

**State of Connecticut
State Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services
November 15, 2017
Connecticut Valley Hospital**

Present: Paul Acker, Peggy Ayer, Sam Ball, Kristie Barber, Greg Benson, Sharon Castelli, Sandy Cole, Marcia Dufore, Kathy Flaherty, Ingrid Gillespie, Angela Harris, Jennifer Henry, Irene Herden, Marcus McKinney, Bob Painter, Yashira Pepin, Ismene Petrakis, Larry Pittinger, Brian Reignier, Kevin Sevarino, Tom Steen, Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Eileen Swan, Deborah Walker, Margaret Watt

Excused: Craig Allen, Juan Hernandez

DMHAS Staff: Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon, Nancy Navarretta, Steve DiPietro, Michael Michaud, Mary Kate Mason,
Diana Lejardi, Ellen Boynton, Marilyn Duran

Agenda Item 1: Call to order and introductions

The meeting was called to order at 2:40 PM by Marcus McKinney.

Agenda Item 2: Minutes of previous meeting review and action

The minutes from the October 18, 2017 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Agenda Item 3: Commissioner's Update

- **Legislative:** Mary Kate Mason gave an update on legislative issues. The budget bill transferred the responsibility of the renter's rebate for the elderly and disabled from OPM to the municipal government. The department is working with OPM to put together our legislative package.
- **Budget:** Steve DiPietro gave an update on the budget. A bipartisan budget was passed on October 25th. DMHAS got \$20 million put back into the budget from the Executive Order. The Governor was given the authority to put lapses in the budget for over \$110 million. A letter from OPM to the comptroller went out with a revenue forecast of the bipartisan budget for this year with a \$178 million deficit.
- **CVH CMS Certification:** The Commissioner gave an update on CMS certification at CVH. DPH, as an agent of CMS, had found that some ligature points were not aligned. DMHAS continues to fully address CMS's concerns and will be resurveyed on or before January 3, 2018.

Agenda Item 4: Update from State Board's Subcommittee on Best Practices

Larry Pittinger gave an update on the subcommittee. So far they have met twice. A summary statement and outline for the work of the committee was done. The committee would like to add as members a person of the patient advisory committee and a representative from the 1199 union. Reopening the CVH Valley View Café is one of the immediate goals of the committee.

Agenda Item 5: Presentation: Multicultural Healthcare Equality: Tabled for next month

Agenda Item 6: General Updates

- **Advocacy Unlimited:** Community conversations are continuing. An Active Recovery group hike is scheduled for November 20th in Old Lyme.
- **Connecticut Prevention Network:** Ingrid Gillespie announced that one of the CPN members received an Americorp grant to focus on prevention and the opioid issues. And CPN continues to work with the CVS foundation grant on Narcan/Opioid training.
- **Greater Hartford Harm Reduction Coalition (GHHRC):** Angela Harris announced that GHHRC continues to provide Opioid Overdose Prevention Training on a weekly basis on Thursday evenings and this training is free and open to the public. GHHRC is also part of two DMHAS funded grants, one is a family education opportunity for families and friends of people impacted by substance use disorders; this bilingual meeting is held on Thursday evenings with dinner provided and is offered in collaboration with the Community Renewal Team (CRT). The other is a full day training covering Medication Assisted Treatment, Harm Reduction and Opioid Overdose Prevention Training in collaboration with the Hispanic Health Council, which follows their full day of Cross-Cultural and Diversity Inclusiveness Training.
- **Region 1:** Margaret Watt announced the region finished their wellness month screening events. The region interacted with 1300 people at community events and gave them information on self-care and a resource guide to services. At the time 32% of the people took a behavioral health screening and 41% scored at risk and got referrals. The region's legislative forum for December 8th has been changed and the planning committee is continuing to meet and revamping the forum into smaller working sessions with legislators. Region 1 with DCF is working on having TurningPointCT.org in the Spanish language for phone and peer support groups.
- **Region 4:** Marcia DuFore announced the region will hold their next series of community conversations starting on November 16th at the EcoSpace in Hartford.
- **Region 5:** Janine Sullivan-Wiley announced that tomorrow is the great American smoke out. The region is thankful for Advocacy Unlimited coming to do a community conversation with the consumer action group. Narcan is dangerous for pregnant women in their third trimester and it also could be fatal to the unborn child.

Agenda Item 7: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 20, 2017 beginning at 2:30 PM in room 217 of CVH Page Hall.