

Recovery Implementation Task Force of Wisconsin
March 18, 2016

Recovery Education/Dual Recovery Committee Meeting Notes

Present: Val Levno, Robin Pedersen, Aaron Rasch, Chris Keenan (guest)

DHS Staff: Julianne Dwyer, Jason Fischer, Langeston Hughes

Introductions/updates: Members and staff introduced themselves and gave the group updates on their current activities. Guest Chris Keenan also introduced himself. He volunteers with NAMI and heard about the RITF from Julianne Carbin. He connected with Ellie Jarvie about joining the RITF and chose to sit in on the RE/DR meeting. He's currently a policy analyst with the Department of Children and Families. He has a background in data and program evaluation and has worked at the Department of Corrections.

Resource clearinghouse: At the January RE/DR meeting, there were questions about what this long-standing item referred to. To address those questions, staff reviewed past RE/DR meeting notes and also spoke with Ellie Jarvie prior to this meeting to get clarification. Staff conveyed to members that the original intent was for RE/DR committee members to review and comment on recovery resources listed on the Department of Health Services (DHS) website, e.g. check for broken links or groups no longer in existence, suggest new items to be added, etc.

The members discussed this and were in agreement that such a role makes sense for RE/DR as an advisory body to DHS. The committee decided to move forward with the review. The idea is for this review to take place every 6 months.

Members will individually review all or any part of the resource list on the DHS website (see link below) and send comments to Ellie Jarvie by 4/30/2016. For example, Val will look primarily at the "Resources for Providers" section, and Aaron will focus on the "Peer support" section.

Review recovery resources on DHS website at
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/mh/recovery.htm>

Submit comments, corrections, and suggestions by email to Ellie Jarvie at
Elizabeth.Jarvie@dhs.wisconsin.gov by **April 30, 2016**.

Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) update: CCS staff, Langeston Hughes, spoke with the group about the upcoming CCS Statewide Meeting on April 6 in Wausau, WI.

Langeston shared the draft agenda, highlighting sessions that might be of particular interest to members, such as "Recovery in CCS" that will feature DHS staff Donna Riemer from a mental health professional perspective and Certified Peer Specialist Maria Hanson from a lived experience perspective. He also addressed questions and comments from the

committee about the agenda, such as a suggestion to include where the presenters are from.

This led to a larger discussion about new CCS regions starting up, the CCS service array (including non-traditional services), and about providers becoming CCS providers. A member asked if approved CCS plans and policies are available as a guide for others in the start-up phase. These are not generally available, as each region must develop their own, tailored to their unique situation. Langeston does encourage those considering CCS expansion to keep in contact with him.

Langeston told the group about a new tool, a “recovery thermometer,” which is a self-administered set of questions to gauge one’s progress toward recovery goals. It was developed with input from people with lived experience and is currently being piloted with a number of Certified Peer Specialists.

The group also engaged in discussion about the purpose of CCS as a means for recovery, as opposed to an endless cycle of services. This sparked conversation about recovery and re-entry supports for the prison population, including the fact that there are Department of Corrections programs that people aren’t necessarily aware of.

A member asked about the possibility of showcasing local success stories on the DHS website, such as stories of recovery or innovative service provision in CCS. Jason Fischer, Communications Specialist with DHS/DMHSAS (Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services), explained what can be done on the DHS site and that he is open to ideas of how to highlight success stories that have a connection to DHS/DMHSAS.

Review of new client rights brochure, “In Wisconsin, Treatment Never Includes Sex”: Communications staff, Jason Fischer, was present for the review and discussion of this item. Members provided individual feedback by means of an evaluation questionnaire handed out at the meeting. There was also open discussion about the brochure, including strengths and areas for improvement. Overall the committee had a positive reaction. Feedback will be used by DHS as it finalizes the brochure for publication, expected in the next 4-6 weeks. Once published, it will be available for download on the DHS website.

Agenda items for next meeting:

- How mental illness is portrayed in advertising and other media (carryover item, as Jim S. was unable to be at today’s meeting)
- Card to pass around for Cheryl Lofton, who retired from DHS in early March

Next Meeting: May 20, 2016 at:

**Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
2811 Agriculture Dr., Madison, WI**