

Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (CBHAC)

Thirty one appointed members
(Fifty-one percent to be parents)
Twenty-nine appointments filled, currently two vacancies
Statewide Advisory Council appointments currently one vacancies
Legislative appointments currently one vacancy
(Maj. Leader of the House Appt. Christopher Donovan)

Appointments. By State Advisory Council:

Co-Chair: Dave Tompkins (01/06/06-01/06/09), **Lolli Ross and Marie Capiris** (02/04/05-02/04/09),
Grace Nelson (10/07/05-10/07/09), **Sincilina Beckett, Patricia Gaylord, Darcy Lowell, Norma Irving, Neil Quatrano,**
Tabor Napiello and Debbie McCusker (09/06/07 – 09/06/09) **Karen Smith, Doriana M. Vicedomini, Lilia Figueroa, Evelyn**
Mendez (02/28/2008 - 02/28/2010) **Mary Martinez, George McDonald** (10/08/2008 - 10/08/2010)

Governor's Appointments:

Parent-**Cathy Adamczyk** (01/23/06-06/30/10), Provider-**Cara Westcott** (08/11/05-11/03/06)

Legislative Appointments:

Pres. Pro Tempore Appt. Donald Williams - **Margaret (Peggy) Ayer** (08/15/05-08/15/09), Speaker of the House Appt. James Amann-**John McGann** (12/14/05-06/30/08), Maj. Leader of the Senate Appt. Martin Looney-**Chet Brodnicki** (08/09/05 – 08/09/09), Min. Leader of the Senate Appt. Louis Deluca-**Marcy Kane** (04/07/05-06/30/08), Min. Leader of the House Robert Ward-**Kimble Greene** (06/07/06-Term does not expire)

State Department Commissioner Designees:

Department of Children and Families - **Tim Marshall**, Department of Social Services - **Tim Bowles**,
Department of Education - **Scott Newgass**, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services - **Nikki Richer**,
Department of Developmental Services-**Tammy Garris**

Court Support Services, Chief Court Administrator Designee - **Cathy Foley Geib**

Office of Protection and Advocacy, Executive Director Designee - **Rachel Sherman**

Meeting Minutes from October 3, 2008

Appointed Members in Attendance:

Margaret (Peggy) Ayer, Sincilina Beckett, Tim Bowles, Marie Capiris, Tammy Garris, Patricia Gaylord, Cathy Foley Geib, Kimble Greene, Norma Irving, Marcy Kane, Tim Marshall, John McGann, Tabor Napiello, Grace nelson, Neil Quatrano, Nikki Richer, Karen Smith, Doriana M. Vicedomini, Cara Westcott

Excused Appointed Members:

Cathy Adamczyk, Darcy Lowell, Rachel Sherman, Dave Tompkins

Unexcused Appointed Members:

Lolli Ross, Scott Newgass, Evelyn Mendez, Debbie McCusker, Lila Figueroa, Chet Brodnicki

Members of the Public in Attendance:

Marilyn Cloud, Hal Gibber, Frank Gregory, Cristy Jones, Michael Reid, Rebecca Turgeon, Celeste Chartier Vickie Meyer, Tony Gibson, Susan Williams, Brenda Wilcox, Ann Phelan, Peter Eddy, Neva Caldwell, Denise Tillman, Savannah Holloway, Wanda Roberson, Margaret Roberson, Cheryl Jacques, Wanda Roberson, Quinesha Roberson, Lynne Roberson, Margaret Roberson

**Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee
(CBHAC)**

Mission:

The mission of CBHAC is to promote and enhance the provision of behavioral health services for all children in the State of Connecticut.

The Meeting was called to order by Co-chair, Kimble Greene

Approval of Minutes:

August minutes were voted on and approved at 10:13AM.

Co-chairs report:

Dave Tompkins/ Kimble Greene

Kimble Greene:

Update on feedback of the meeting with Commissioner Hamilton:

We haven't had an official CBHAC meeting since August last month on September 17th we pulled this group together at the request of Commissioner Hamilton who was going to come and talk about pretty significant changes with the infrastructure of DCF. She was not able to make it so Chief of Staff Karl Kemper attended instead. He handed out the structural changes with regional oversight.

Hal Gibber:

FAVOR was asked by DCF to hold a meeting with the same information. This meeting was to discuss how this DCF organization will affect our families and children. We took notes and I can provide additional information on the November CBHAC meeting.

Tim Marshall:

For clarification, those two meetings are just two of a series of interactive meetings that have been occurring around the state. The Department is soliciting feedback and public comment. There is a deadline for feedback to the Department.

Kimble Greene:

If people do not have access to e-mail, you can provide your feedback by phone, you can also contact Dave or me with your feedback.

Committee Reports:

Behavioral Health Services – BHP Interface

Vacant / Sarah Becker

Standards for State Funded Behavioral Health Programs

Scott Newgass/ Debbie McCusker

No Recommendations

**Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee
(CBHAC)**

Mental Health Block Grant

Kimble Greene/ Vacant

Marilyn Cloud:

There are some activities underway. On October 15th the MHBG Peer Review Process will be held in Orlando Florida. Al Bidordini, Adult State Planner for DHMAS and I will attend. The purpose is to present the states federal fiscal year 09 plan. There are reviewers assigned to look at each state's proposed plan, so they will come to the review with questions for us. We have a few minutes to present the plan and then we answer their questions. This will be followed by approval or denial of the plan.

It is also time to start developing the narratives and gathering of data for our implementation report for our Federal Fiscal Year '08 plan. The purpose of the implementation report is to tell the federal government what we have done with the funds for the previous year, how we have spent them and what activities that have been accomplished. It is also required that we address what progress the state has made in the overall Behavioral Health Services system, particularly those areas that we have addressed in our 08 plan as needing attention and improvement. I will be sending a draft to you in mid October. This will allow time to review the draft and come to the November CBHAC meeting with any questions or feedback that you have.

Karen Smith:

Is there any family members ever included in any of these? For example, the opportunity for family members to attend the workshops?

Marilyn Cloud:

This year, due to restrictions on travel, the Feds will only pay for one representative of the council to attend. Usually parents do attend. The MHBG subcommittee has been instrumental in finding parents to attend and provide feedback.

Kimble Greene:

We are looking for a parent for a parent co-chair for the Mental Health Block Grant Committee. You can contact me or Dave if you know a parent or if you are interested in co-chairing the committee.

Local System of Care

Tabor Napiello/ Hal Gibber

Tabor Napiello:

We had sent out a survey to the 25 systems of care for feedback to finalize the CBHAC's Annual report on the status of the collaboratives. Unfortunately due to time constraints, I don't have a copy of it, but I would like to update you on the report. We did get feedback from all 25 collaboratives and actually get feedback about supporting the state wide systems of care. Of the 24 out of the 25 did respond to that question and supported the state wide systems of care. I think 23 of those 24 said that they would send regular representation to meetings. Basically the report included a summery of the surveys and they included comments that people had put in as well. It was a very see through process which has all the information from the surveys. The other things included are the statue requirements of the report. We connected to the CHF recommendation Connecticut Health Foundation report and the recommendations

**Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee
(CBHAC)**

that Will Crimi had discussed at our state wide meeting with the Commissioner. Moving forward we are working on the language for it and between the data and the work of the sub-committee we are recommending that the state wide system of care sub-committee continue to move forward the work toward having it stand alone state wide system of care council. I will have Lorena send out to the membership an invitation to the follow up on the process. I will send Lorena the draft to CBHAC membership for feedback in a very short time frame. The two options are either to vote today to accept that structure once the draft is being reviewed or to vote via-email following receipt. Once people get the draft they can then respond within a short time frame (a week) lets say via-email.

Marcy Kane:

I would be in favor of voting for it today. This sub-committee has submitted this annual report for three years so I feel that they are very capable.

Tabor Napiello:

*I will make motion that that this report once finalized and after submitted to the group for feedback would be submitted at the end of the month to the State Advisory Committee - **Motion Approved at 10:30AM.***

I also wanted to make a motion regarding to who this report will get submitted to in addition to the SAC. To make sure that it doesn't end with the SAC. In previous years the report has not been forwarded to anyone beyond that and now that we are aware of that we would not like that to happen. I would like to make a motion that the report will be submitted to the SAC, all 25 of the community collaboratives with the request that they distribute that to their membership and the family organizations and obviously available to whomever would like it. Our sub-committee will have a draft cover letter for distribution.

*I would like to make a motion that CBHAC will distribute this beyond SAC to abroad range of state agencies, state stakeholders, within the community to make sure this report is shared beyond the State Advisory Committee - **Motion approved at 10:39AM.***

Cara Westcott:

I just want to acknowledge all the work that Tabor, Cristy, Hal and Dave have done on this getting a 100% on the surveys, pulling everything together; I really appreciate the work that you are doing. It is really gratifying for me to see the work happening and I am not in the position to really be involved, so thank you for all your work.

Karen Smith:

About the meetings in advance, our orientation has fallen down the wayside and I feel that we still need to make that available. The other thing is that new people that are coming in might not be aware of what we can offer them here in participating. For our interpreter, she is here all the time and how would people know that there is an available interpreter available if needed.

Kimble Greene:

That was one of the charges of the leadership meeting from 9:00 to 10:00am was that someone from the leadership would be available for the orientation. That is something that we do need to readdress.

**Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee
(CBHAC)**

Denise Tillman- Parent:

Feels concerned that there are very few parents participation in the CBHAC meetings and expressed that with more parent participation it will slow up member work load and will provide more family input.

Hal Gibber:

Denise point well take, I would just want to briefly respond that the resent discussion about the leadership team meetings that took place for to six months such that we could build the structure of the committees and address the issue that you just raised, was moderately successful. I think the work of the committees is just what you are talking about. I think that getting additional parental involvement is a major theme. I think CBHAC actually does it better than most and I think that everyone in this room is committed to it. Your point is greatly appreciated by everyone. In order to change the system, it has to involve more parent involvement and input.

Kimble Greene:

I just like to add we are still looking actively for a parent co-chair. I stepped up a number of months ago to temporarily fill in just to help in with administrative stuff. We are actively looking for a parent co-chair with Dave for the CBHAC. There are opportunities for parents to step up and have voice and become involved in what is happening here.

Karen Smith:

I think that it might be very beneficial to take the time at every meeting to make an announcement or an inquiry if there are any parents that would be in need of any additional information or need of orientation next month. It would be nice to just make an announcement every time.

Frank Gregory:

Related to that, with the Transformation Grant there is a big effort to provide parent leadership training and those of you that don't know is that the objective of this year's parent leadership training would be to provide a minimum of 200 hundred parents with available trainings in all regions of the state. A number of trainings are schedule to be delivered in Spanish. Families United is the lead on overseeing the initiative but certainly working in concert with collaboratives, advocacy and community.

Hal Gibber:

I would like to make a recommendation to think about what we might want to think about doing something more firmly to fill the vacant parent-co-chair. Secondly, I know a number of us work with the Family Advocacy and have relationships with local systems of care. We would be more than happy to bring back proposals to CBHAC and maybe have a CBHAC Agenda item or discussion if not an Adhoc-Committee to talk about how to expand and ensure greater family participation. I would be very happy to get together with Lorna from Families United and incorporate the training with the new family support groups to get families better trained and more understanding of participation.

**Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee
(CBHAC)**

Tim Marshall:

I have a similar recommendation - under Announcements, if we have a standing statement stating "**Opportunities for Parents**" and then list the openings for CBHAC and the sub-committees. I think it would be useful to CBHAC and that information could be passed on to Families United as way to keep them informed about CBHAC.

Marie Capiris:

Looking at our by-laws they do state that although the chair should be a member of CBHAC that committees could include members of the public at large.

Care Westcott:

For the sub-committees only.

Karen Smith:

I would like to suggest that for this program if there could be applications available with our paperwork for that parent training. I am going to bring paper work regarding parent training which child care is provided, it is funded and it also has stipends. I will bring that as a choice.

Kimble Greene:

We are going to add a section to our Agenda

Nominating Committee:

Marcy Kane/ Marie Capiris

Marcy Kane:

Two culturally diverse parents George McDonald and Mary Martinez's application has not yet been approved by the State Advisory Committee.

Hal Gibber:

Fernando Muniz who is from the Department who is staff to the SAC had worked with me in the past in trying to address the lack of communication between the two organizations. I would suggest that we ask Tim as our DCF representative to try and forward this to Fernando. Fernando Muniz is the Commissioners Representative to the State Advisory Committee.

Cara Westcott:

I think that we need to have a formal letter from Kimble and Dave on behalf of CBHAC and let them know that this is not acceptable.

Kimble Greene:

At the May SAC meeting we attended and addressed the issue. The motion is for Marcy to write a letter

**Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee
(CBHAC)**

to Commissioner Hamilton in letting her new the details about not getting a respond back from the State Advisory Committee regarding our two parent application - Motion Approved 11:15AM.

Marcy Kane:

My idea is that we should notifying somebody about maybe in terms of an article in the newspaper about questioning majority leader Christopher Donovan about if he really cares about children and children's behavioral health issues and letting the public now that he has not appointed someone in his seat for over three years.

Cara Westcott:

I have contacted the Governors office and talked to the aid and did not get a response.

Marcy Kane:

I guess maybe some of his constituents would be particularly interested in the fact that he doesn't pay attention to his appointments.

Tim Bowles:

You have to take in consideration his role is going to be changing to the Speaker of the House. He will have a different appointee.

Kimble Greene:

Let's table this particular topic until next month and let's prioritize the membership issue.

Multiculturalism

Sincilina Beckett/ Mary Held

Sincilina Beckett:

I would like to step down as the co-chair of this sub-committee.

Ad Hoc Committees:

Mentoring & Respite

VACANT/ Neil Quatrano

Neil Quatrano:

No recommendations at this time - I am looking for a co-chair of the meeting

Marie Capiris:

The list that was published in June of Neil's committee members are:

Community Members:

Grace Nelson
Marcy Kane

**Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee
(CBHAC)**

Erica Blescher
Nancy Dumont
Kim Somaroo-Rodriguez

Kimble Greene:

Perhaps it makes sense for the leadership to meet from 9-10 in November to revisit the sub-committee standing membership. The leadership consists of myself and Dave and all of the co-chairs of this committee. Leadership will be meeting down stairs in the cafeteria from 9-10 and we also have someone holding orientation from 9:30 to 10:00. Orientation is for new attendees and new members. It's for those people that have not attended an orientation before.

Tabor Napiello:

When the state wide System of Care group gets together on October 17th we will set a date and time for the next meeting after that. We will make sure that there is a follow e-mails following the October 17th meeting.

Transitioning Youth Initiative

Tim Bowles/ Lolli Ross

Tim Bowles:

We have been meeting together with youth and young adults and there are several groups that have been getting together with family members. Our intention now is that the two groups both the youth and the young adult group and the family member group has been preparing to ahead reconvene that group and essence turn the tables around and have a listening conference with providers just sitting and youth and family members proving some presentations. I do want to acknowledge that Cheryl Breetz have been doing a lot for this initiative.

Frank Gregory:

Also under the transformation grant in the contents as seeing consumers as part of the work force we looked at what about youth and young adult leadership through support, self- advocacy. Cliff Davis from Kid-CARE training provided a consultation through the work force collaborative on behavioral health regarding a number of youth initiatives one of them was to convene a listening conference. We had a conversation that we should not step over each other but rather integrate what is happening and is certainly inclusive of transitioning youth.

Tim Bowles:

I think that the important thing is that because of my inconsistency and also obvious Loli, I would like to encourage that if there is any parent that would like to be the co-chair in this committee, I think it would be important in communication.

Frank Gregory:

Would we be able to identify a transitioning youth who would be able to be supportive to be a member of the committee? The by-laws do they allow for a transition age youth young adult to be a member of CBHAC.

**Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee
(CBHAC)**

George McDonald:

I have talked to parents in order to build some type of organization with youths and families. We have plenty of them that are parents.

Norma Irving:

I have a child who is a transitional youth. I just want to know can some of the time be used as service learning (community credits).

Announcements:

Frank Gregory and Sarah Becker:

On September 12th there was a DCF state wide meeting with providers that introduced the new web base data collection system that will take into effect between now and the summer. Following that, Chet, myself and Frank would like to get feedback from CBHAC and parents on the next Data meeting will that will be held the 17th of October at CVH.

We would also like to invite CHBAC to identify a parent or family member that would be a part of an ongoing implementation work group.

Marie Capiris:

Cathy Adamczyk will be honored by the Lower Naugatuck Valley Collaborative for many years of service for children and families on October 20th at Team Office in Derby from 2:00 to 4:00. If any one is interested speak to me.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:36AM

Meeting notes respectfully submitted by Lorena Emanuel