pilgrim	Regina Sessoms (phone)	Robin Weiss
Shauna Moses		

**DMHAS, DCBHS & DDD Staff:**

Suzanne Borys	Robert Culleton	Geri Dietrich (phone)
Vicki Fresolone	Valerie Larosiliere	Robin Nighland
Dona Sinton		

**Guests:**

Connie Greene (phone)	Gregory Karlin	Louan Lukens
Linda Meyer	Harry Coe (Phone)	

- I. Administrative Issues/Correspondence/Review of Previous Minutes
  - A. Minutes from the August meeting were reviewed and approved with a change in IV. D from health to held
  
- II. Announcements
  - A. DMHAS will be attending an Olmstead Policy Academy September 19-21 in Maryland. NJ was one of 5 states of the 26 applicants selected to attend. The focus of the Policy Academy will be on adults and children with mental disorders. The New Jersey team will consist of DMHAS staff, staff from HMFA, Medicaid, and the Mental Health Planning Council. Assistant Commissioner Kovich will present on a panel entitled Opportunities and Partnerships in Supportive Housing.
  - B. The mental health block grant received an increase of \$926,000. Funding will go into services. There will be internal meetings to address where those funds should be reinvested. We have two years to spend the funds and will check back with the Planning council once those internal meetings are held.
  - C. Estelle Richman, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of HUD is coming to NJ on September 28, 2012. Ms. Richman will be inviting the HUD regional office to meet with DHS and then the public housing authorities.
  - D. The first three Friday's in October will have open houses at the State Psychiatric

Hospitals.

- E. The Consumer Provider Association in New Jersey will hold its annual meeting and conference on September 22, 2012. Steve Fishbein from DMHAS will be the keynote.
- F. Robert Culleton has pulled together a presentation on planning for the Mental Health and Substance Abuse County Planners, and it was offered that he might be able to present it to the MHPC in November.
- G. The Hagedorn evaluation is being conducted by the Rutgers University School of Social Work which will have a MOA to assess consumers current quality of life. The contract with Clinical Services Management Consultants was extended to continue following the consumers.
  - 1. Q - Robin Weiss – Were consumers involved in the selection of the Hagedorn evaluators? A. – Yes, Suzanne Mills, our consumer advocate on staff was involved.
- H. The Center for Substance Abuse Prevention System Review was held in May and we await their report.
- I. The Center for Substance Abuse Treatment Core Technical Review was held in August and we await their report.
- J. The Membership Subcommittee met and recommended three new members (2 consumer and 1 provider) for council appointment.

### III. SMI definition update – Vicki Fresolone

- A. Vicki distributed the original and revised draft criteria for the SMI definition. The definition/criteria are still draft. The more recent version includes consumer input from the family and consumer forums that were hold on the topic.
  - 1. Criteria II had additional discussion because of member concerns regarding the need to include OCD and PTSD diagnoses
  - 2. Criteria III is based on diagnoses, is broader and requires corresponding functional impairment. There was also additional input into this criterion from consumers and family members at the forum
  - 3. The Recovery Maintenance phase acknowledges the recovery process is ongoing
  - 4. An at-risk definition is under development as well
  - 5. At this point you have to have SMI to be eligible for a behavioral health home
- B. Questions, Comments and Answers
  - 1. Q – Mike Ippoliti – Is criteria III created by the GAF scale? A – Not directly analogous to GAF scale, but we’re beginning to look at functional assessment
  - 2. Q – Regina Sessoms – How does a person who already has SSI and who is dually diagnosed but isn’t doing anything to stop their addictive disorder get classified or declassified? A - That is why we need documentation.
  - 3. C – Helen Williams – You really need to consider PTSD
  - 4. C – Linda Meyer – Completely agree that PTSD needs to be given more consideration

5. Q- Robin Weiss – Where does the at-risk definition fit in to be used? A – The definition will be used for the behavioral health home and the block grant
- C. Suzanne Borys advised that the web based survey is currently being designed. The goal is to determine financial criteria. The survey will run for around 3 months. It will go to all providers except those in emergency services, such as screening centers. It will also go to State Hospitals. However, the SMI definition has to be resolved before the survey can go out.
- IV. State Family Support Plan – Phil Lubitz
- A. Phil presented and distributed a powerpoint on family support for families of persons with a serious mental illness. He discussed the criteria for selecting goals and the various barriers families encounter, including barriers to residence, employment, health, leisure, legal, and education.
  - B. NAMI-NJ is looking forward to cooperating with the Division on this.
    1. Phil will provide a metabolic tracking form to Dona to send to the MHPC
    2. NAMI has a manual “Finding Our Way” on their website about criminal justice navigation
  - C. Questions, Comments and Answers
    1. Q – Linda Meyer – Older adults have unique needs. Does NAMI serve them? A – they are unique and some individual barriers will address that. It’s going to become more prominent
    2. Robert Culleton and Lisa Negron commented on denial and stigma
- V. Planning Activities and Recommendations – Phil Lubitz
- A. The October meeting will include an ethics presentation
  - B. A future meeting will focus on better coordinating State/County planning, and Geri will invite Clarence to that meeting
  - C. The membership and Block Grant subcommittees will meet at 9 am on 10/10/12 and each month thereafter
  - D. The Olmstead Advisory Committee will meet at noon on 10/10/12

**Next Meeting on 10-10-12**  
**10:00-12:00**, Room 3000 at 222 South Warren Street