



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

June 25, 2009

3:30 – 5:00 PM

64 New York Avenue NE, 5th Floor Training Room

Members Present: Mary J. D Pietro, Marcia Bowser, Robin Thorner, Nancy Lee Head, Yvonne Smith, Rosa Hamlet, Lauren Jackson, Senora Simpson, Helen Bergman, Nan Roman

Absent: Angela Frank, Chasel Smith, Katherine Wright, Nancy Ware, Audrey Read Brown, Deborah Bear, Shannon Hall, Chet Gray, Nina Swanson, Richard Flintrop, Effie Smith, Mary Ann Luby, Sue Marshall, Ray Brown, Joyce Drumming

Staff Present: Steve Baron, Phyllis Jones, Adrienne Williams

I. Call to Order –

II. Review/Approval of Minutes of May 29, 2009

The minutes were approved. Because the minutes are now posted on the website, the body agreed that minutes are approved with leave for staff to make technical changes, for example, spelling out initials used.

III. Director's Report: Stephen Baron

1. Update on DC CSA transition

Mr. Baron reported that as a follow up to the discussion in the last meeting, no legislative action was taken by the Council on the DC CSA. About 2,100 consumers have enrolled with new providers and about 55% have had their first visit. The CCTT teams are monitoring and tracking those who have not had appointment. The Physicians Practice Group is set up so DC CSA consumers can continue to see the same psychiatrists.

A discussion about capacity among the private providers was held. Mr. Baron stated that about 4,300 consumers are on the master list to be transitioned. Of that number, about 700 will not transition to new providers—about 300 are enrolled in multicultural services which is remaining as a government operated service, 300 are doctors only, and about 100 are dually diagnosed with MRDDA. He asked that anyone who hears about problems with consumers getting medication contact us directly on the DC CSA Consumer Transition Information line on 1-888-793-4357. In response to a question about which providers are closed to intake, Mr. Baron said that this information will be included in more regular newsletters from the Implementation Team. Also, at this time because of the pace of the transition, auto assignment is on hold and may not be needed.

Mr. Baron clarified that the Spring Road clinic is not closing. On July 7, the Alabama Avenue clinic will close as planned. The majority of consumers who go there have enrolled with new

providers. Barbara Bazron, Director of the Transition, will come to the next meeting to provide an update.

2. FY 09 budget

The FY 09 proposed reduction is less than was reported in the *Examiner* newspaper. Because of reduced revenue projections by the CFO, there will likely be an impact in FY 10 but we don't yet know the amount.

3. Census at Saint Elizabeths

Mr. Baron handed out a report entitled "Involuntary Hospital Admissions Monthly Report Fiscal Year 2009" that tracks the admissions to the Hospital as well as admissions to acute care beds. The report shows that the percentage of involuntary admissions to the Hospital has dropped from 45% last October to 25% in May. This front door strategy is aimed at reducing unnecessary admissions to the Hospital by diverting patients to acute care beds at community hospitals. Along with long term care initiatives where individualized work is taking place to discharge patients, these efforts will reduce the census at the Hospital as we prepare to move into the new 292-bed facility. Mr. Baron said his goal is to be at 340 patients which would be a significant achievement from 415 patients a year ago. We are planning to use RMB for patients and administrative offices. The census is 364 today.

4. Tour of the new hospital facility

The projected move in date is March 2010.

IV. Old Business

Ms. Simpson asked that staff draft a letter of appreciation of Marcia Jones that will be given along with a gift from the Partnership Council that Ray Brown volunteered to purchase. She also asked members to send names of any DC CSA consumers who are having problems to DMH immediately.

V. New Business

VI. Adjournment

Tour of new hospital

Next Meeting Date: July 23, 2009