

North Carolina Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council (NCMHPAC)
Meeting Minutes of October 6, 2017 - Approved

Meeting location: 3724 National Drive, Suite 100, Raleigh, NC 1-888-273-3658; 2490768#

Present: Damie Jackson-Diop, Chair, Gwen Belcredi, Vicki Smith, Garron Rogers, Mary Edwards, Marcus Stevenson, Bert Bennett

Phone: Gail Cormier, May Lloyd, Jean Steinberg, Wes Rider

Staff: Walt Caison, Susan Robinson, Karen Feasel (phone), Ken Edminster

Guests: None

1) Meeting Convened/Introductions

Action: Damie Jackson-Diop, Chair, convened the meeting, welcome and introductions were completed.

2) Approval of Minutes/ Review of Agenda

Action: The agenda was reviewed with minor modifications. It was determined that as members were able to call in by noon, Council business requiring member vote would be delayed until that time.

Approval of minutes: Bert Bennett made a motion, a second to the motion by Gwen Bercaldi, that minutes of June 2 and August 4 with one modification noted be approved by consensus until Council quorum is attained.

3) Public Comments - Members of the public can address the Council. Limit of three minutes.

Action: None.

4) Sustainability Discussion: Ken Edminster and Dave Wickstrom framed the discussion and priority planning. Ken provided an overview of the current state of MHBG funding for this current and next two federal fiscal years. Ken stated this includes a reduction of approximately \$4 million for the next two year plan (10/1/17 to 9/30/19) in funding that is currently proposed by the President, with funding levels yet to be determined by Congress. SAMHSA's notice to the states also included a slight increase in funding to NC; this will help lessen the immediate impact of the reductions. Most LME/MCOs receive an allocation of the MHBG funds as a part of the State fund bucket which the legislature attributes to single stream funding for services and supports in the community, for the most part, expenditures are reimbursed based on a unit cost reimbursement. The state contract process occurs on a 12 month funding cycle beginning July 1 and ending June 30. All require progress reporting on scope of work and budget, are reimbursed based on expenditures, and sub-recipient compliance monitoring. There are standard requirements and reporting mechanisms as well as special conditions and reporting conditions. Ken outlined the state funding process to the LME/MCOs, special initiatives and to those priorities SAMHSA expects to see funds used for such as supporting consumer/peer run and family/youth run organizations, evidence based and innovative practices for those who are eligible (SED/SMI) and not Medicaid eligible/uninsured/underinsured.

Dave noted ways in which organizations receiving MHBG funds might be able to leverage other funding, document volunteer hours as in-kind, perhaps move to a multi-year funding cycle to promote sustainability as well as ways in which concrete steps can be taken to help sustain effective practices that demonstrate outcomes desired. It was noted that federal funds cannot be used to match other federal funds. The training that Ken Scheusselin is piloting through MHBG funding for peer/consumer run organizations this year may be a way to help with effective management and business practices to grow success. More information is needed.

Other discussion referenced the information received and learned through the past year from MHBG recipients, there was interest in promoting sustainability of work begun over time as well as expanding effective practices in other parts of the same region or other regions in the state. Interest was also expressed in supporting innovation and increasing support of consumer, family or youth run entities as part of the service system. Other concerns regarding the loss of the public safety net in current federal and state conversations as evidenced by the state not expanding Medicaid and the President's purposed cuts to mental health funding, even cutting SAMHSA all together; the public safety net that the MH Block Grant along with state funds is still very much needed in North Carolina.

Actions: 1) By consensus, members present determined that the Plan review committee will draft a 'demonstration of sustainability' statement for consideration by the Council for the next meeting on 12/1/17 that can be offered as a recommendation to DMH to include in DMH contracts funded with MHBG funds specific to sustainability. Suggested activities of the committee to include reviewing sample language regarding sustainability and draft a statement that the Council can consider in making recommendations to DMHDDSAS in the terms and conditions for applying for or receiving MHBG funds to DMHDDSAS. 2) Request an overview and an update from Ken Scheusselin on the organizational development training being piloted and other consumer/family related efforts currently funded. 3) The council will consider ways to promote collaboration among LMEs, network providers and other MHBG recipients to extend the work intended by the block grant regionally across the state and align with the plan required priority populations and criteria. Examples offered related to addressing gaps and needs in communities by resource sharing or highlighting what works in communities or other states such as examples Gwen shared related to housing and supports in Texas model.

5) Chairperson's Report

Discussion: Council Annual Survey: Damie asked the Council to consider different ways in which the survey could ask questions that will both educate about the MHBG and opportunities to participate in planning council discussions or related other state and community planning and as well as get information that would be helpful to consider as recommendations to the DMHDDSAS in implementing the block grant plan. Identification of 5 key questions was a starting place for

discussion. Questions considered included: What is the service that is most critical to you and your needs that you are not getting; What are the community based mental health services available to you?; Tell us who in your community provides mental health services?; Are you connected to supports that help you stay in school, go to work and live in your family or in your community?; include a question about primary care and mental health provider connection; Do you know about your work options and how work impacts your benefits? (E.g. it is always better to go to work – benefits counseling; WIPA?); Tell us how you are supported in employment – opportunities to work

(E.g. include definition of VR and IPS employment and where to find more information).

Council meeting survey: Damie shared results in the packet and briefly reviewed these.

SAMHSA Joint MHBG & SAPTBG Site Visit November 14-16: SAMHSA completes site visits on a regular basis, usually every three years, the last site visit was in 2013. Both block grants will have site visits. Ken stated schedules are being drafted by the reviewers with times or sessions designated. Reviewers would prefer not to have the same people participating in both sessions. Council members are asked to participate as a council member in the council session unless the time is absolutely not possible.

National Planning Council Leadership Academy – Damie has requested continued support from CMHS

Advocates for Human Potential. Ted Johnson, was the North Carolina coach during the first TA opportunity. He has offered to facilitate strategic planning with the council. Pre-work will be required with this TA.

Community Inclusion Training Institute at Temple University in PA: It was noted that the Council can make a plan to request TA from Temple moving forward.

Actions:

Council annual survey: 1) Damie asked for suggestions so that a draft annual council survey can be completed for Council review and approval before it is disseminated.

Council meeting survey: 2) Damie asked all council members to complete the meeting evaluation survey, even if one is not able to attend so that input is gathered from all members.

SAMHSA Joint MHBG & SAPTBG Site Visit November 14-16: 3) Damie asked members to determine which of the two SAMHSA MHBG Site Visit sessions they would participate in order to get broad representation from both Council members during the MHPC session on November 15 from 10-12 (confirmed are Marcus, Dave, Mary, Gail) and the consumer, family, youth session on November 16 from 10-12 (TBD, Damie will make some calls and asked others to reach out as well.). Member are asked to let Damie and Ken know your plan to participate.

National Planning Council Leadership Academy: 4) Damie asked for members to let her know if interested in being an NC team member engaged in the TA planning.

Community Inclusion Training Institute at Temple University in PA: Damie asked those who attended to present more information to the Council in a future meeting (December?). Those who attended include: Dave Wickstrom, Ken Scheusselin, Walt Caison, Stacy Smith, and Eric Harbour.

6) Council Actions Requiring Member Vote – A quorum of active members, 11 present, was established by roll call.

Roll call was taken: Marcus Stevenson, Jean Steinberg, Wes Rider, Gail Cormier, Bert Bennett, Vicki Smith, Dave Wickstrom, Gwen Belcredi, Tammie Theal, Garron Rogers, Damie Jackson-Diop

Item 1: Meeting Minutes of June 2, 2017 – Gwen Bercaldi made the motion to approve; Garron Rogers second; no discussion, no questions, hearing none, motion passes; no dissensions, no abstentions.

Item 2: Meeting Minutes of August 4, 2017 – Bert Bennett made the motion to approve; Dave Wickstrom second; no discussion, no questions, hearing none, motion passes; no dissensions, no abstentions.

Item 3: Vice Chair Nomination & Election: Damie reviewed candidate nominations received; 3 candidates; 2 withdrew interest; Dave Wickstrom remains interested. Dave presented a brief summary of his interest as one with lived experience, a Veteran, and actively engaged in leading efforts for independent living. Damie asked for Council to proceed with the nomination and election of Vice Chair position. Vicki Smith made the motion to confirm the nomination of and elect Dave Wickstrom, Vice Chair; Garron Rogers, provided a motion to second; no discussions; questions; hearing none – the vote passes; no dissensions; one abstention.

7) Networking Lunch and Information Exchange

8) Requirements for the 2018 Community MHDDSAS Service Needs and Gaps Assessment Requirements – Jennifer Bowman, Quality Management

Discussion: Jennifer provided an overview of the services needs and gaps assessment process, the timeline and the requirements. The requirements to LME/MCOs are due in early November, DMHDDSAS is seeking the Council's input, the first entity to be asked in a series of groups. The following were questions or suggestions provided as the requirements were being reviewed. Report Veterans annually; include young adults in criminal justice; how are youth defined as in youth in Juvenile justice; include ethnic break out of youth; break out IDD/TBI and/or FEP; include young children 3-8 years; consider the DRNC report on suicide in the jails and IDD/DD population; how is adequacy defined and addressed – consider projected saturation rate of service; establish benchmarks and increase each year over time for saturation of services (i.e. additional new

individuals served); engage peers in outreach and gathering data; employ census model of gathering data; move p 14 to the front with demographics.

Actions: 1) Request a presentation on exception requests for state funded and for Medicaid as an entitlement. 2) Suggest to LME/MCOs that in their assessment process that they coordinate with Centers for Independent living, P & A, social media, talk radio, partnering, low to no vision – radio, accessible for screen readers and ensure that screens are ADA compliant & tools/materials are available for braille devices.

9) By Laws: Annual Review and Revision Recommendations

Discussion: Damie led review of the by-laws with Ken. Edits were noted by Ken for incorporation and review during the next meeting.

Action: Damie requested members review and submit in writing modifications for consideration at the next meeting.

10) **Council Member Updates** – There was no time remaining on the agenda for this item. Members were asked to send to Damie or Ken for dissemination in lieu of discussion.

11) **Adjourn** – Damie adjourned the meeting and thanked all participants for the work done.

2017 Meeting Dates

December 1st