

WEST REGION ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES

APRIL 12, 2012

Ella Grasso Center, Stratford, CT

In attendance: Lisa Schwab, Mickey Herbst, Karleen Cradock, Arlene Steinfeld, Gil Kellersman

Absent: Cindy Stramandinoli, Alec Vlahos, Laurette Shrage

Budget

The RAC had a very open and lively discussion regarding the closing out of the DDS FY12 budget and the upcoming FY13 budget. Fritz explained that most likely the region and the department would balance out FY13 based on the amount of vacant positions we have been carrying throughout the year that we are just starting to fill. By doing this, there would be no surplus moving into the new fiscal year. Projections are that even though our allocation should be equal to this year, but with not much leeway and we expect things to be very tight.

There was discussion over public direct care vacancies that we are carrying at the regional centers. I explained what was being done to correct this with our attempt to get durational positions from OPM, but at the current time statewide we actually have enough direct care positions in the system.

Five Year Plan Update

Fritz reviewed the Five-Year Plan with the RAC and discussed what was being done to develop and write a new mission statement & plans for MOVING THE MISSION FORWARD.

New Hires

Cres Secchiaroli, Public ARD

Denise Paladino, Resource Administrator – Private Division

Brian Smith, IFS Manager

Heather Cowen, Public Case Management Supervisor

Shannon Cooke, IFS Case Manager

Judi Blanchet, Health Services Director – Private Division

Next Meeting: September 13, 2012, Rowland Building, 55 West Main Street, Waterbury, CT