



New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS)

Citizens Advisory Council (CAC)

February 21st 2013 | 9:15-11:45am

Present Members	Missing Members
Nasar Mahmoud, Chairperson	Devin Fox, DMHAS Staff Liaison
Father Bill Naughton, Vice Chairperson	Patricia DeLuca
Ellen Taner	Carole Mosley
Ezra Helfand	Donna DeStefano
Charles Stewart	Ana Guerra
Kathleen Dennis	Dennis Lee – on leave
Kathleen Dobbs	
Candice Singer	Guests and DMHAS Staff
Jeff Beck	
Debbie Riscica	Donald Hallcom
	Dennis Donovan, DMHAS
	Ann Wanamaker, DMHAS

AGENDA ITEMS:	Dialogue	Actions / Strategic Decisions
Welcome and Introductions & Approve Minutes	<p>The minutes of 12/20/12 were approved.</p> <p>Ellen agreed to take the minutes in the absence of Karen from DAS. Ezra presented a 19 page compilation of minutes/notes of CAC. Ezra then advocated for the minutes to be in a format re: topics and then discussion points, acts that show input to DMHAS, lists of events for CAC, strategic decisions, issues that need to be resolved (such as the flyer, the website portal, table cloth and banner for displays, a newsletter.)</p>	<p>Ellen agreed to provide meeting notes and develop a format that will make the minutes more useable and useful. She will also invite her work-study student from UMDNJ MSW program to attend the next CAC meeting to see if she can help with the minutes. It was agreed that future CAC meeting minutes are to be completed and sent out within five (5) business days of the meeting. New format is to be applied.</p>



<p>Liaisons' Reports and Actions CAC want to take regarding the committee:</p>	<p>No one attended last month's MHPC meeting so no report was delivered.</p> <p>It was agreed that members of the Council will serve as representatives of CAC on various state committees and councils including but not limited to MHPC (Ellen), PAC, Drug Court Committee, DAS Quarterly Meetings, GCADA, County Coordinators/Directors monthly meetings and more.</p>	<p>Ellen will follow-up with Devin and Ann W. re: specific contacts at each committee/council so that they may be contacted and asked to allow CAC member(s) to attend their meetings. The CAC will review this at the February meeting at which time decision on who will attend which meetings will be made and appropriate letters drafted and sent.</p>
<p>Old Business: Draft of Letters Membership Travel Vouchers Open Discussion</p>	<p>Draft of Letters: Candice advocated that the ASO letter already drafted needs to include additional content that emphasizes that licensure standards require client-centered treatment but is often not adhered to.</p> <p>Ann indicated that initiative funded programs all do LOCI's as part of NJ SAMS. Ellen suggested reaching out to the County Coordinators/Directors and have their Program Analysts when doing site visits to specifically check on client-centered compliance.</p> <p>Ezra and Jeff also worked on Letter of Introduction of CAC to organizations scheduled to hold events of import to the CAC. Letter requests a waiver of exhibiting fees to the CAC. This is particularly time sensitive due to the March 8 NJPN Conference. The letter was approved.</p> <p>Membership: Kathleen provided</p>	<p>It was agreed that the letter already drafted will be revised (by either Jeff and/or Candice).written to DMHAS to request they send a letter to the County Coordinators/Directors.</p> <p>Devin will send the letter to NJPN. At the February meeting, the CAC will discuss who should attend the NJPN conference and exhibit if the fee has been waived. Ezra will call Bruce at NJPN to see if our flyers can be added to the packets if we are unable to have an exhibit.</p> <p>Membership forms must be completed every two years and the Conflict of Interest section must be done annually.</p> <p>Devin will let the council know of</p>



	<p>members with a form each member was asked to sign indicating their interest in continuing to be a member of the CAC and also indicating that they do not have any conflicts of interest.</p> <p>The group discussed the need to add members, especially individuals or family members of those in recovery. The goal is to increase the group to at least 20. Since the meetings are open to the public, Ellen asked if she can have her student intern attend the meetings.</p> <p>Travel Vouchers: Ann reported that Devin has sent e-mails to DMHAS. Further, Ezra asked if we were mandated to have the meetings at the current location.</p> <p>Ellen updated the group about efforts to infuse lifespan family education and resources into the public health/behavioral health policy of the US Surgeon General's Preventive Services Task Force. This advocacy was included in a Call to Action developed by ACMHA and Council for Whole Health and was discussed with the Vice President's Task Force on Gun Control and Behavioral Health issues in response to Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy. Ellen is also working with national organizations on policy recommendations and a CDC grant application.</p>	<p>the decision to fund travel expenses.</p> <p>Ezra may reach out to his database to urge new potential members to attend a future CAC meeting and consider joining.</p> <p>Ellen will ask her student intern from UMDNJ to attend the meeting as well and perhaps help with the minutes.</p> <p>Devin will check on the status of unpaid Travel Vouchers and Ann W. will see if there is any liability concerns re: having the meetings on state property vs. rotating the meetings at different council members' venues or other options.</p>
<p>New Business: Open</p>	<p>Debbie announced a free smoking cessation program for pregnant</p>	



<p>Discussion/Announcements</p> <p>Nominations</p>	<p>and new moms in Central New Jersey.</p> <p>Father Bill described how Berkeley College and Straight and Narrow are with Drug Addicts in jail.</p> <p>Kathleen D mentioned Tanya Ahern in Atlantic and Cape May County has been working with this population as well.</p> <p>Ellen spoke of the CF! curriculum of the National Council of Children of Alcoholics and her efforts to bring the program to the Dept. of Corrections for implementation as a priority for re-entry and recidivism prevention.</p> <p>Candice raised the issue of parity is again before the legislature. Parity of health benefits has been included for employees who work the state and education but doesn't include those who work in other government entities. It passed in the Senate Health Committee with Sen. Vitali leading the measure. The 911 legislation may be reintroduced. The group discussed the role of CAC having to do with information, advocacy and education to DMHAS and the community.</p> <p>The Governor was scheduled to have a press conference at 2:00 today re: Mental Health and Addiction Services.</p> <p>Ann announced that NASAD will be speaking at a conference on</p>	<p>Ellen will reach out to Tanya Ahern to learn more about what is being done in NJ and to see if the Council may want to learn more about addressing this population as it relates to DMHAS.</p> <p>Candice agreed she'd provide the CAC with an on-going list of Legislation relevant to the concerns of the Council. The group may wish to advocate/inform legislators via DMHAS about specific legislative action such as the 911 Bill.</p> <p>Ezra will develop and overall list of strategic priorities previously identified by CAC..</p> <p>Ann W. will send an a=Announcement about the meeting and attach the NASADAD Consensus Statement on MAT in</p>
--	--	---



	<p>Friday. She apologized for the short notice. The conference specifically addresses Medication Assisted Therapy and Motivational Interviewing Skills. The group discussed the inane laws and regulations that seem to disarm those in recovery (such as in Drug Court) that in order to graduate, must be off all MAT's, or that the AOC funds methadone but not Vivitrol. This is like telling a diabetic they have to get off insulin.</p> <p>Nominations for President included Nasar, Candice, Ezra and Kathleen Dennis. Nominations for Vice President included Candice and Kathleen. Nasar thanked everyone and passed the baton to the new leaders. He and Father Bill were both thanked by the Council as well.</p> <p>Prior to Adjourning, Jeff announced that for the first time, the DSMV identifies gambling as an addiction and not an impulse control disorder. This is a huge step forward as the first non-substance related behavior is recognized as an addiction.</p>	<p>the the Treatment of Substance Abuse.</p> <p>Ezra is the new Council Chairperson and Kathleen is the new Council Vice Chairperson.</p>
<p>Adjournment and Next Meeting:</p>	<p>The Council adjourned at 11:20 AM. The Next Meeting is on: February 21, 2013 at Quakerbridge Plaza Building 9 in Hamilton Township/Mercerville.</p>	<p>Ann W. will see why the DAS quarterly meeting was schedule at the same time as the CAC meeting.</p>

These minutes were respectively taken and provided by **Ellen** Taner.