

Community Mental Health Affiliation of Mid-Michigan  
Consumer and Stakeholder Advisory Council

**Meeting Minutes of January 6, 2011**

Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton-Eaton-Ingham Counties  
812 E. Jolly Rd., Conference Rooms G-11 A & B  
Lansing, Michigan

**Present:** Committee Members: Julie Barron, CSR (CEI); Heather Bell, CSR (Gratiot); Tina Bertram (CEI); Melissa Crysler, CSR (Newaygo); Annette Fisher (Gratiot); Judith Fryer (CEI); Charlotte Lamb (Gratiot); Nick Lawson (Gratiot); Lavonda Smith (Newaygo); Angela Thrush (Gratiot); Pixie Stevens (Newaygo); Lori Swan (CEI); Rebecca West, CSR (CEI); Nicole Wright (CEI); Dan Wrzesinski (Manistee-Benzie)

Other: Tanna Baker (Manistee-Benzie); Toby Bayless (Affiliation); Liz Holcomb (CEI); Janet Maki (CEI); Kim Zimmerman (Affiliation)

**Call to Order:** Nick Lawson, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM, followed by introductions.

**Agenda Review:** The following items were added to the agenda: Recognition Dinner and Consumer Handbook.

**Approval of Minutes:** Julie Barron read aloud the minutes of the December 2 meeting. The minutes were APPROVED by consensus.

**Consents & Releases:** Liz Holcomb provided a handout from the Mental Health Code clarifying the situations that do not require written consent or release of information. In the case of the consumer handbook, members serve in this capacity as volunteers; therefore written consent is not needed. It was noted individuals may express an objection prior to publication that would be honored.

**Consumer Bulletin:** The winter edition of the Consumer Bulletin was reviewed. Minor revisions will be made before submission to Quality Improvement work group on January 14 for approval. March 15 was set as the deadline for submissions to the spring edition.

**CMHSP Presentation:** Julie reported CEI held a health fair, hired two new transitional employee Customer Service Representatives, and sponsored a seminar on Bipolar Disorder. Upcoming events will be seminars featuring Seasonal Affective

Disorder, Caring for the Caregiver, Suicide Bullying, and the Annual Meeting focused on Substance Use Disorder. CEI's new lobby will soon be staffed with Customer Service Representatives. There will be classes offered on Money Smart, Solutions for Wellness, and a State-sponsored Ambassador training through the Michigan Association for Community Mental Health Boards. Nick suggested a monthly list of upcoming consumer training/education events be compiled. Julie volunteered to coordinate the development of a monthly listing, and will include it in the Consumer Bulletin.

**Recognition Dinner:** Heather Bell and Lori Swan will meet during lunch to discuss coordinator duties. The instruction binder is missing, so Heather will produce another one and deliver it to Lori. Lori received a budget amount from Toby. Discussion ensued regarding a speaker for the event. Jean Dukarski (PSS training), Larry Ackerson (NAMI), and Maureen Moloney (CEI AMHS Director) were suggested. Toby will bring additional speaker suggestions to the February meeting. Following discussion, it was determined a hope and recovery theme – “The Sky is the Limit” – will be used. Becki West will issue electronic invitations with RSVP to a limit of 65 attendees.

**By-Laws:** Kim Zimmerman reviewed a revision to the By-Laws. Following discussion, the revision was APPROVED by consensus.

**Policy/Procedure**

**Review:** None

**Consumer Handbook:** Tabled to the next meeting.

**Other Business:** Toby announced the resignation of Michael Mackin leaves a vacant vice-chairperson position. It was MOVED by Nick, and SUPPORTED by Angela Thrush, to appoint Lori to the vice-chairperson position. The motion was APPROVED unanimously. Nicole Wright will transition to the chairperson position, with assistance, in February.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM. The next meeting of the Affiliation Consumer and Stakeholder Advisory Council will be Thursday, February 3, 2011, 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at 812 E. Jolly Rd., Lansing, Michigan.

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Respectfully submitted,

Debra Heinze  
Affiliation Secretary

PURPOSE STATEMENT

- To assure that consumers shape the policies & practices of the Affiliation of Mid-Michigan & the State
- To determine the needs of consumers & to communicate those needs to appropriate parties. To improve the work of the Affiliation, so that it meets the needs of consumers, families, & other stakeholders
- To review & to make recommendations about the Affiliation's programs
- To make suggestions to the Director of Affiliation Operations
- To be advocates of system-wide change for consumers' rights & consumers' welfare
- To work as a team in a safe, friendly & respectful environment