

New Jersey Mental Health Planning Council (MHPC)
Meeting Minutes

July 10, 2013
10:00 A.M.

Attendees:

Jack Bucher	Lisa Negron	Karen Vogel Romance
Pat Dana	Angel Gambone	Marilyn Goldstein (p)
Connie Greene	Joe Gutstein (p)	Donna Hallworth
Mike Ippoliti	Gail Levinson (p)	Phil Lubitz
Christopher Lucca	John Pellicane	Tom Pyle
Ellen Taner	Robin Weiss (p)	Randy Thompson
Marie Verna		

DMHAS, CSOC & DDD Staff:

Suzanne Borys	Robert Culleton (p)	Geri Dietrich
Mark Kruszczyński	Donna Migliorino	Dona Sinton

Guests:

Irina Stuchinsky	Harry Coe (phone)	Peggy Reiff
Louan Lukens	Rachel Morgan	Bill Cole
Virginia Erazo	Joe Nazdan	Gregory Valent
Alric Warren	Rodney Belle	Sally Williams

I. **Administrative Items**

- A. June minutes approved with an edit on page 4 to update C to read “CSPNJ has partnered with Bridgeway”
- B. Allan Boyer resigned from Ancora and is now the Director of SERV
- C. Steve Adams is retiring August 1, 2013
- D. Discussed the letter from Paulo del Vecchio (SAMHSA) that indicates New Jersey has a \$267,962 cut in Block Grant funding for Mental Health. DMHAS will be utilizing administrative savings rather than cuts to programs to achieve this funding cut.
- E. Recovery and Rebuilding Update – A handout was provided with updates. In addition, as a recipient of funding Connie Greene would like to give an update monthly from her perspective. Brick Township will be demolishing homes this week and Hope and Healing is assisting the families. Allison Blake and Jennifer Velez came down two weeks ago to Ocean County to applaud the children who survived Sandy and who wrote letters to Oklahoma children after their disaster.

II. **Nominating/Elections - Marilyn Goldstein**

- A. Slate is Phil for chair and Jack for Vice Chair
- B. Nominations from the floor were opened but none were offered.
- C. Phil and Jack were unanimously re-elected to their positions.

- III. Block Grant Application Overview – Donna Migliorino
- A. We've gone over most of the application in the previous meetings and it is on BGAS
 - B. Donna reviewed the Planning Steps which is the heart of the application
 - C. She would like the Planning Council to focus on Planning Steps 1-4 for their final review at August meeting as well as Section W and Membership tables for the Planning Council
 - D. Additional changes were made by SAMHSA in the last two weeks. We've made those changes and are working on fiscal tables now. We recently received clarification that our 2014 – 2015 figures should be based on our 2013 appropriation
 - E. Section X on Enrollment and Provider Business Practices is the newest section that needs to be developed
 - F. There is an outstanding question on the Quality Assurance plan and Marie Verna will assist in reaching out to UBHC to gather the needed data.
 - G. The new narrative section that was required with regards to the 5% for the Mental Health Set Aside has been completed.
 - H. Recovery and Quality Section had to be revised based on new guidance. These were just uploaded this morning on BGAS.
 - I. Donna Migliorino and Suzanne Borys –Mental Health is currently doing Provider Performance Reports for a few Program Elements and will be developing them for every program. We also have a web based quarterly contract monitoring report that will be piloted soon.
 - J. Suzanne Borys –we will be doing a Mental Health overview in the future. We have a new Bed Enrollment Data System that is starting so we'll be able to assess where slots are available quicker in the future.
 - i. C. Marie – When we last asked for a database of beds, we mentioned wanting it to be more based on housing, not beds because housing is more than a bed.
 - ii. C. Mark – This is really an internal tool for the Division
 - iii. C. Tom- Semantics issues – bed has a hospital connotation and is irritating to consumers
 - iv. C. Jack – This also reflects on the Bureau of Licensing
 - v. C. Joe Gutstein – If it's a bed, it's a bed
 - vi. C. Robin Weiss – No it's a stepping stone to move, not just a bed
 - vii. C. Suzanne – It's an internal inventory so we know how many we have
 - K. Suzanne also stated that we are in the process of combining our websites as that hasn't been done yet since with merge.
 - i. Q. Marie Verna – When do you think the merged site will be up and running? Suzanne – hopefully in the fall
 - L. C. Phil – This Block Grant submission really covers our system; it's very descriptive. We should be sure to pay close attention to Quality Assurance section and children's portion as the adult system moves to an ASO.
 - M. Questions/Comments

- i. Q. Phil – Are there any parts of the Block Grant that you are concerned about? A. – Donna, No, the only things that are new are the 3% and 5% set asides for enrollment and prevention
 - 1. Q. Tom – What’s the 3% going to be used for? A. Enrollment and provider business practices, to position agencies to enroll into Medicaid. For right now we have to cut services on the addiction side to meet the 3% set aside for enrollment. It’s a significant amount of money.
- ii. C. Marie – Don Hallcom is doing the prevention piece for the Division
- iii. Q. Robin – Why aren’t self-help centers considered prevention? A. We can pass this on to Roger
- iv. C. Phil – We will vote at August 14, 2013 meeting on the Block Grant application that we’ve had the chance to review it
- v. C. Tom Pyle – Can the feds let you print the whole document before its submitted? It’s frustrating for the review. A. We can ask them again but it’s a function of their system.
- vi. C. Geri – On children’s side we don’t get direct funding from Mental Health Block Grant but state dollars instead. We have primarily Medicaid funding and state funds that we report to the Block Grant. Our priorities are increasing services and suicide prevention. We are proud of what New Jersey is doing and provide much detail on the children’s system
 - 1. We are reaching out to the Traumatic Loss Coalition to see if they can present at September’s meeting
- vii. Our application describes the entire system, not just the Block Grant funds only
- viii. Q. – Tom Pyle – When will financials piece be done? A. – We are hopeful by August 1, 2013.
- ix. Q – Chris Lucca – Can I submit comments by copying/posting and sending to you? A. – yes, and I’d suggest using track changes on the document so we can see it exactly.

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Robin – Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale (BRSS) project is to develop peer certification for Medicaid reimbursement in the addiction’s field. It’s a six month project. Vicki, Irina, Margaret Molnar, Don Hallcom, Roxanne Kennedy and other state staff are involved in the project. We’ve had a number of meetings and it’s a \$50K grant.
 - i. C. Geri - On the Georgetown University website there’s a webinar on Medicaid funding that Geri will email to Robin
 - ii. C. Tom – the Rutgers ACT Program might be useful for you as well
- B. Membership Subcommittee
 - i. Group met this morning. We continued to work on selection criteria and pulled out the criteria specific to the Community Mental Health Citizen’s Advisory Board and made that its own criterion.
 - ii. John Pellicane attended as a new participant
 - iii. We are putting the review of potential new members on hold right now

until we get a clear picture of where we're at within the guidelines.

- C. Phil stated that we need to develop a bylaws committee and to reflect the movement to a Behavioral Health Council
- D. Advocacy Subcommittee
 - i. Met last month and was joined by new members Connie and Ellen. Mary Lynn Reynolds joined too as director of Mental Health Association Southwest Jersey. That was a very interesting meeting and Robin was to attend a June meeting as well and update us in August. Dave Helfand from the DMHAS Southern Region to attend the August Meeting as well.
 - ii. Dona to send to Connie and Ellen the public advocates report again.

- V. Law on Parity – Phil Lubitz
 - A. Handout packet included a summary on the new parity law for consideration by Governor.
 - B. New Jersey Association of Health Plans also has written that all small plans have to have parity
 - C. The penalty to employers was extended one year.
 - D. A small group has fifty plus employees
 - E. Right now there is full parity for everyone except State employees or Education employees
 - F. Only nine states opted out of Parity for Mental Health and Substance Abuse, including AL, MS, GA, OK, and NJ etc.
 - G. This law would prevent this inequity
 - H. Vote approved by membership for Phil to send a letter to encourage the Governor to sign this bill
 - I. Phil to create letter and copy Lynn

- VI. Planning Activities/Announcements
 - A. SHA membership meeting took place last week and included an overview by Community Access Unlimited regarding the New American Movement as well as the separation of your landlord from your supportive service provider.
 - B. Editorial in Star Ledger by Gail Levinson calling upon Governor to use housing trust funds. She's hoping he'll meet with them. Gail prefers it be called affordable homes (not housing). New Jersey Supreme Court ruled in 5 -2 decision that COAH needs to remain in but not of Executive Branch.
 - C. Q. Tom Pyle – Rate setting process – what is schedule? Supposed to be due September 1, 2013. A. Still unclear right now but we did have communication from Lynn before the holiday about it. Dona to ask Mollie and Lynn to include consumer and family in the rate setting work groups.
 - D. C. Ellen On October 12, 2013 there will be an addiction consumer Linkage Event at Center for Family Services in Voorhees
 - E. Marie and Tom have been discussing outcomes. Phil asked them to look at Block Grant document on outcomes section and to prepare something that will show what the results of having an outcomes group will be. What will be the purpose? Quality improvement? Management?
 - i. Joe Gutstein – outcomes subcommittee – what makes you think this one

will be different than previous ones there have been?

- F. Annual Quality Improvement Fair – GPPH won the trophy among about 30 entries, with a data and information sharing protocol
- G. C. Marie- There was a strategy session on workforce development held in April and Marie would like a presentation. We need to be developing a workforce that is dual diagnosis treatment competent.
- H. Can PerformCare do a presentation? Geri will find out.

Next General Membership Meeting on August 14, 2013- 10:00-12:00, Room 3000

The Block Grant Subcommittee will meet at 9:00 am on 8/14/13 in room 3052

The Advocacy Subcommittee will meet at noon on 8/14/13 in room 3052

The Olmstead Advisory Committee will meet at noon on 11/13/13 in room 3052