

MEETING REPORT

COMMITTEE NAME: Mental Health Planning Council of Virginia

MEETING DATE: February 22, 2006 **TIME:** 10:00am **PLACE:** Richmond, VA

MEETING AGENDA – MAIN DISCUSSION POINTS

1. Introductions and Announcements

The Council members introduced themselves and gave a brief overview of their affiliations. Jack Wood, President, welcomed all of the members, congratulated each of the new officers elected in December and thanked them for their willingness to serve.

2. Summary of Federal Review in Charlotte, NC

Will Ferriss reported on the Mental Health Block Grant awards for fiscal years 2006-2008. Although the full grant was initially approved, he received word last week that the awards for FY2007 and FY2008 will be reduced. For the new applications due in September, the states have been asked to identify how they will implement transformation initiatives; Virginia will be required to obligate \$4 million of the block grant application to these programs. Mr. Ferriss hopes to have more information on the application requirements for the Council by the next meeting.

The members agreed that it will be important for the Mental Health Planning Council to clearly communicate its priorities in the new application process. The Council requested that a representative have the opportunity to attend any discussions held at Central Office around identifying programs that meet the transformation activities criteria.

A motion was made to refer this to the Adult and Children's Services Committees for discussion at their next meetings. Adult and Children's Services are to examine the potential and real impact of the pending \$100,000 + reduction this year, as well as, the full \$700,000+ reduction next year. Once reviewed the findings will be shared with the entire council. The motion was opened for discussion; hearing none, the motion was seconded, unanimously approved and carried.

3. Committee Reports

A. Adult Services

Mary Kaye Johnston, Vice President, reported on the initial meeting of the Adult Services Committee held on January 27, 2006. The Committee focused on the following:

- how the committee is going to function in the coming year (i.e., meeting dates, location, etc);
- potential new members;
- guidance documents on how to conduct meetings; and
- identifying goals.

The next meeting will be held on March 10, 2006. Council members were encouraged to affiliate with either the Adult or the Children Services Committees, as this is where most of the work of the Council occurs.

B. Children Services

Although the Children Services Committee had not yet held their first meeting, Fran Gallagher, Vice President, presented the following update regarding children services in Virginia:

- Ms. Gallagher thanked the Council for their endorsement of the recommendations of the Child and Family Behavioral Health Policy Planning Committee, which included:
 - family support;
 - expansion of administrative sites to create systems of care within additional communities; and
 - training for more psychiatrists and primary care physicians.

Ms. Gallagher noted that the recommendation for family support was not included in this year's budget.

- The Virginia Integrated Network of Family Organizations (VA-INFO) is a coalition of five statewide family support organizations formed to work together to provide services regardless of budget constraints. The first statewide conference will be held in Charlottesville in July 2006; they would like to support 100 family members to attend. The long-term vision is to hold a large conference each year in different locations throughout the State, and if enough funding is received, smaller conferences will be offered via satellite.

Ms. Gallagher also announced that she will be relocating to New Jersey at the end of June 2006; she will, however, continue to work with Medical Homes Plus via telecommuting.

C. Membership

Rebecca Currin thanked the Council members for their contributions to the final version of the proposed Bylaw changes, and noted that a lot of the work that the Membership Committee has done is tied into the vote to be taken later in the meeting. Ms. Currin also discussed vacancies and recruitment efforts, and encouraged the members to consider recommending persons who would reflect the diverse population served.

The Council Members were also asked to verify their names, addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses on the current list.

D. Budget

Jack Wood reported that at this time, there is not a Budget Committee; the Council is currently working from last year's budget. The Council receives approximately \$25,000 per fiscal year in operating funds for Council functions. Mr. Wood has talked with the Mental Health Association regarding the individual payments that have been made - the remaining balance from last year's budget that has not been allocated is \$2,560.00.

Mr. Wood encouraged anyone who would like to become a member of the Budget Committee to contact him, and noted that in the past, Mary McQuown coordinated the requests received and funds allotment. Mr. Wood thanked Ms. McQuown for the excellent work she did in getting budget proposals in and providing timely feedback. Alison Hymes and Jim Martinez volunteered to be on the budget committee.

4. REACH Program Update

Mary McQuown presented an overview of the REACH Program and the following update on WRAP (Wellness Recover Action Plan) Groups and Facilitator Training:

- Since its inception in October 2004, 46 people have graduated from WRAP Facilitator Training and are qualified to WRAP groups. After completing the training, each facilitator is given materials, transparencies, projectors and screens, and are then able to start a group immediately. To date, 40 WRAP Groups have been held with approximately 250 participants.
- Referrals for this training come from a variety of programs and agencies, i.e., Community Services Boards, the Mental Health Planning Council, Recovery Workshops, the Systems Leadership Council, etc. Ms. McQuown has also held 25 recovery workshops throughout the State with over 1000 participants attending.
- A graduate from facilitator training is currently employed at Western State Hospital and holding WRAP groups for its patients; Ms. McQuown is also talking with other DMHMRSAS Training Centers and Hospitals about holding groups at their facilities.

5. Peer Support and Training Conference

Michael Shank provided an update on the Peer Support and Training Conference held in Charlottesville, and noted that there was a good exchange of ideas and suggestions from representatives of other states.

6. Results of the Youth Services Survey for Families Satisfaction Survey

Dr. Molly Brunk presented the results of the 2005 Satisfaction Survey that was mailed to a random sample of caregivers of children who have received services. She noted that the purpose of the survey was to provide a baseline to monitor changes in the quality of mental health services to children and adolescents. The domains used to evaluate these services included: access, cultural sensitivity, family participation in treatment, satisfaction with services and outcome. The conclusions drawn from this survey showed that overall, caregivers are positive about the services received at the Community Services Boards although there is room for improvement, and that positive outcomes are predicted by caregiver involvement, a sufficient amount of services and prevention of out-of-home placement. Dr. Brunk also shared that surveys of the children and especially the adolescents in treatment did not have similarly positive results. Teens were not happy with the services they received.

7. Governor's System Transformation Report

Jim Martinez distributed a list of the System Transformation Community Initiatives for FY2007 and FY2008, and noted that the overall goal is that the transformation initiatives would bring about positive changes throughout the mental health system consistent with the vision of the Integrated Strategic Plan. Charline Davidson talked about the development of three outcomes measures: Accountability, Recovery and System Transformation. The Council discussed numerous specific measures that could be used to best reflect these areas; Ms. Davidson will take these suggestions to the Data/Outcomes Work Group meeting next week.

8. Proposed Changes to the Bylaws

Rebecca Currin presented the proposed changes to the Bylaws to the Council and noted that the Membership Committee has officially reported these out from committee. Ms. Currin made a motion to approve the changes as presented. The motion was opened for discussion; hearing none, the motion was seconded, unanimously approved and carried.

As a result of the approval of the Bylaw changes, the Membership Committee proposed that the longer term-limit of four years be applied to the existing terms of existing members. A motion was made to grandfather this part of the Bylaws so that those who are currently serving would have a four-year

term. The motion was opened for discussion; hearing none, the motion was seconded, unanimously approved and carried. A new list of the membership with the modified dates will be sent via email.

9. Children Services Vacancy

Jack Wood noted that in order to fill the pending Vice President vacancy, the Council will accept nominations and appoint a replacement in June.

10. 2006 Goals

The Council discussed goals for the upcoming year, which included the following items:

1. Changes to the Mental Health Block Grant – this item has been delegated to the Children and Adult Services Sub-Committees.
2. OIG Inspection of Emergency Services at the CSBs.
3. Crisis Prevention.
4. Services provided in detention centers/jails/correction facilities.
5. Strategies to continue the progress made by the MHPC.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Jack Wood read a note from Casandra at VOCAL thanking the Mental Health Planning Council for supporting the Two People Two Chairs Mini Grants.
2. A suggestion was made to ask the Inspector General or John Fazolli to attend the next meeting to talk about the results of to the Emergency Services Survey.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: April 19, 2006

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: DRS Office

Jack L. Wood
Jack L. Wood, President

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