

State of Connecticut
State Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services
April 15, 2015
Connecticut Valley Hospital

Present: Nancy Aker, Dr. Craig Allen, Kristy Barber, Sharon Castelli, Deb Dettor, Marcia DuFore, Kathy Flaherty, Ingrid Gillespie, Juan Hernandez, Tina Inferrera, Ismene Petrakis, Kevin Sevarino, Jim Smith, Tom Steen, Leslie Woods

Excused: Irene Herden, Pat Mosimann, Bob Painter, Manuel Paris, Louise Pyers, Janine Sullivan-Wiley

DMHAS Staff: Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon, Paul DiLeo, Doreen Del Bianco, Kate McNulty, Mary Kate Mason, Marilyn Duran

Agenda Item 1: Call to order and introductions

The meeting was called to order at 2:37 PM by Ingrid Gillespie

Agenda Item 2: Agenda review, Minutes of previous meetings review and action

The minutes from the March 18, 2015 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Agenda Item 3:

1. **Budget:** Paul Di Leo reported that he and the Commissioner have met with the Appropriations sub-committee regarding the budget. It's unlikely that they will ask DMHAS for more information. On July 1st the new budget will be implemented and we will keep you informed.
2. **Legislative Update:** Doreen Del Bianco announced that the Commissioner's nomination hearing is tomorrow. She wants to thank the Board for all the letters of support. The budget should be voted on by the Appropriations Committee some time later next week. The Governor's House Bill 6856, An Act Concerning Substance Abuse and Opioid Overdose Prevention was voted out of Committee. There is a hearing today on Keno and the expansion of it. Keno is an issue for our problem gambling program and our RACs.

HB 6483, an act establishing a task force to study group home distribution, is a bill out of the town of Manchester. There is an amendment to this bill that takes away our group home protection statute. Please talk to your legislators and let them know not to support any bills or amendments that take away our ability to have homes in the community.
3. **Anti-Stigma Campaign:** Mary Kate talked about the Anti-Stigma Campaign and changing the name of it to the Anti-Discrimination Campaign. This year we got 250 thousand dollars from the Governor to spend on the campaign. This campaign is to get folks to understand mental illness and stop the discrimination. Right now DMHAS is working with a vendor to develop the campaign which will focus on the radio, social media and videos. Please provide any feedback to Mary Kate Mason (mary.mason@ct.gov).
4. **Behavioral Health Home (BHH) Roll-Out:** Paul Di Leo informed the Board that the State of CT now has Behavioral Health Homes (BHH) for certain diagnostic categories related to mental health. This is a Center for Medicaid/Medicare Services model. The Governor has given DMHAS 10 million dollars to do BHH, to pay and improve care coordination between behavioral and physiological health. Our BHH are our local mental health authorities, both state-operated and private non-profit, and two affiliated providers Sound Community Services and Norwalk Hospital. The BHH were chosen based upon population density. There are outcome measures associated with BHH homes and a research study that will be conducted.

Agenda Item 4: General Updates

Region 2: Kristie Barber announced that the five RMHBs will hold their Cinco De Mayo 40 year celebration on 5/5/2015 at the LOB.

Region 4: Marcia DuFore announced that they will be holding a health and wellness forum and resource fair at CCSU on 4/29/15 from 9:30 to 12:30. There is also an older adults behavioral health forum that will be held at the Hartford Public library on 4/20/15.

Agenda Item 5: Other Business, Items for future agenda and Announcements

- **CLRP:** Kathy Flaherty announced that tomorrow they will be holding events at Chrysalis, River Valley Services and at Norwalk City Hall on National Health Care Decisions Day for people who don't have advanced directives.
- **CCAR:** Deb Dettor said CCAR is having a big celebration in recognition for their volunteers this week. CCAR now has a new young adults program manager. There are advisory forums starting in Bridgeport for young people in recovery. Phil Valentine has 2000 more miles to go on the Appalachian Trail. Please go to www.at4recovery.org for more information.
- **CPN:** Tom Steen did a presentation on how much alcohol are in alcoholic drinks.
- **Hearing Voices:** Marcia DuFore announced the Hearing Voices event held on the evening of 4/14/15 was very successful and around 250 people attended.
- Dr. Allen announced that there will be an event tonight at the Southington Municipal Center regarding substance abuse across the life span.

Agenda Item 6: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 PM. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 20, 2015 beginning at 2:30 PM in room 217 of Page Hall.