

# Virginia Behavioral Health Advisory Council

8004 Franklin Farms Dr.

Henrico, VA 23229

March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015

## I. Attendance

Present: Dev Nair, Sherry Confer, Catharine Harrison, Katharine Hunter, Margaret Anne Lane, Rhonda Thissen, Patricia Parham, Kathleen Levenston, Ron Pritchard, Denise Thomas-Brown, Jenny Heilborn, Anne Edgerton, Rebecca Summers, Bonnie Neighbour, Larry Almarode, Becky Sterling, Jane Ellis, Lynn DelaMer, Amanda Rode

Absent: Livia Jansen, William Williams, Anthony Duncan, Lisa Moore, Elizabeth Drapen, Heather Seaman, Betsy Lalla, Tammy Farmer, Shannon Haworth, Mary Aab, Shatada Floyd-White

## II. Guests

Sarah Rudden, William Hart, Lynn Lull, Lee Peebles, Robin Hairfield, Anisa Mustafa

## III. Opening of Business

Jane Ellis called the meeting to order at 10:07 am.

## IV. Welcome, Introductions, Public Comment

Introductions were made around the room. Ron Pritchard announced that VSIAS has laid on a significant number of sessions regarding substance abuse counseling. The VSIAS Conference is coming up soon. Lynn Lull announced her plans for Hope in Motion, a new drop-in center in Virginia Beach, opening in April.

## V. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

A slate of three past meeting minutes were voted on. Ron Pritchard moved to approve the minutes with corrections, Sherry Confer seconded, and the slate was approved.

VI. Financial Update

Anne Edgerton gave the financial update for the Council. There is money available to members for upcoming conferences, and to order more recovery dolls. There were requests for recovery dolls. There were no other questions.

VII. Discussion of “Good and Modern System”

The Council discussed the “Good and Modern System” document. Many components of the document have already been discussed at Council meetings. Also, the document is from 2011 and does not reflect updated information. Jane Ellis explained the role of the Council as it pertains to the document.

VIII. Prevention Presentation

Gail M. Taylor, Director of the DBHDS Office of Behavioral Health and Wellness gave an overview of prevention services, statistics, and strategies, to the Council.

IX. Vote for New Members

After lunch, four guests introduced themselves as applicants for membership with the Council. The membership committee made a motion to approve membership to four applicants: Lynn Lull, William Hart, Lee Peebles, and Robin Hairfield. The four applicants were unanimously voted on as members.

X. ECPR Presentation

Becky Sterling, DBHDS Director of Recovery Services, and Bonnie Neighbour, VOCAL Executive Director, gave a presentation on Emotional CPR. They showed us a video explaining what eCPR is, explained how it is implemented, compared it to Mental Health First Aid and provided us with resources to find out more information.

XI. Election of Officers and Committee Meetings

Becky Sterling, Chair of the Nominations Committee held elections of new officers for the Council. No one came forward for a position. Becky opened nominations to the floor. A slate of the same officers was unanimously approved.

## XII. DBHDS Update

Katharine Hunter mentioned the Commissioners transformation teams are starting to meet at the town halls, and to go to the website for more information. Becky Sterling talked about the grandfathering process for Certified Peer Recovery Specialists is starting on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Rhonda Thissen informed the Council that the Governors Access Plan made it through the conference committee. Sherry Confer elaborated on the specifics of the GAP program and gave an email: [bridgethegap@dmas.virginia.gov](mailto:bridgethegap@dmas.virginia.gov) to write to for questions, comments, and concerns. Rhonda also reported that there has been an approved budget of \$2 million for enhancement to mental health crisis services, \$3 million for community treatment programs, \$1.8 for crisis assessment and drop off centers, and \$2 million for permanent supportive housing for up to 150 people with a serious mental illness. SAMHSA has a budget of \$3 million for three years to improve service systems for treatment for those individuals with a serious mental illness, substance abuse, and co-occurring homelessness.

## XIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:44 pm.