

WV Mental Health Planning Council Meeting  
Pipestem Resort  
May 3 & 4, 2007

May 3, 2007

Call to order.

Roll Call. Present: Pamela Akers, Diana Bailey Miller, Angie Ferrari, Pam Harper, Ted Johnson, Paul Macom, David Sanders, Nancy Allison-Schmitt, Jessica Stewart, Melody Waybright, Nancy Deming, J. K. McAtee, Deborah Hansen, Michael Pauley, Linda Pauley, Janet Johnson, Angela Rogers.

Public comment -

Nancy Allison-Schmitt reported on the NAMI report which graded the states with regard to Mental Health programs.

Angela Vaught gave a presentation on the Medicaid Infrastructure Grant (MIG) which includes the Medicaid Work Incentive Program (M-WIN) and the WV Comprehensive Employment System. She asked for comments and suggestions. There was lengthy discussion.

The Council Chair charged the committees to meet and return in the afternoon with reports.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE** - Paul Macom

The Council currently has 3 current vacancies and 2 potential vacancies. It was determined that the Youth representative should be occupied by a person between the ages of 18 - 24. Changes need to be made to the Interest Indicator in order to better assess potential members.

The Membership Committee will produce a state map indicating the residence of Council members as well as their respective interest group.

The Membership Committee made the following suggestions for identifying candidates to fill vacant seats:

- - Every one (individual or organization) who has a web site should add a link to the Council website: [www.wvplanningcouncil.com](http://www.wvplanningcouncil.com)

- - Most of the Council members attend a number of meetings of other organizations on a regular basis. Make every effort to mention the Council at these meetings.

- - Add the Council web site address to the Council letterhead.

At the present time the number of Council members representing interest groups is as follows:

|              |                     |                 |                  |
|--------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Child - 5    | Consumer - 8        | Provider - 6    | Family/Adult - 4 |
| Advocacy - 1 | Substance Abuse - 6 | Young Adult - 0 |                  |

**CHILDREN/YOUTH COMMITTEE** - Diana Bailey Miller, Pam Akers, Pam Harper, Tina Swaney.

The committee reviewed a proposal for WRAP for Kids. It was decided to make a motion to the Council to develop a letter of support for this program to be developed in WV. The letter should be sent to David Majic, Director of the Children's Mental Health Division.

There was discussion and information given regarding Children's Mental Health week and Mental Health Day. All were encouraged to wear something green.

There was discussion on a proposal written by Legal Aid of WV. That proposal has been funded. The Committee suggests that Legal Aid of WV make a presentation at the next Council meeting.

Discussion of Policy 2419 which was approved by the state Board of Education on April 20, 2007.

**SYSTEMS MONITORING COMMITTEE** - Ted Johnson

The purposes of the Planning Council were reviewed. The Council not only has the responsibility to monitor Block Grant funds but also to evaluate and monitor the entire West Virginia mental health system.

The Systems Monitoring Committee has completed an assessment of crisis response services throughout the state. Twelve of the thirteen comprehensive centers were visited to interview crisis staff. In addition anonymous calls were made to each center. A written report detailing the results of this assessment has been prepared. This report will be available on the Planning Council web site. Seven recommendations have been drafted. There was discussion of the recommendations and some revision was agreed upon.

May 4, 2007

Call to order.

Roll Call. Present: Pamela Akers, Diana Bailey Miller, Angie Ferrari, Pam Harper, Ted Johnson, Paul Macom, David Sanders, Nancy Allison-Schmitt, Jessica Stewart, Melody Waybright, Nancy Deming, J. K. McAtee, Deborah Hansen, Michael Pauley, Linda Pauley, Janet Johnson, Angela Rogers, Brandy Blankenship, Millie Gerbo, Bob Hansen, Bob McConnell, Merritt Moore.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Melody Waybright indicated that the MSPCAN is looking for Board members. Interest indicators are available.

**OLMSTEAD COMMITTEE** - Melody Waybright

Melody reviewed the draft of the West Virginia Transition Initiative plan. She also presented recommendations. The recommendations will be circulated to Planning Council members for comment and then will be forwarded to the Olmstead coordinator.

Additional members were present making a quorum. The minutes of the February 2, 2007 meeting were reviewed. The following corrections were made. The stay at Prestera's Next Step program can be up to 6 months not 90 days as reported in the minutes. The next meeting of the Council will be held on May 3rd and 4th not May 4th as indicated in the minutes. Minutes were approved with the above corrections.

**REPORTS FROM STATE AGENCIES**

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE** - Merritt Moore

A visit was made to "The Healing Place" in Kentucky. This is a program designed for substance abuse clients.

There will be a public hearing in Huntington regarding the Methadone Clinic located there. A motion was made during the meeting that the clinic should be closed. At the conclusion of the hearing the motion was tabled. The clinic will continue to operate. West Virginia leads the country in Methadone related deaths.

Two Oxford Houses have opened, one in Wellsburg and one in Huntington. Two more will open by the end of May. The goal is to open five of these programs within the next twelve months. Each of these four programs are for males. A program for females has yet to be opened.

**VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION** - Janet Johnson

Voc Rehab served 13,000 individuals last year. The current year's goal is to serve 15,000 persons.

The waiting list was opened on April 5th. The agency is beginning to contact person who have been on the waiting list to determine continued interest.

A survey has been sent to providers throughout the state requesting specific information on the services that each provider offers.

The Rehab Center at Institute will close on June 30, 2007.

This will be Janet's last meeting as the Voc Rehab representative to the Council because her role is changing. A new representative for Voc Rehab will be appointed.

Melody Waybright made a motion that the Council send a letter to Ms. Lovely commending Ms. Johnson's contributions to the Council. Motion seconded and carried.

#### **SOCIAL SERVICES - Jane McCallister**

A new commissioner was appointed effective May 1st.

A "huge" initiative is underway to resolve the problem of out of state placement of children.

A study has shown that kids who are in foster home placement are likely to have academic deficiencies.

The System of Care will be expanded statewide. This project has been piloted in several regions of the state.

The new commissioner is making an effort to strengthen the MDT process.

#### **MARSHALL UNIVERSITY - Tammy Pearsall**

Ms. Pearsall reported that evaluations of Adult Block programs will be moving to a web based format. She circulated a handout that outlined the what and how data will be stored. We are no longer collecting data on diagnosis or disability groups.

#### **SYSTEM MONITORING COMMITTEE - Ted Johnson**

There was lengthy discussion of the recommendations of the Committee regarding the Crisis Response assessment.

A motion was made by Bob McConnell to accept the recommendations as revised and that the Council get regular updates on progress of accomplishing the recommendations. Motion seconded by Angie Ferrari. Motion carried with Merritt Moore and Jane McAllister abstaining.

Genise Lalos from Pretera Center gave a presentation on co-occurring disorders (CODs). It is very common that substance abuse and mental health disorders occur together. More often than not persons who have a Serious and Persistent Mental Illness (SMI) also has a substance abuse problem and persons with a substance abuse problem also has a SMI.

A motion was made by Angie Ferrari that the Council establish an Older Adults sub-committee. Motion seconded by Nancy Schmitt. Motion carried. Linda Pauley was drafted to chair the "Baby Boomer" sub-committee.

Diana Miller made a brief presentation on WRAP for kids. A motion was made by Diana Miller that the WVMHPC investigate getting adults train to implement this program. Motion seconded by Pam Akers. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Bob McConnell that a representative from the System of Care program attend the next Council meeting. Motion seconded by Diana Miller. Motion carried.

A presentation on Illness Management and Recovery was made by Dave Sanders.

Meeting adjourned.

Paul Macom