

**Adult Behavioral Health Planning Council
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Day/Date:	Thursday, August 17, 2023, 2:00 – 3:30 PM	
Location:	Teams	
Members Present:	Allyson Nadeau, Michaela Fissel, Angela Duhaime, Peter Tolisano, Dana Begin, Jennifer Abbatemarco, Maria Feliciano, Pamela Mautte, Lori Fedewa, Laura Watson	
Staff Present:	Kyle Barrette, Elizabeth Feder, Denique Weidema-Lewis, Andrea Duarte, Elsa Ward	
AGENDA ITEM:		ACTION
Block Grant Update: Kyle Barrette,	<p>Kyle provided updates on the combined MHBG and SUPTRSBG application and plan. Kyle provided an overview of the various sections of the application. Kyle identified the priority areas identified in the application and reviewed the specific projects and initiatives that DMHAS is planning to implement with block grant funding to address the needs and recommendations identified through the regional prioritization process and planning council survey.</p> <p>Kyle identified the period that the combined application will be open for public comment and discussed how to submit comments and recommendations.</p> <p><u>Feedback:</u></p> <p>Regarding plans for a statewide initiative to expand First-Episode Psychosis services (P169), Michael Fissel noted the importance of including groups like CT Hearing Voices network in planning/implementation efforts and to think about supportive resources in the state that may not be mainstream but can support individuals who may be experiencing early symptoms. Dana Begin noted that a list of regional resources for early psychosis is currently being compiled and DMHAS will work to include resources/organizations mentioned by Michaela.</p> <p>*Power Point attached</p>	Kyle will email planning council members the link to view and comment on the block grant application
Advocacy Unlimited Presentation: Michael Fissel, Advocacy Unlimited	Michaela Fissel presented on the importance and impact of language as it pertains to behavioral health. Michaela provided an overview of existing literature highlighting the impact of language on self-beliefs and behavioral health outcomes and engaged the council in discussion on alternate language use that aligns with recovery orientation and person-centered care.	Michaela will provide presentation slides and information on an additional upcoming training

	*Power Point Presentation attached	
Membership Discussion: Angela Duhaime (Chair)	Angela discussed the establishment of membership recruitment/development as an ongoing agenda item that will be included for all meetings moving forward, to brainstorm recruitment strategies and outline groups/communities/populations that the council should seek membership from. Angela noted that if members identify individuals who may be interested in joining the planning council, they can send this information to her and Kyle Barrette.	Include standing agenda item related to membership recruitment/development
DMHAS Update: Andrea Duarte, DMHAS Prevention Division Elsa Ward, Director, Office of Recovery Community Affairs Dana Begin, Director, Evidence Based Practices Division	Prevention - Andrea noted that there are new adult mental health plan resources under the Gizmo initiative for Adult Mental Health (trusted adult and caregivers companion guide) available on the website at gizmo4.org. Recovery System - Elsa Ward provided updates regarding various Recovery month activities that her office is work to implement, including a media campaign for celebrating recovery. For this campaign, individuals in Recovery across the state are recording brief one-minute videos that discuss their story of recovery. These will be brought together and made available through social media platforms. Elsa noted that if planning council members are aware of anyone who would like to create a video, they can contact her and she can help the person to create their video. Crisis Response System – No updates at this time	Andrea to share link to Gizmo resources.
Adjournment: Angela Duhaime (Chair)	Next meeting will be Tuesday November 9 th . Members can send agenda items and presentation ideas to Angela and Kyle.	