

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Recovery Advisory Group

1. Statement of Purpose – The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) is committed to fostering a recovery-oriented system of care. The department endorses a broad vision of recovery that involves a process of restoring or developing a positive and meaningful sense of identity apart from one’s condition and then rebuilding a life despite or within the limitations imposed by that condition. Substantial resources have been assigned to promote a comprehensive recovery vision. In order to assure that our recovery efforts are responsive to the diverse needs of consumers and persons in recovery as well as the provider community, DMHAS is creating an Advisory Group on Recovery. The committee will advise the Department on a broad range of recovery related issues in order to assure that DMHAS successfully implements a recovery-oriented system of care.

2. Scope of Work – The Advisory Group on Recovery will:
 - a. Advise the Department on recovery related policy matters and on the implementation of recovery initiatives.
 - b. Advise the Department regarding ways to enhance development of a recovery-orienting system through training and education.
 - c. Solicit input from consumers, family members, and providers to determine community education and service needs as they relate to recovery.
 - d. Recommend recovery-oriented training and service initiatives based on identified community needs.
 - e. Recommend potential recovery-oriented outcomes that can be used to evaluate progress of the system as it becomes increasingly focused on recovery.
 - f. Recommend anti-stigma initiatives that will promote recovery.

3. Committee Composition and Selection – The committee shall be comprised of approximately 10 at-large members, more than half of whom are consumers/persons in recovery or family members. The remaining members shall be individuals from the provider community and from academic institutions, plus representatives from each of the following organizations:
 - Advocacy Unlimited
 - Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery
 - Connecticut Chapter of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (CT-NAMI)
 - General Assistance Consumer Advisory Council
 - Provider Advisory Council
 - Community Mental Health Strategy Board
 - State-Operated Mental Health and Substance Abuse Providers

In order to ensure an appropriate level of community participation, a broad process will be used to recruit committee members. Individuals interesting in serving on the

committee may apply to do so directly, or they may be nominated by a sponsoring organization. Selection of committee members from among applicants shall be at the discretion of the Commissioner.

4. Service of Committee Members – Individuals serving on the committee shall do so in the public interest and not as representatives of a particular provider agency or facility. Committee members are expected to attend one meeting per month; however, if subcommittees are formed, these meetings will occur as scheduled by the subcommittee chairperson.