

**Meeting Minutes of
The Governor's Council on Behavioral Health
8:30 a.m., Thursday, April 16, 2009**

The Governor's Council on Behavioral Health met at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 16, 2009, in Barry Hall's Conference Room 126, 14 Harrington Road, Cranston, Rhode Island.

Members Present: Richard Leclerc, Chair; Leo Cronan; Sandra DelSesto; Mark Fields; James Gillen; Joseph Le; Peter Mendoza; Anne Mulready; Noreen Shawcross and Elizabeth Earls.

Ex-Officio Members Present: Sandy Woods and Janet Anderson, Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF); Denise Achin, Department of Education (DOE); Mary Ann Ciano and Mary Ladd, Department of Elderly Affairs (DEA); Fredrick Friedman, Department of Corrections (DOC); Allison Croke, Department of Human Services (DHS) and Coleen Polselli, Department of Health (DOH).

Guests: Vivian Weisman

Staff: Charles Williams and Lisa Stevens

Once a quorum was established, the Chair, Richard Leclerc, called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. After introductions were conducted, Richard entertained a motion to accept the Minutes of March 10, 2009. Joseph Le motioned to approve and James Gillen seconded the motion. Richard Leclerc called for a vote to approve the minutes, all were in favor and the minutes were approved as written.

Richard handed out the Rhode Island's grade sheet (*attachment 1*) from the "State Report Cards." It was discussed at the previous meeting but was not officially released at that time.

Annual Report Process: The Committee reviewed the April 16th revised version of the Annual Report for review and approval. A request was made to remove the brackets from the DCYF on page 4 and insert the data requested from DCYF. Another noted change was the wording on page 3, item 3, to change the phrase "state mental hospital" to "state hospital providing psychiatric services." The last request for change was to add to the cc's, Corinne Russo, Director, Department of Elderly Affairs. Richard made a motion to accept with the above changes, it was seconded by Liz Earls, a vote was taken and all were in favor, motion carries. The Annual Report as amended will be submitted to the Governor.

Updates from MHRH: Charles Williams spoke of the 2010 budget introduced and heard on the budget article that affects MHRH, which is Article 16, the TASC program which will be eliminated. It potentially affects 3 MHRH staff.

MHRH has been working with DHS and EDS, the technology solution providers for Medicaid, on aspects of the Global Waiver and CNOMs (Costs Not Otherwise Matchable) that directly impact the Department. A general agreement on the array of services and the populations to be covered by CNOMs in Behavioral Health has been made. They are still working on those issues for the Developmental Disability side.

Trauma Informed Treatment for Veterans: a SAMHSA jail diversion grant is being worked on by the Department. There will be a pilot jail diversion program implemented using a trauma-informed model of care. The pilot will be in Kent County Courthouse before it goes statewide.

SAMHSA will be doing another round of awards for the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grants aka "Son of SPF."

Updates from DCYF: Janet Anderson – Family Care Community Partnership is underway and working well. A concept paper is being worked on regarding the transformation of Phase II of the high fidelity wrap-around and should be out by end of May. The target date for the RFP is July.

Over the last few years, the budget cuts have forced DCYF to reduce staff. A restructure of the organization is underway to continue to accomplish what is needed in the community. In terms of the overall budget, \$229 million is the total for FY08. The FY09 budget has been revised and increased to \$246 million. In 2008 there were 11,000 kids seen within the system, and in 2009 \$152 million of our budget are grants and benefits, which go straight to services. The overall number in terms of FTE's is significantly down. The enacted budget for this year was 694 FTE's and with the CNOM's, DCYF got six positions for the Medicaid reform which brings it up to a total of 700 FTE's. Community-based codes are being identified and defined to work with the CNOMs. Sandra asked if Janet would bring in information on the data collection web-based software being created to collect data that can be accessed for many different services. Richard asked for a timeframe on reports on the outcomes of the FCCPs. Janet feels that it may be as early as September or October.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS: Jim Gillen announced that treatment providers and emergency responders have been meeting to develop a better relationship to see what the community can do better and to see what other alternatives can be used in certain situations. There will be a series of up to 50 trainings. A community forum will be held on June 3rd at the New England Institute at Roger Williams College.

RI Recovery Legislative Day has been changed to May 26th from 1-4 p.m. You can contact Ian Knowles at DATA, 521-5759, if you would like to help.

SSTAR is doing another round of Recovery Coach training on April 28th and May 5th at SSTAR in North Kingstown from 1-4 p.m.

Noreen Shawcross made the Committee aware of the Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-housing fund which is part of the stimulus package with \$3 million dollars going to her office and \$2.3 million going to Providence, \$900 thousand going to Pawtucket and \$600 thousand going to Woonsocket with \$7 million statewide. This is a new program for Rhode Island. There will be a number of community forums to get ideas. This plan is due to be postmarked by May 18th. There will be a public hearing at 4 p.m. 4/27 at One Capitol Hill, conference room A, second floor. The website with the plan, guidelines and a PowerPoint presentation along with a downloadable questionnaire can be viewed at www.hrc.ri.gov/HPRP.php.

Vivian Weismann reminded the Committee that May is Mental Health month and the kick-off will be at the Statehouse on April 30 at 1:00 p.m.

Janet Anderson announced that May 7th is Children's Mental Health Awareness Day and there will be a number of activities throughout the day. The website is www.mha.org where you get the entire calendar for these events.

There is a Block Grant Conference on 6/1 through 6/19. There will be a scholarship for a member of this Council. Please contact Rich if you are interested in attending.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

Upon motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m. The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 12, at 1:00 p.m. in the first floor Conference Room 126 at the Barry Hall Building.**

Minutes respectfully recorded and written by:

Lisa Stevens
Secretary, Governor's Council on Behavioral Health