



# Governor's Advisory Council to the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health

Chapel – Herman M. Holloway, Sr. Campus

January 18, 2018 9:00 a.m.

**Members Present:** Robert Daniels, Andrea Guest, Thomas Hall, Devon Manning, Jim Martin, Daniel Meadows, George Meldrum, and Susan Phillips

**Members Excused:** Jack Akester, Patricia Ayers, and Ira Kalbrosky

**Members Absent:** Helena Carter, Janice Jolly, and Joanna Rieger

**Associate Members Present:** Lynn Fahey, Bruce Lorenz, and Charles Sygowski

**Associate Members Excused:** James Lark

**Associate Members Absent:** Florence Alberque, Lisa Furber, Dan Hoeftman, John McKenna, and Edie McCole

**Interested Parties Present:** Elizabeth Booth, Erin Goldner, Willard Heuser, Joshua Thomas-Acker, Greg Valentine, Emily Vera, Norman Vetter, Clarence Watson, Pamela Willis, Jordan Weisner, Mary Beth Cichocki, and Mike Gavula

Topic	Discussion	Action
Call to Order/Introductions	Chairman Jim Martin called the meeting to order at 9:05am and welcomed everyone in attendance. Meeting participants were invited to introduce themselves and share their affiliation.	
Review and Approval of Minutes		November's minutes were approved.
Chairman's Report	Chairman Jim Martin reported someone is needed to fill the GAC vice-chair position. Chairman Jim Martin asked if anyone was interested and if there were any nominations. There weren't any volunteers.	

	<p>Chairman Jim Martin reported on the Community Behavioral Consortium which has had three meetings so far. The consortium is an advisory body to develop strategies to address addiction and mental health challenges.</p> <p>Chairman Jim Martin introduced the new DSAMH Director, Elizabeth Romero.</p>	
<p>Director's Report</p>	<p>Director Elizabeth Romero introduced herself and thanked the DSAMH staff for their hard work. Director Elizabeth Romero reports she has been spending her time her going up and down the state learning about the agency. She is familiarizing herself with the Delaware Psychiatric Center (DPC) and the Mitchell Building. Director Elizabeth Romero believes the whole behavioral health spectrum has to be examined along with inspecting our system of care.</p> <p>Director Elizabeth Romero reports the Behavioral Health Commission is legislated by DSAMH and asked for ideas on what the commission should be undertaking. She is leaning toward it gathering behavioral health data to present to the Consortium.</p> <p>Director Elizabeth Romero reported on a RFP being released at the end of the month for the Centers of Excellence. It is open to any of our providers in the state. This is a model ensuring wherever you have a crisis in the state of Delaware, you'll have a peer recovery coach within 24 hours. The plan is to have 3 – 4 centers. DPC is being looked at as a possible site.</p>	

<b>Standing Committee Reports:</b>		
DPC Advisory Committee	<p>Norm Vetter reported the DPC Advisory Committee met on January 10, 2018 and discussed goals for the coming year. A few of the goals are: efficiency with DPC assets; making sure people are admitted in a timely fashion; ensuring workforce efficiency by filling positions in a timely manner; and providing a healthy, respectful, and safe environment for staff and clients. Norm reports quality of treatment was also discussed (i.e. making sure people are getting the treatment they need and want). There is one more leadership position to fill. It is the Director of Nursing. The committee discussed ways to increase community attendance at its meetings. This would allow the committee to become aware of the community's concerns and ideas.</p>	
Children's Committee	No report given due to the absence of committee representation	
Employment Committee	<p>Andrea Guest reported on supported employment for ACT Teams. DSAMH has hired Genelle Taylor to be the point person on this program. The goal of supported employment is to support people who want to work regardless of their physical/mental difficulties. Case load is roughly 5000 people and a percentage of those suffer from mental illness.</p> <p>There was a transition conference in December with about 1000 mostly young people. This conference is to help students make informed choices after they get out of high school. This is a day where parents, teachers, and organizations come together to provide resources to help students achieve their career choices and goals.</p>	

Membership Committee	No report given due to the absence of committee representation. The vice chair of the GAC will give reports for this committee.	
Community Services Committee	Charles Sygowski reported there will be many workshops on problem gambling this year and he handed out flyers. March 15, 2018 there will be a program at Dover Downs in Dover. It is entitled, "Service Members, Veterans, and Gambling Addiction."	
Budget Committee	No report given due to the absence of committee representation.	
Old Business	None	
New Business	The budget has already been submitted but on 2/22/2018 DSAMH has an opportunity to present what their plans are for the budget to the Joint Finance Committee in the Legislature.	
Public Comment	None	
Meeting Adjourned	A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 10:50a.m.	The committee approved the adjournment.