

**State of Connecticut**  
**State Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services**  
**October 21, 2015**  
**Connecticut Valley Hospital**

**Present:** Craig Allen, Peggy Ayer, Samuel Ball, Kristie Barber, Sharon Castelli, Marcia Dufore, Kathy Flaherty, Ingrid Gillespie, Jennifer Gross, Juan Hernandez, Marcea Koffsky, Marcus McKinney, Pat Mosimann, Bob Painter, Kevin Sevarino, Judith Shaw, Jim Smith, Tom Steen, Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Phil Valentine, Margaret Watt

**Excused:** Chairman John Hamilton, Manuel Paris, Ismene Petrakis

**DMHAS Staff:** Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon, Deputy Commissioner Nancy Navarretta, Paul DiLeo, Barbara Bugella, Doreen DelBianco, Michael Michaud, Mary Kate Mason, Bill Pierce, Marilyn Duran

**Agenda Item 1: Call to order and introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 2:46 PM by Ingrid Gillespie

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

The minutes from the June 17, 2015 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

**Agenda Item 3:**

1. ***Budget/Budget Rescissions:*** Paul Dileo informed the board that there are 8.4 million dollars in rescissions. The commissioner wants the fiscal unit to figure out how DMHAS will manage this and to make recommendations around the impact of the service system. Paul acknowledged Steve DiPietro, Cheryl Aurora and Chris Beauty for their work on the rescissions. These cuts will not affect client care from a treatment perspective. There will be significant cuts to our mental health and substance abuse grant as well as some cuts to our service system line and GA accounts. Cuts will not be passed to the providers.
2. ***Alcohol Drug Policy Council (ADPC) Framework:*** Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon said DMHAS has been working with the Governor's office on who will attend these meetings. Internally, DMHAS is working on a framework to capture all of what we are doing and our other sister agencies to address the opioid heroine epidemic as well as prevention and treatment. A lot of the work state-wide has been focused on the reversals, doing trainings, awareness and the dissemination of Narcan kits. The next meeting will be held on 11/03/15.
3. ***Legislative Update:*** Doreen Del Bianco sent out the DMHAS wish list for this upcoming legislative session. Some of the things being looked at are the statutes around the opioid epidemic in collaboration with other agencies. DMHAS is looking at very technical changes. There is a twelve day pre-trial alcohol/drug training program in place right now and we want to change this to fifteen days instead. Dr. Mike Norko is looking at major changes to the statutes around people not competent to stand trial. DMHAS is looking at expanding psychiatrist's capability of writing notes for treatment and ambulance services.

**Agenda Item 4:**

- **Unite Against Addiction Rally, Washington DC:** Ingrid Gillespie showed a short video on the highlights of the rally provided by Greg Williams. There was some discussion after the video was shown.

**Agenda Item 5: General Updates**

- **Region 1:** Margaret Watt announced the region is holding their wellness month initiative and have 33 events scheduled in all 14 towns. The [www.turningpointct.org](http://www.turningpointct.org) website just won another design award

by Graphic Design USA Association. The website is now being used by 15,600 people. The region compiled an inventory list of mental health trainings and presentations available in southwestern CT.

- **Region 2:** Kristie Barber announced that “Keep the Promise Coalition” will hold their 16th Annual Awards Celebration on October 29, 2015 from 10:00–1:00 p.m. at St. Thomas Seminary in 467 Bloomfield Rd., Bloomfield, to celebrate your outstanding advocacy efforts during the past year.
- **Region 3:** Jennifer Gross announced the region has a new website [www.changingmindsct.org](http://www.changingmindsct.org). Staffing has been increased by 15%. A Board retreat was held last month facilitated by Janine Sullivan-Wiley. Filming for the transportation video project will start very soon. Interviews will start next week on the Norwich State Hospital History Project.
- **Region 4:** Marcia DuFore discussed and shared information on the project of Civil Justice in Healthcare: the Affordable Care Act and the Black Community in CT.
- **Region 5:** Janine Sullivan-Wiley talked about the CCAR walk and the booth both she and Ingrid Gillespie had on smoking cessation. They will have a smoking cessation booth next year as well. Region 5 has held 2 out of 3 legislative forums this month.
- **CCAR:** Phil Valentine completed his hike of the Appalachian Trail in 189 days. On 12/11/15 Phil will talk about his experience at Cheney Hall in Manchester.
- **CLRP:** Kathy Flaherty informed the Board that CLRP is cutting their housing intakes the last week of every month because of the rescission cuts.
- **CPN:** Tom Steen wants everyone to know that CPN represented all of 13 RACs at a statewide prevention fitness workshop.

#### **Agenda Item 6: Other Business, items for future agenda and Announcements**

- Dr. Painter and Dr. Allen will write a letter for the commissioner’s review regarding more research on medical marijuana.
- Michael Michaud suggested we make a quilt to honor those individuals lost to an accidental overdose. Some individuals from the Board volunteered to work on the quilt.
- A suggestion was made to change the name of DMHAS.
- Tim Marshall of DCF and Andrea Duarte of DMHAS will do a presentation on “Suicide Prevention 2020” for the Board on 11/18/15.
- In January Lauren Siembab of DMHAS will talk about medication assisted treatment.
- Marcus Mckinney announced that The 5th Annual Town Hall on Health Disparities: "UnCONSCIOUS Bias" will be held on Thursday, November 5, 2015, 6:00 PM at The Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) Theater of Performing Arts, 359 Washington Street, Hartford, CT 06106

#### **Agenda Item 6: Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 PM.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 beginning at 2:30 PM in room 217 of CVH Page Hall.