

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

**Present:** Craig Allen, Connie Anderson, Mary Lou Anderson, Samuel Ball, Kristie Barber, Sandy Cole, Deron Drumm, Marcia Dufore, Kathy Flaherty, Irene Herden, Kati Mapa, Marcus McKinney, Bob Painter, Brian Reigner, Kevin Sevarino, Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Margaret Watt

**Excused:** Peggy Ayer, Sharon Castelli, Ingrid Gillespie, Jennifer Henry, Juan Hernandez, Manuel Paris, Ismene Petrakis, Phil Valentine

**DMHAS Staff:** Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon, Deputy Commissioner Nancy Navarretta, Marilyn Duran

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

The meeting was called to order at 2:40 PM by Brian Reigner.

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

The minutes from the February 15, 2017 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

**Agenda Item 3: Opioid-Related Public Service Announcement (PSA)**

Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon talked a little about the PSAs and how it is a valuable way to get information out about services and share stories of recovery. The State Board viewed a PSA on Jennifer Murray, from Southington, who shared her story on addiction and recovery and how Narcan has saved her life. Please go to the DMHAS Facebook page for more information.

**Agenda Item 4: The Rise and Future of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and Medicaid in Connecticut:**

**What's at stake for the nutmeg state?**

Victoria Veltri, Chief Health Policy Advisor, Office of Lieutenant Governor, did a presentation on the ACA implementation in CT – Medicaid; Access Health CT; State Innovation Model Initiative; Challenges; Analysis of current bill in congress; and also discussed “What are we doing about it?”

**Agenda Item 5: Commissioner's Update**

- **Budget:** A workgroup meeting was done last week and everything is still in process. DMHAS is still continuing to take in the feedback it is hearing. This is going to be a long legislative session so it is hard to know where the DMHAS budget will end up. Many of the things on the table right now are under discussion or being debated. We have been having discussions with staff at various sites and will start meeting with clients to answer any questions they may have.
- **Quilting Project:** The commissioner and Daryl McGraw have been working with the RACs, RMHBs, providers and the community, going around to different places in the state to continue work on the quilting project.

**Agenda Item 6: General Updates/Announcements**

- **Region 1:** Margaret Watt stated the City of Stratford has taken the community care team model from the hospital community partnership and have just started rolling it out at the municipal level. They also presented at the region's Catchment Area Council meeting. For May Mental Health Awareness the region is having an awareness month walk in Fairfield County, which will start at the Norwalk Town Green, on May 6<sup>th</sup>. The region will also hold more events in the month of May.

- **Region 2:** Kristie Barber said the region held their Legislative Breakfast last Thursday with a really great showing from members around the state and social clubs.
- **Region 3:** Kati Mapa passed around a flyer for the ERMHB Legislative Breakfast which will be held on April 6<sup>th</sup> at the State Capitol.
- **Region 4:** Marcia DuFore talked about the series of community conversation the region is holding as a part of expanding and transforming crisis response. The 3<sup>rd</sup> community conversation on cultural competency will be held on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- **Region 5:** Janine Sullivan-Wiley announced that the region has been busy working with the potential of privatization. The Waterbury area is well on its way of developing a community care team without any additional money from DMHAS. Two hospitals have provided grant money for this project.
- **CLRP:** Kathy Flaherty announced that CLRP's Housing Intake Unit is still closed. OPM held a hearing last week on the designation of Disability Rights CT and hopefully will be moving forward and we will have a good operating functional protection and advocacy system for folks with disabilities including psychiatric. Theater Works, in Hartford, will hold several shows on "Next To Normal" and talkbacks regarding the stigma and discrimination in mental health as well the topic of the opioid crisis in America from March 24-May 7, 2017.
- **Toivo-Advocacy Unlimited:** Deron Drumm stated they are accepting nominations for the Karen Kangas Advocacy Award until 4/6/17. The annual conference will be held on 4/21/17 in Hartford with breakout sessions. Chris Herren will be at the New Britain High School to talk about his story of addiction and recovery, on the night of 5/8/17 at 6:00 PM.

**Agenda Item 7: Items for future agenda**

- Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Mental Health and Addiction Services
- Other future agenda items?

**Agenda Item 8: Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 19, 2017 beginning at 2:30 PM in room 217 of CVH Page Hall.