



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

October 27, 2011

3:30 – 5:00 PM

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

Absent: Leslie Bell-Davis, Angela Frank, Shannon Hall, Chasel Smith, Kathrin Wright, Audrey Reed Brown, Deborah Bear, Nan Roman, Chet Gray, Mary Jean DiPietro, Richard Flintrop

Staff Present: Steve Baron, Barbara Bazron, Anne Sturtz, Juanita Reaves

I. Call to Order – Senora Simpson

The meeting was called to order by Senora Simpson.

II. Review/Approval of Minutes of October

The minutes of September 22, 2011 were reviewed and approved.

III. Announcements

DMH received the System of Care Grant. The focus is on children's services.

IV. Director's Report

Dixon Case Update – Notification of the *Dixon* settlement was mailed to approximately 80 mental health clinics, advocacy groups, and other DMH partners. A public forum to talk about the settlement and answer questions will be held from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm, November 14 at the Martin Luther King Library. If other public briefings need to be set up, Anne Sturtz is available to set them up. In addition, the notification will be published in the *Examiner* and *Street Sense* newspapers. Next week, about 27,000 notifications will be mailed to enrollees in the DMH system. The comment period ends on December 30, 2011. Judge Hogan has scheduled a hearing on February 16, 2012 where he is expected to give final approval. .

University Legal Services (ULS) Agreement – The District has entered into an agreement with University Legal Services [the federally mandated protection and advocacy organization for District residents with disabilities] to settle a 2005 suit against the District concerning patient care at Saint Elizabeths Hospital. Under the agreement, the District will provide 175,000 to ULS over a three year period to fund a patient advocate and facilitate access to the Hospital.

Department of Justice (DOJ) Agreement – DOJ will be on site beginning on Monday. A new agreement has been made [which reflects the progress made to date—all provisions are in compliance or substantial compliance].

FY 12 Budget - There are no changes in the FY 12 budget. DMH is in the process of lining up 100 new housing slots and a number of the capital projects are coming on line. A new Request for Proposals was issued by the Department of Housing and Community Development [which includes housing set aside for people with mental illness]. DMH is beginning work on the FY 13 budget.

Theodoric James Case – The Deputy Mayor convened a group that reviewed the various government agencies interaction and response and presented the findings to the Mayor. The Office of the Inspector General is also conducting a review of the case. DMH mobile crisis services had a number of encounters with Mr. James over a two-year period. They have since put a number of things in place to do a more intensive case review. Ms. Simpson expressed her desire to become involved as a community person and to know what instructions the public should have [in cases like this]. Mr. Baron will invite the head of mobile crisis services and/or the Chief Clinical Officer to talk about the mechanisms that have been put in place.

Discussion of Combining the State Planning Council with the Partnership Council – Director Baron noted that a decision would not be required today. Anne Sturtz and Juanita Reaves gave an overview of the roles of the State Mental Health Planning Council and the Partnership Council. Anne Sturtz distributed a handout for review that compared the requirements, duties, and the membership requirements for both Councils and the requirements by SAMHSA for a State Behavioral Health Advisory Council. A discussion on the presentation was held. The same presentation will be made to the State Planning Council and three or four people from both groups will discuss this issue further (Mr. Baron would like to be a part of the discussion).

V. Staff Report: None

V. Old Business: None

VI. New Business: None

VII. Adjournment: Because of the upcoming Holiday, the next meeting date is December 1, 2011.