



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

July 23, 2009

3:30 – 5:00 PM

64 New York Avenue NE, 5th Floor Training Room

Members Present: Mary Ann Luby, Nancy Lee Head, Vivian Smith, Mercia Bowser, Mary Pietro, Effie Smith, Ray Brown, Senora Simpson, Yvonne Smith, Rosa A. Hamlet

Absent: Robin Thorner, Laureen Jackson, Helen Bergman, Nan Roman, Angela Frank, Chasel Smsith, Katherine Wright, Nancy Ware, Audrey Read Brown, Deborah Bear, Shannon Hall, Chet Gray, Nina Swanson, Richard Flintrop, Sue Marshall, Joyce Drumming

Staff Present: Steve Baron, Phyllis Jones, Barbara Bazron, Jana Berhow, Adrienne Williams

I. Call to Order

II. Review/Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the June 25, 2009 meeting were approved with corrections. The minutes will be posted on the website.

III. Announcements

The Mental Health Planning Council Conference on June 22, 2009 was great.

IV. Director's Report

• **Proposed FY 10 Budget**

Director Baron reported that as part of the government wide reductions due to a projected revenue shortfall of \$190 million, the proposed FY 10 budget for DMH included a reduction of about \$9 million. The reductions include: \$4 million will come from the budget of Saint Elizabeths. (The census at the Hospital is now about 359 and the goal is 340 by March 31, 2010); a reduction in the number of schools with the school mental health programs by a minimum of two; reduction of about %5 in community residential facilities; reduction of \$89,000 in supported employment which will be offset by \$500,000 in federal stimulus dollars; a reduction in FTEs; fixed costs savings, and reduction in Physicians Practice Group of about five to six doctors from 16 FTEs.

Dr. Brown questioned whether projected revenue was taken into account when the decision was made to reduce the number of doctors. He said about \$300,000 plus could be generated in billing which is more than the projected savings in FY 10. He also suggested other ways to achieve savings. He said that he would be testifying at the Council budget hearing.

- **Update on the DC CSA Transition**

Dr. Barbara Bazron, Director of the Implementation Team, reported that to date 2,323 consumers have enrolled with new providers and 53% who have had at least one appointment. The Continuity of Care teams continue to aggressively track the remaining 47% who have not been seen by the new provider. We know that some of the consumers continue to get their services at the DC CSA which has been set up as a subprovider during the transition. We have built a robust data base that supports the tracking. Also, a Transition Help line (1-800-961-8528) was set up so that a consumer could talk to a live person with questions about the transition. Same Day service is available at 35 K Street NE and consumers also can continue to see their physicians. She reported that we have not seen a spike in visits to CPEP by DC CSA consumers and we are tracking this closely.

Services that remain government operated will be consolidated at 35 K Street and childrens services will be located at Howard Road SE, including the administrative offices of early intervention and school based mental health services.

There was a discussion about issues with the transition and Partnership Council members are asked to report immediately any anecdotal information about problems with consumers to Steve Baron or Dr. Bazron.

- **Progress Report on Integrated Care Project with Washington Hospital Center**

Jana Berhow reported that the New Directions program was set up to get people out of Saint Elizabeth and to keep them out. The Washington Hospital Center was awarded the contract in March targeting 30 consumers who have been in the Hospital six months or longer. The program will provide a level of support that was not available in the past.

V. Old Business

Dr. Brown purchased a gift as requested to honor Marcia Jones, former Chief of Staff. Also, a draft letter of appreciation was circulated from Ms. Simpson which she will finalize. Ms. Simpson asked that Marcia be invited to the next meeting or a meeting that is convenient for her so the gift could be presented in person.

VI. New Business

Ms. Simpson again reminded everyone to contact DMH immediately if you know of individuals who are having any kind of difficulties [related to DC CSA transition].

Next Meeting: August 27, 2009

Meeting adjourned.