

State of Connecticut
State Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services
June 21, 2017
Connecticut Valley Hospital

Present: Paul Acker, Craig Allen, Rebecca Allen, Peggy Ayer, Sam Ball, Kristie Barber, Sharon Castelli, Sandy Cole, Deron Drumm, Marcia Dufore, Kathy Flaherty, Ingrid Gillespie, Angela Harris, Jennifer Henry, Kati Mapa, Marcus McKinney, Bob Painter, Manuel Paris, Larry Pittinger, Brian Reignier, Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Margaret Watt

Excused: Kevin Sevarino, Phil Valentine, Juan Hernandez

DMHAS Staff: Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon, Nancy Navarretta, Michael Michaud, Diana Lejardi, Mary Kate Mason, 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 May 17, 2017 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Agenda Item 3: Commissioner's Update

- **2 Recent DMHAS Facebook Videos:**
 - ***Brittany (Supported Employment)*** – Brittany is a person in recovery from a bipolar disorder and going back to work has helped her to be a strong person and manage her life. She encourages others to do the same.
 - ***Mohamed (Problem Gambling)*** – Mohamed is in recovery from compulsive gambling. He states he used gambling to escape marital problems at home and it was affecting his life in a bad way. The resources he had available to help him quit are gamblers anonymous, Bettor Choice Program as well as family and friends.

Tom Gugliotti, of DMHAS, has done a great job producing these videos. For more information please go to the DMHAS Facebook page and you can like and share them.

- ***Quilt Display:*** Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon appreciates all the work everyone has done on the quilt project. It is a reflection that we still have a lot of work to do. Let us know if you are interested in displaying the quilt so we can make it available for you.
- ***Budget and Legislative:*** Mary Kate Mason provided an update. The five foundational principles the Governor believes are important to building the budget are: 1. No increase to the projected deficit - apportion funds to balance for the entire fiscal year; 2. Allocate funding first to support the most essential health, safety, and human services for our most vulnerable citizens; 3. Consider the fiscal capacity of outside organizations, including cities and towns, when apportioning reductions; 4. Comply with various court orders, stipulations and mandates; including but not limited to municipal revenue sharing account, SNAP and Medicaid programs; 5. Honor the collective bargaining agreements while such agreements are under consideration.

The peer bill did not pass but a taskforce was formed to look at shortages working in a psychiatric field. The bill to transfer clients from a maximum security to medical hospital for medical needs was passed. Bill 7091 to change the language for professionals who have been diagnosed with a mental illness to report to

the Department of Public Health has passed. An opioid related bill also passed. The sober home bill that would have created a sober home registry did not pass.

Agenda Item 4: Discussion: Health Equity

- Marcus McKinney led the discussion on health equity and how the board can be more diverse and representative of the community. The Board Officers will be meeting, with help from DMHAS, to discuss diversification of the Board and next steps concerning recruitment.

Agenda Item 5: Other

- **Young Adult Services Poster Session (Fall Presentation):** Future agenda item
- **International Overdose Awareness Day is August 31, 2017 and Quilt Display at LOB**
- **Other Updates:**
 - **Region 1:** The region will hold their annual meeting on June 22nd and a talk on the citizen initiative will be done. Representative McCarthy-Vahey will be honored at the annual meeting as the legislative champion for the region. The young adult program TurningPointct.org started doing podcasts which will be posted online.
 - **Region 2:** The region will hold the Tom Parson's Day Parade on June 22nd at the CVH campus with over 400 folks expected to attend. The region also held their annual meeting and Michael Scanlon from the CT Strong spoke at the event. A People's Choice Award was also done at the annual meeting. Community discussions and conversations were done in Middletown.
 - **Region 3:** The region held their annual meeting last week and awards were presented for the volunteer and advocate of the year as well as a leadership of the year award to Representative Kathleen McCarty. Three new videos have been posted on the ERMHB Facebook page. The Norwich State Hospital Oral History Project is still going on.
 - **Region 5:** The region will hold their annual meeting on June 22nd and Dr. Jim Malley will do a presentation on mindfulness.
 - **GHHRC:** Dr. J. Craig Allen was publicly thanked for joining the training on multidimensional family therapy at the Advanced Behavioral Health Opioid Symposium. GHHRC will partner with Hartford Hospital to speak with staff nurses and social workers about harm reduction and overdose prevention training.
 - **Advocacy Unlimited – TOIVO:** A new website redesign is being done for AU. A Listening Tour will be done at club houses in CT to talk about organizational changes and solicit suggestions as to how AU can be of service.
 - **CCAR:** Recovery coaches are now in the Norwich, New London, Manchester and Windham hospitals. CCAR has six coaches right now and an ad was put out to hire more, in anticipation of expanding the program in more hospitals. Michael Askew, CCAR manager in Bridgeport, received the Vernon Johnson Award from Faces and Voices for his advocacy efforts around recovery.
 - **CPN:** As part of the state targeted response CPN is working on getting 2,000 Narcan kits out to the most vulnerable people who need it and will also include a concentrated educational effort on how to keep and dispose medication. CPN recently received a small grant from CBS foundation to do opiate education forums.
 - **CLRP:** CLRP had a reduction in staff and are continuing to move forward.

Agenda Item 6: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 P.M.

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