

Affiliation of Mid Michigan Consumer Advisory Council By-Laws

Purpose of the Council

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

Council Members

Members of the Council will consist of present or past consumers of mental health services. Family members and guardians of consumers may also serve as members. At least 3 of the CMHSP representatives to the Council will be primary and/or secondary consumers.

Each CMHSP agency may have up to four members in addition to the Customer Service Representative(s). Each CMHSP agency will choose its own members. Only one member chosen as a representative from each CMHSP, in addition to the Customer Service Representative(s), can be paid CMHSP staff (the remaining 3 representatives cannot be CMHSP staff members). Council membership will be reflective of each service area (Mentally Impaired, Developmentally Disabled, Substance Abuse, Children).

Council members may invite visitors to attend the Council meetings. However, the Council must be informed of the intent to bring guests to the meetings prior to doing so.

Council Officers

The designated representative of the Council will preside at all meetings. The Chairperson serves for one year and cannot serve consecutive terms. The Vice-Chairperson of the Council is elected for a term of one year. The one year term is October 1 through September 30. The Vice-Chairperson will become the Chairperson of the Council at the end of the one-year term. The Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson cannot be paid CMHSP staff and when possible, will not be representatives from the same CMHSP. In the event that there are not nominations made for individuals from more than one CMHSP for the Vice Chairperson, then it may be

necessary to have both the presiding Chair and Vice-Chair serve from the same CMHSP.

In order to preside as Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson, the selected Council representative must attend the meetings in person.

Council Voting

In the event the Council cannot reach an agreement, a vote will be taken on the matter. Each member has one vote (with the exception of the Chairperson who abstains). Following discussions, the Council will vote on the issue at the next meeting. A quorum of two-thirds is needed. Majority will rule, and in the event of a tie, the chairperson will vote.

The Council will review its mission statement and its by-laws every year. The Council will vote on any changes that it wishes to make.