

**Meeting Minutes of
The Governor's Council on Behavioral Health
8:30 a.m., Thursday, January 14, 2010**

The Governor's Council on Behavioral Health met at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 14, 2010, in Barry Hall's Conference Room 126, 14 Harrington Road, Cranston, Rhode Island.

Members Present: Sandra DelSesto; James Gillen, Joseph Le, Peter Mendoza, Elizabeth Earls, Scotti DiDonato, Mitch Henderson Richard Leclerc and Reed Cosper

Ex-Officio Members Present: Craig Stenning, Department of Mental Health, Retardation and Hospitals (MHRH); Frank Pace, Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF), and Kyle Kaufer, Intern, Department of Children, Youth and Families DCYF

Guests: Monica Darcy, Rhode Island College, Kathleen Carty, Vantage Point, Ian Knowles, Richard Antonelly, Deb Conley, Jasmina Andreas, Vivian Weisman, Charon Kernan

Staff: Charles Williams, Corinna Roy

Once a quorum was established, the Chair, Richard Leclerc, called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. After introductions were conducted, Richard Leclerc entertained a motion to accept the Minutes of November 12, 2009. Peter Mendoza motioned to approve and Joseph Le seconded the motion. Richard Leclerc called for a vote to approve the minutes, all were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Block Grant Implementation Report Approval Letter: Corinna Roy reported that each year we submit an implementation report the first of December. Every year on September first we submit a plan for the upcoming year. On December 1, we complete a second submission that presents results or outcome from the previous plan and the Council is asked to review both submissions. Members had the opportunity to review the December 1, 2009 Implementation Report on line a week or so before it was submitted. Richard Leclerc reported that a letter was sent with his signature reporting that its ratification would occur at the next meeting of the Council. Richard Leclerc called for any discussion. There was no discussion and a vote was called. Vivian Weisman moved to ratify the letter Scotti DiDonato seconded the vote. All members voted in favor.

Youth Transition subcommittee report: Corinna Roy spoke on behalf of Denise Achin, Chair of the Youth Transition Subcommittee: there has not been a meeting since her last report to the Council. The next meeting will take place at Barry Hall on Thursday, January 21, 2010 from 1:00 to 3:00pm with a presentation from Tom Martin and Tanya Alderman.

Recovery Oriented System of Care subcommittee report: Ian Knowles reported that the subcommittee formed three work groups: the Natural Support Work Group, Chaired by Jim McNulty; Treatment and Prevention work group co-chaired by Fred Trapassi and Marie Waldek; and the Recovery Support Work Group co chair by Jim Gillen. All the groups are to meet at least once before the end of January. The co-chairs will form a ROSC Steering Committee. Presently in the process of scheduling these meetings in the next couple of weeks.

Updates from SEOW: Charles Williams: Jasmine Andrea and Steven Buka from Brown University presented at the last meeting the State profiles that were developed by the SEOW. These profiles were finalized and posted on the MHRH website last December. Jasmine Andrea reported that these profiles present indicators of substance use and substance use consequences for all 29 municipalities of RI, four counties and the entire state. Sandra Delsesto if the profiles are all posted in a rank order. Jasmine stated

that there is a community page with a ranking indicator page for each municipality. Sandra asked when the funding for this grant ends. Charles Williams stated that the grant that is funded by State Incentive Grant (SIG) ends on September 29, 2010, the SEOW funding will end on May or June 2010. The group will meet again at the end of this month to discuss what they will do if SAMHSA gets funding to extend the work of the epidemiological work groups. Charles stated that you can view the reports on RI's website, www.mhrh.ri.gov. Elizabeth Earls asked how many years of data are available. Jasmine stated that there is trend data for some items as far back as 2005 going through 2008, but some items only have one or two year's worth of data. Sandra asked if there were any prominent trends and Jasmine responded that Rhode Island has comparatively high rates of substance use nationally.

Updates from DCYF: Frank Pace presented: DCYF held four regional committee meetings to present the Phase II System of Care Transformation. DCYF is looking to contract with 2-4 networks for the system of care for DCYF involved families. They are looking for community-based services and reducing the costly residential placements, with the expectation to see the RFP within the next several months. This is called The Rhode Island Wrap Partnership. The FCCP will be holding a family care community partnership one year celebration in February. This is the front end system of care for DCYF diversion. The Positive Education Partnership initiated by SAMHSA is entering its fifth year of six years of federal funding this past October. SAMSHA came out with new eligibility criteria called Diagnostic Impression of Imminent Risk to determine if a child from birth to five years falls in an area of risk. A clinician will use the Diagnostic Impression of Imminent of Risk tool to determine if a family or child is eligible for this service. Within the State we have to figure out if the clinician who will do the screening will be a clinician from the FCCP or one from one of the programs. Next month DCYF will discuss how it is addressing Trauma Informed Care.

Updates from MHRH: Craig Stenning asked Jim Gillen to report on the good news about Waterfire. Lisa and Jim met with the Waterfire Director they are holding the date of September 25, 2010 for the Recovery Day/Waterfire event. This year the committee has more time to prepare this celebration. Craig also mentioned the work of MHRH with the never ending mission to increase housing. In the past month, MHRH had some success with state properties turning the key of a large piece of state own property over to Blackstone Valley ARC for a multi-use facility to include elder, share living for families, and people with multitude disabilities. MHRH will also be turning over the key for one of the longest standing vacant properties the department had, Gaskill Street formally a DDD group home which will be renovated by a Community Agency for transitional housing. Another property in North Providence has been leased to OASIS to use as Transitional Housing for individuals with mental illness with the risk of becoming homeless. We have also placed in a docket another property to be turned over to a group to be used for transitional housing for homeless veterans.

The Budget: there is no chance this year due to the deficit for any caseload increases so we are struggling under pressure to attempt to balance our budget. The State of the State is January 27 the Governor's budget comes out one week after that. Peter Mendoza asked if Craig had any information about SAMHSA funding ATR III. Charles Williams stated that the RFA was released on Friday, January 8 2010 by SAMHSA and that MHRH is reviewing it. The application is due on March 13, 2010. There are different requirements for applicants that have received the grant before. There is a focus on expansion and enhancement of services and on correcting deficiencies or weakness from the previous grant. A meeting for the RFA will be held next week. 30 awards are given out with a range of 2 to 4 million dollars each per year. The award will be issued to the Single State Authority, not the Governor.

New/Old Business: Richard Leclerc reported on the Annual Report from the council to the Governor. This has not been sent to the governor it will be sent by February. Corinna Roy reported that she did not editorialize, that all of the information in the report was taken directly from the minutes and meetings and from the block grant subcommittee. This year there were no formal recommendations made to the Governor. A discussion of council members determined that the report was acceptable pending some information inserted regarding trauma-informed care for youth. Frank Pace agreed to gather that information.

Elizabeth Earls reported that there is an opportunity to apply for a grant to bring primary care into behavioral health care. DHS has put out an RFI with many ideas like, creating communities of care, bringing services out of plan into plan including substance abuse residential treatment centers, and extending the Rite Care generic first plan to all the persons in Medicaid.

Richard Leclerc reported that the plan for next meeting is for MHRH to present a report of several measures developed a few years ago by a Council subcommittee with two years of accumulated data.

Kathleen Carty mentioned the interpersonal violence connected to substance abuse is a topic that is missing in our conversations. Corinna suggested that she prepare materials for a presentation at an upcoming meeting.

Upon motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 9:40. The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for **Thursday, February 9, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. in Barry Hall room 126.**

Minutes respectfully recorded and written by:

Lisa Stevens
Secretary, Governor's Council on Behavioral Health transition