



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

September 23, 2010
3:30 – 5:00 PM

Members Present: Senora Simpson, Matt Rosen, Effie Smith, Mary Jean DiPietro, Joyce Drumming, Rosa Hamlett, Jennifer Lav

Absent: Leslie Bell-Davis, Angela Frank, Shannon Hall, Chasel Smith, Kathrin Wright, Audrey Reed Brown, Deborah Bear, Helen Bergman, Nan Roman, Byron Stith, Chet Gray, Sue Marshall, LaToya Wesley, Vivian Smith, Richard Flintrop, Yvonne Smith

Staff Present: Steve Baron, Phyllis Jones

I. Call to Order – Senora Simpson

The meeting was called to order by Senora Simpson.

II. Review/Approval of Minutes of June 24, 2010

A motion was made to move and accept the minutes of June 24, 2010 and post them on the website.

III. Announcements

- The Juvenile Justice hearing will be added as an agenda item.
- Lauren Jackson is in Howard University Hospital. Effie Smith will keep the PC updated.
- Jennifer Lav officially was appointed to the Partnership Council.
- The new Chief Clinical Officer Dr. Cameron Ritchie will join DMH on October 4, 2010. Dr. Steury's retirement celebration will be held on November 4, from 6-9 pm at the Navy Yard.

IV. Director's Report

- A. **Dixon Update:** DMH has now satisfied 11 of the 19 exit criteria and the Court Monitor moved them to inactive. We expect that four additional criteria will be moved to inactive status by next February. DMH has submitted its response to the Plaintiff's response to the District's motion to vacate the Court Order. The next regular status hearing is October 14, 2010 at 10:30 am (the Judge at that time may set a hearing time on the motion to vacate).

- B. **System Redesign Update:** By early December a first draft should be circulated for review. The new system will expand the portals of care, provide access to free standing mental health clinics, look at who gets rehabilitation services etc.
- C. **Proposed Relocation to RMB:** DMH is working with the City Administrator's Office and the Department of Real Estate Services on a proposal to relocate the Mental Health Authority to the RMB Building on the grounds of Saint Elizabeths. As part of the final phase of the new hospital construction project, the demolition of the John Howard Pavilion will take place within the next six months [to make way for the new recreation yard.
- D. **DYRS/Juvenile Justice Hearing:** Councilmember Tommy Wells held a hearing today on DYRS /Juvenile Justice and DC Behavioral Health Association issued a report today on assess to mental health for children. A final copy of this report will be sent out.
- E. **CIO Training** – Nine classes have completed training in crisis intervention, bringing the total to 165 MPD officers. Most of the officers were self-selected. The last class for this calendar year is November 15. DMH plans to expand the training to correctional officers.
- F. **FY 11 Budget** – The Chief Financial Officer will release his revised revenue projects next week and the District is expected to face a \$100 million budget shortfall. DMH's approved budget includes an expected rate reduction for some services provided by the community based providers. In order to accomplish this, there will be meetings with an internal group and the providers to try to do this in a responsible way.
- G. **Impact of Health Care Reform:** As of July 1, about 35,000 people in the DC Healthcare Alliance were enrolled in Medicaid. This change will result in some savings of local dollars.

V. **Old Business:** None

VI. **New Business:**

- The Partnership Council will write appreciation letters to Dr. Steury and Edith Makenta for their commitment to the consumers. They also will purchase a plaque for each of them.
- Senora Simpson and Matt Rosen will draft a letter from the Partnership Council to presumptive Mayor Vincent Gray on the accomplishments of the Department under Steve Baron's leadership.

VII. **Adjournment:** The next meeting date is October 28, 2010.