

Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (CBHAC)

Thirty one appointed members
(Fifty-one percent to be parents)
28 appointments filled, currently three vacancies
Statewide Advisory Council appointments currently one vacancies
Legislative appointments one vacancy
Governor's appointment no vacancies

Appointments. By State Advisory Council:

Co-Chair: Dave Tompkins (01/06/06-02/04/11),
Sincilina Beckett, Darcy Lowell, Norma Irving, Tabor Napiello and Debbie McCusker (09/06/07 – 09/06/12) **Karen Smith, Co-Chair: Dorian M. Vicedomini**, (02/28/08 - 02/28/10) **Mary Martinez, George McDonald** (10/08/08 - 10/08/10) **Mary Held** (03/31/09 - 03/31/11) **Hal Gibber** (01/07/10 - 01/07/2012)

Governor's Appointments:

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

Legislative Appointments:

Pres. Pro Tempore Appt. Donald Williams - **Margaret (Peggy) Ayer** (08/15/05-08/15/11), Speaker of the House Appt. Christopher Donovan - **John McGann** (12/14/05-06/30/10), Maj. Leader of the Senate Appt. Martin Looney- **Gabrielle Hall** (11/25/09 – 11/25/11), Min. Leader of the Senate Appt. John McKinney-**Marcy Kane** (04/07/05-06/30/12), Min. Leader of the House Larry Cafero - **M. Jeffrey Spahr** (09/03/09-06/30/2011) Maj. Leader of the House Appt. Denise Merrill - **Robert Franks** (02/20/09 - 06/30/10)

State Department Commissioner Designees:

Department of Children and Families - **Tim Marshall**, Department of Social Services - **Vacant**,
Department of Education - **Scott Newgass**, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services - **Nikki Richer**,
Department of Developmental Services-**Maureen Thomas**

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

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

Meeting Minutes from July 9, 2010

Appointed Members in Attendance:

Cathy Adamczyk, Margaret (Peggy) Ayer, Robert Franks, Gabrielle Hall, Marcy Kane, Darcy Lowell, George McDonald, Tim Marshall, Nikki Richer, Rachel Sherman, Dave Tompkins, Dorian Vicedomini

Excused Appointed Members:

Scott Newgass, Maureen Thomas, Norma Irving, Karen Smith, Mary Held, Tabor Napiello, Jeffrey M. Spahr, Cara Westcott

Unexcused Appointed Members:

Sincilina Beckett, John McGann, John Torello, Mary Martinez

Members of the Public in Attendance:

Jackie Stupakevich, Mary Bruce, Susan Williamson, Michelle Tournas, Velveta Scott, Ofelia Velazquez, Ellen Wright, Martha Miller, Milagros Vega, Margaret Roberson, Lynn Roberson, Wanda Roberson, Matt Salner, Michelle L. Drake Tawana Bourne, Kathleen Carrier, Lorna Grivois, Ginny Gerena, Denise Tillman, Neva Caldwell, Samantha Forbes

**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.

Meeting was called to order by Co-chair, Dave Tompkins – 10:17AM

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes were voted on and approved at 11:15AM.

Co-chairs report:

Dave Tompkins and Doriana Vicedomini

Housekeeping - Interpreting Services are available. Please make sure that you use the bathroom at the atrium and please use the cafeteria for any refreshments

MHBG Conference Update: Doriana Vicedomini

- Focus on:
 - Resilience
 - Recovery
 - Jobs

- Toolkit CD available and will be passed around the room for additional information
- Waivers - not taking advantage of waivers
- Voices need to be heard

Meeting on May 20th update- Joint Planning Committee Meeting

- Highlights
 - Legislative issues
 - Kids getting placed out of home - Kids staying with the same school system
 - Safe Haven Act
 - Emergency certificates can be issued by certain staff (EMPS System)
 - DCF 28 Million dollar budget reduction
 - Marilyn Cloud and Donna Simpston presented on the MHBG
 - Monitoring visit from the Feds on October 24 to 26 - they will interview some of the joint council members and they will provide feedback

Dave Tompkins: Final Block Grant application will be approved by September 1st

Parent Concerns: Lack of parent and family involvement - Not enough families and parents are not being represented and heard

The Mental Health Block Grant subcommittee will be working with Marilyn on the block grant.

Marilyn Cloud: The Connecticut Center for Effective Practice conducted a study for DCF on the status of outpatient services across the state. Diverse stakeholder groups were interviewed including parents/caregivers, providers, state agencies, and advocacy groups. Some data was reviewed. A summary of strengths and weaknesses were identified for various components of care including target populations served, staffing profile, services, treatment process and evidence-based practices, discharge processes as well as business and clinical operations. Several recommendations were made. DCF, in partnership with stakeholders has launched an Outpatient Learning Community Initiative aimed at finding ways to improve the quality of clinical care. There are two consensus work

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

groups - Family Engagement and Data Quality Improvement that will meet monthly to identify realistic, doable tasks to improve these areas of work. Families/caregivers, providers, advocacy groups and state agency representatives are invited to participate.

Parent Concerns: Lack of representation for the Spanish speaking families with mental health issues. Are materials available in Spanish for the Latino Community?

****At our August 6th CBHAC meeting we will invite the co-chairs of all of our subcommittees and any member and guest who wants to join. We will dedicate a full meeting towards conversation about how we will move forward and talk about our goals for next year.***

- We need to push forward our recommendations to the State Advisory Committee and make sure that they receive them.
- Strategic planning session for the next CBHAC meeting

Differential Response System: The pilot project will be in Region 3. We want to reach out to all collaboratives that are in Region 3 so we can meet before the Pilot is implemented.

Region 3: Middletown, Norwich, and Willimantic.

Tim Bowles: We have good presentation from the Southeast - Lorna Grivois has provided technical assistance to the Southeast.

Legislative Update: Matt Salner

- No updates

Committee Reports:

Nominations Committee

Marcy Kane/ VACANT

Mental Health Block Grant

Peggy Ayer/ Karen Smith

Mental Health Block Grant Monitoring Visit: Marilyn Cloud

Federal Staff and their consultants will be conducting an on-site MHBG monitoring visit on August 24, 25 and 26. The team of 4 will be reviewing the MHBG - State Plan, Implementation and Budget. It is critically important that representative parents/caregivers participate. The purpose is to review CT's mh system, particularly uses of the MHBG funds and results. What are we funding, and what are the results? They will interview state program staff as well as our fiscal staff. They have dedicated a half a day to talk to families and consumers about the planning council and their role. They want to know how it is working and what you consider the three priorities most important facing CT Behavioral Health Services System.

Mental Health Block Grant Presentation/Discussion: Marilyn Cloud

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration awards community mental health block grant funds to every state to either establish or maintain or expand an organized system of behavioral health services for adults with serious with mental health or children with serious emotionally

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

disturbance. The state of CT receives approximately of \$4.3 million dollars - of that amount most goes to the adult side; the children's portion is approximately is \$ 1.3 million. We have had reductions in the last three years and most likely there may be more reductions. At the conference we learned that the MHBG will definitely change. Federal staff does not feel that these block grant funds should substitute for state funds for core mental health services. They feel that the states should be responsible for their citizens. They do feel that we should use the funds for adjunct, supportive services that improve the care. We will be held more accountable for the effectiveness of our services and the outcomes.

- Marilyn reviewed the various sections of the plan.
 - Description of MH Services System
 - New Developments and Issues
 - Strengths and Weaknesses of System
 - Unmet Service Needs and Gaps
 - Priorities and Plans to Address Unmet Needs
 - National Outcome Measures under Goals, Targets and Action Plans
 - Budget

- Priority areas of work include: improving the quality of care/services through increasing effective treatments and training the workforce; increasing family engagement and active involvement in all aspects of care; improving the credibility of the new data system and using the data to inform decision-making as well as developing provider performance measures and meaningful child/family outcomes.

Group feedback implementation included the following:

1. Pg. 19 School based Health Care should be a critical priority
2. How effective can social workers be when they have high caseloads?
3. Kids are waiting to long too be diagnosed - "it took my son three years to get diagnosed."
4. Money should be spent on training emergency staff. (New EMPS was reviewed.)
5. Help is not provided to parents who have mental health issues - preventive mental health care for parents is important.
6. Early Intervention and Prevention are necessary components of the overall system.
7. One recommendation should be that we do not have enough money to fund services in general.
8. Move funds from training initiatives to provide infrastructure for the 25 Collaboratives
9. Shift system priorities from treatment to prevention

Some members including Rachel Sherman had additional questions, so it was agreed that we would meet on 7/23 from 10 Am to 12 PM at The Children's Home of Cromwell, Family Center Building, 58 Missionary Road, Rocky Hill and devote the entire meeting to review, questions, etc.

Tim Marshall: It might be useful to spend each month to go through the report throughout the year. The last report is very similar.

Local System of Care & Behavioral Health Services – BHP Interface

Hal Gibber/ Marcy Kane/ Tabor Napiello

Practice Standards

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

Scott Newgass/ Debbie McCusker

No recommendations

Multiculturalism

Mary Held/ VACANT

Transformation Youth

George McDonald/ Amy O'conner/ Neil Quatrano

Announcements:

Dave Tompkins:

****Orientation is available every month at 9:30am before the CBHAC meeting at the cafeteria***

The meeting was adjourned at 12:03pm.

Meeting notes respectfully submitted by Lorena Emanuel