

New Jersey Behavioral Health Planning Council
Meeting Minutes,
October 9, 2019 10:00 A.M.

Attendees:

Jim Romer	Phil Lubitz	Winifred Chain	Harry Coe (p)
Cheri Thompson	Tonia Ahern	Michele Madiou	Diane Riley (p)
Maryanne Evanko	Suzanne Borys	Patricia Matthews	Heather Reid
Joseph Guttstein (p)	Heather Simms	Suzanne Smith	Darlema Bey
Michael Ippoliti (p)	Barbara Johnston (p)		

DMHAS, CSOC, DDD, DMAHS & DoH Staff:

Mark Kruszczyński	Yunqing Li	Wayne Zack	Stacy Reh
Geri Dietrich			

Guests:

Kurt Baker	Wendy Rodgers
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(p) Indicates participation via conference call.

I. Welcome / Administrative Issues / Correspondence / Announcements

A. Quorum Reached: 18 of 39 member-participants (46% attendance, 33% needed).

B. Election of NJ BHPC Chair and Vice-Chair

1. Candidates:

- a. Chair: Phil Lubitz
- b. Vice-Chair: Darlema Bey
- c. There were no other candidates nominated

2. Results:

- a. Chair: Phil Lubitz was unanimously elected as Chair.
- b. Vice-Chair, Darlema Bey was unanimously elected as Vice-Chair.

3. In accordance with Article V, Section 1 of the By-laws of the NJ Behavioral Health Planning Council, each of these officers shall serve for two years (October 2019 to October 2021).

4. Elections should be held no later than September 2021 for the subsequent term,

C. The remainder of the October 9th meeting was convened by Chairman Lubitz and Vice Chairwoman Bey.

D. Minutes from September 11, 2019 meeting approved (with minor edits).

E. Announcements

1. 10/6/19: NAMI Annual Walk was a success and well-attended.
2. 10/16/19: Attitudes in Reverse (AIR) "Taste of Hope" Princeton Marriott, Princeton NJ.
3. 11/14/19: NJPRA.org hosting its 39th annual Conference at Pines Manor, Edison, NJ.
4. 10/24/19: Community Mental Health Law Project Award Dinner. P. Lubitz is honoree.
5. The Planning Council was thrilled for the return of Jim Romer to today's meeting. Jim shared with the Council his previous retirement from RWJ/Barnabas in January 2019, his subsequent return as a consultant, and the devastating loss of his amazing wife Lori (whom was a prominent mental health professional, has lived experience as a family suicide survivor, and the co-founder of a suicide survivors support group). Due to Jim's: deep experience in the acute care system, compassion, wisdom, and lived-experience, the Council is better with Jim as a part of it.

II. Promising Path to Success 2.0: (Stacy Reh, CSOC, NJ DCF)

[PowerPoint Presentation presented to the Planning Council and emailed to members on 10/11/2019].

A. Overview.

1. This is a statewide initiative that combines the evidenced based model of 6 Core Strategies with the Nurtured Heart Approach to build inner wealth in youth and families, while supporting system partners in creating safer, healing, trauma-informed environments, which focuses on monthly coaching, TA and resources
2. A four-year grant, \$12M.
3. Philosophy of The Nurtured Heart Approach:
 - a. Youth with intensity have learned that they get more connection from adults when things are going wrong (using their intensity in negative ways)
 - b. Create new Portfolios that are energetically aligned
 - c. Build Inner Wealth in youth
 - d. NHA asks us to alter our lens, create first hand experiences of success, & make miracles out of molecules
 - e. It must be genuine and provide evidence

B. Comments/Q&A

1. Concerns over language: why are adults whom receive services “consumers”, but youth are not?
2. Challenge of children going to screening unnecessarily.
3. Q: What is Serious Emotional Disturbance”
A: According to the Federal Register, Vol, 58, No, 96, 5/30/19, 29425 the definition of Serious Emotional Disturbance includes the following:
 - children from birth up to age 18
 - who currently or any time during the past year
 - have had a diagnosable mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder of sufficient duration to meet diagnostic criteria specified within DSM-III-R²
 - which has resulted in functional impairment which substantially interferes with or limits the child’s role or functioning in family, school, or community activities.

[See <https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/federal-register-notice-58-96-definitions.pdf>, and <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK368053/>]
4. Is the entire system of mental health care meant to foster recovery, or to inhibit disruption?

III. State Partners Involvement

A Children’s System of Care (Stacy Reh)

1. The Strategic Plan is being informed by input from stakeholders and families about how to move the Division forward.

B. NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (Suzanne Borys)

1. SAMHSA Block Grant Implementation Reports are being worked on, due 12/2/19.
2. Opioid Reduction Options Program in emergency departments will be expanded to eight more hospitals, although more hospitals were expected.

3. New ways treating pain management could have positive impact on reducing opioid over-prescription and deaths.
- C. NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS) (Cheri Thompson)
1. NJ DVRS is celebrating its 100th anniversary this month.
 2. Search and recruitment for new Division Director has concluded.
- D. NJ Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) (Heather Reid): Nothing to report.
- E. NJ Association of County Mental Health Administrators (Michele Madiou):
1. NJACMHA is working on draft document regarding the increased stigmatization in the wake of recent episodes of mass violence.
 2. Upcoming training on “Early Identification and Management of Violent Behavior: Focus on Personal Safety and Organizational Response” to be hosted by DMHAS Disaster and Terrorism Branch on 10/23/19 at the New Jersey Forensic Science Technology Center

IV. Next Meeting & Adjournment

- A. Next meeting of the NJ BHPC will be held on Wednesday, November 13, at 10:00 am at DMHAS Headquarters, 5 Commerce Way, Suite 100, room 199a.
1. Anticipated Subcommittee Meetings on 11/13/19:
 - a. 9:00 AM, Block Grant
 - b. 12:00 PM, Advocacy
- B. Suggestions for upcoming presentations to the Planning Council
1. NJ Mental Health Stigma-Free Zones, Michele Madiou
- C. Meeting Adjourned.