



**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

February 26, 2009

3:30 – 5:00 PM

64 New York Avenue, NE, 5th Floor Training Room

Members Present: Senora Simpson, Nancy Lee Head, Effie Smith, Rosa Hamlett, Mary Ann Luby, Vivian Smith, Raymond Brown, Robin Thorner, Sue Marshall, Joyce Drumming

Absent: Angela Frank, Nancy Ware, Helen Bergman, Nan Roman, Chet Gray, and Shannon Hall

Guest: Eric Hedges

Staff Present: Steve Baron, Marcia Jones, Barbara Bazron, Cathy Anderson, JoAnn Davis

I. Call to Order – Senora Simpson

Ms. Simpson called the meeting to order and members/staff introduced themselves.

II. Review/Approval of Minutes of January 22, 2009

The Minutes of January 22, 2009 were reviewed. Mrs. Simpson asked if the Minutes are now posted on the website. Marcia Jones said she would again check on the status of getting them posted.

III. Director's Report: Stephen T. Baron

A. Announcements

1. **Scheduled DOJ Oversight Visit at Saint Elizabeths** - As a part of the DOJ Agreement, DOJ visits Saint Elizabeths twice a year. The next visit by DOJ is for the last week in March. The DOJ exit interview is closed to external parties. The improvements at Saint Elizabeths have been in the areas of the AVATAR system, pharmacy data, treatment plans, new hires, reducing overtime, and front and back door reduction initiatives. A discussion was held on ACT services for patients who can be discharged.
2. **Upcoming Adult Community Service Review Dates/Training** – The dates for shadowing for the Childrens CSRs is March 9-March 21. Anyone interested in being a reviewer for the upcoming Adult CSR in May must be trained and certified. Marcia Jones will provide the specific training and review dates.

B. Status Reports:

1. **Outcome of February 12 *Dixon* Status Hearing** – The *Dixon* hearing was held on February 12th before Judge Hogan. The hearing went well, but Judge Hogan wants to hold a supplemental hearing on May 28, 2009 to look at three issues: DC CSA Transition, DOJ's visit to the Hospital and the 2010 budget. Judge

Hogan also asked the Court Monitor to do a three month supplemental report, which is due on May 15, 2009 and DMH's status report is due April 1st.

2. **Outcome of February 19 FY 08 Performance Oversight Hearing and February 24 Capital Budget Hearing on Saint Elizabeths construction** – The oversight hearing lasted 9 hours and according to some of the feedback was the best one ever. DC CSA was front and center. The capital budget went well also. City Administrator Dan Tangherlini took the lead and Patrick Canavan attended for the Hospital. The 2010 capital budget request is \$18M for work on RMB, the demolition of the Dix Bldg., the new recreational yard for JHP and cost for the furniture. The new hospital facility is 87% complete. The building may be certified for occupancy around November or December 2009. We will arrange to hold a PC meeting at the new site if possible in May or June.
3. **FY 10 Budget** – The District has another \$350M problem bringing the total to about \$800M. DMH does not have a final budget as of yet.
4. **DC CSA Transition** – Barbara Bazron noted the following on the DC CSA transition activities: (1) the provider fairs will be held every Tuesday throughout the month of March for consumers to meet with providers to help them make a choice; (2) the training for the Continuity of Care Transition Team (CCTT) was held on Monday and a DCCSA employee, Laressa Pool will be leading the CCTT process; (3) a process has been put in place for tracking individuals as they make their provider selections; (4) brochures and a March calendar listing open houses and consumers fairs have been distributed; and (5) the Implementation Team has been working on the operational issues – clinical records transfers and maintenance, the authorization process, the budget, and the monitoring process (the invitation was extended to the PC members to become a part of the process). A discussion was held concerning rep payee, the role of the Core Service Agencies and DC Healthcare Alliance in the transition process.

C Police Training Initiative

MPD is interested in the specialized training as it relates to crisis intervention. Hopefully the first training class will be rolled out by the end of April. Erika Van Buren will be heading it and Steve Baron will check with her to find out if external parties can attend the training.

IV. Old Business

1. Officer Nominations – Nomination committee

The Nomination Committee opened the floor for nominations because no nomination forms were submitted. Senora Simpson and Effie Smith were nominated as Chair. Effie Smith declined. The nomination was closed and Senora Simpson was chosen by

acclamation. Effie Smith and Nancy Lee Head were nominated on Vice-Chair. Nancy Lee Head declined. Effie Smith was elected by acclamation. The terms of office began October 1, 2008.

V. New Business

- 1. Lack of Enough Capacity for Rep Payee** – Bread for the City is at capacity and unable to take on any new clients. A brief discussion was held on this issue. Expanding this service will be placed on a future meeting agenda for discussion.
- 2. Redesign of the Work Adjustment Training Program (WATP)** – The Department is working to redesign this program to move it towards more competitive employment for the consumers through training, supported employment and then competitive employment. A grant has been applied for through the State Mental Health Planning Council. Marcia Jones is asking the Partnership Council to monitor the implementation of the grant if awarded.
- 3. Monitoring of CRFs** – Sheila Kelly, from the OA will be invited to attend the PC meeting to do a 20-minute presentation on the monitoring process.
- 4. System of Care (SOC) Application Grant** – The Department submitted another SOC applicant grant to SAMSHA for funding. The application is designed to provide services and support to prevent young people from going into residential facilities.
- 5. Fruit Basket for PC member Angela Frank** – The cost of the basket for Angela Frank was \$71.00. Mrs. Simpson asked PC members to give a donation to Marcia Jones to cover the cost.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Next Meeting Date: March 26, 2009.