

**New Jersey Behavioral Health Planning Council (BHPC)  
Meeting Minutes, July 8, 2015 10:00 A.M.**

**Attendees:**

|                     |                  |                     |
|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Winifred Chain      | Harry Coe        | Joe Delaney         |
| Michael Ippolitti   | Lisa Negron      | Marie Verna         |
| Karen Vogel Romance | John Calabria    | David Moore         |
| Christina Fagan (P) | Connie Greene    | Joseph Gutstein (P) |
| Donna Hallworth     | Sharon Harrigan  | Renee Ingram (P)    |
| Scott Kelsey        | Michael Litterer | Chris Lucca         |
| Michelle Madiou     | Dan Meara        | Robert Paige        |
| Linda Sacco         | Rocky Schwartz   | Regina Sessoms (P)  |
| Brenda Sorrentino   | Ellen Taner      | Pam Taylor          |
| Joy Tozzi           | LeeAnn Wagner    | Robin Weiss         |

**DMHAS, CSOC & DDD Staff:**

|               |                  |                   |
|---------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Suzanne Borys | Gerri Dietrich   | Mark Kruszczyński |
| Yunqing Li    | Donna Migliorino | Robin Nighland    |
| Patrick Roff  | Dona Sinton      | Helen Staton      |

**Guests:**

|                |                 |              |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| David Drescher | Donna DeStefano | Louan Lukens |
| Rachel Morgan  |                 |              |

- I. Welcome/Administrative Issues/Correspondence
  - A. Voted for a Chair Pro Tem in light of both Phil and John being absent. Both Marie Verna and Chris Lucca were nominated and accepted. Chris stepped aside and Marie was voted by members to serve as Chair for the meeting.
  - B. Minutes from last meeting approved with attendance edits.
  - C. Correspondence from Phil to the Legislature in regard to filling a vacancy on the Community Mental Health Citizen's Advisory Board was included in the meeting handouts.
  - D. Joe Delaney was sworn into the Community Mental Health Citizens Advisory Board.
  - E. Reminder to new members that there will be an orientation meeting in this room after the general meeting.
  - F. Dona to send acronym list out to members to include in their orientation manuals.
  
- II. Continued Block Grant Application Overview – Donna Migliorino, Suzanne Borys and Geri Dietrich
  - A. Donna Migliorino advised that the State is planning to have all environmental sections uploaded to BGAS by 7/27/15, and the Planning Sections uploaded by 8/3/15
  - B. Final guidance was just received from the federal government last week
  - C. Marie Verna commented that the Block Grant Committee wants to send in its letter that the final guidance comes out too late which hampers the Planning Council input in a timely fashion

- D. Suzanne Borys contacted the federal government regarding the final guidance and pointed out an error that the referenced draft measures were missing.
- E. Geri Dietrich gave the history of the youth mental health portion of the Block Grant.
- F. CSOC was recently awarded a SAMHSA grant for trauma informed care.
- G. Suzanne Borys discussed the indicators that substance abuse selected.
  - 1. To increase the number Pregnant women and women with children receiving substance abuse treatment
  - 2. To increase the number of intravenous drug users entering treatment by 1% in year 1 and 1% in year 2
  - 3. Decrease underage drinking in youth by 1%
  - 4. Increase HIV testing
- H. Dona Sinton went over how to access BGAS and will continue to email the username and password.
  - 1. Members were advised to not print the document because it is LARGE!
- I. Donna Migliorino reviewed the 22 environmental factors and plan and handed out a hard copy draft to members to review.
  - 1. Comments/edits are to be emailed to Dona Sinton for inclusion in the documents.
  - 2. We still need to add the children's pieces and fiscal portions to the document.
  - 3. Marie suggested including the event on PAD in January in Section 15
  - 4. Next month we will finish reviewing items 6, 10, 12, 20 and 21.
- J. Questions/Comments/Answers
  - 1. Q. Winifred Chain - asked if the indicators were localized or statewide. A. They are statewide.
  - 2. C. Marie Verna – this Planning Council identifies the gaps and strengths of the system of care.
  - 3. C. Chris Lucca – the review by the Planning Council of BGAS is critical.
  - 4. C. Dan Meara – the overdoses are the greatest killer nationwide.
  - 5. Q. Rocky Schwartz – inquired about the difference between self-help center and recovery centers. A. Suzanne explained that one is geared more for mental health and the other is for substance abuse. Both are peer run. The next step is to strengthen their recovery services.
  - 6. C. Christina Fagan- many recovery centers are in the state and are grassroots organizations. We're looking to make a bridge to get people back into the community.
  - 7. Dona will send out the list of the recovery centers once obtained from Suzanne.
  - 8. C. Joe Gutstein would like the aggregate data on the attendance at the wellness centers from SHOUT
  - 9. C. Rocky Schwartz pointed out that the disconnect between treatment and recovery can be considered a gap in service.
  - 10. Q. David Moore - asked if BGAS is open to the public or only the Planning Council. A. Its open to anyone.

### III. Farewell from Lynn Kovich

- A. At the end of the month Lynn will leave to take a position with the Technical Assistance Collaborative, focusing on housing in different states.
- B. As a previous member of the New Jersey Mental Health Planning Council, Lynn has strong feelings towards the council and its important role.
- C. She thanked the group for their work.

IV. Announcements

- A. Future meeting topics:
  - 1. Margaret/Patrick to talk about consumer services
  - 2. Would like Beth Connolly to attend a meeting
  - 3. DCF Community and Family Partnerships to talk about youth suicide prevention plan
  - 4. Ancora update (can we get a copy of the CMS report and Plan of Correction?)
- B. CSOC youth conference in August
- C. Vets for Warriors has been funded by the DOH to continue its services
- D. Liz Manley is now the Assistant Commissioner for DCF

**Next General Meeting August 12, 2015 at 10:00 AM**  
**Block Grant Committee Meeting 9:00 am and Advocacy Committee at noon in 3-097**