

Region 3 DBHDD Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

July 15, 2021

Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 2:31 pm on Thursday, July 15, 2021, by Dianne Hiltman, Chairperson, for the Region 3 Advisory Council. A quorum was present for today's meeting.		
Welcome/ Introductions	Ms. Hiltman, Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed Council Members, staff from the Region 3 Field Office and the speakers for today. This meeting was conducted using the DBHDD Cisco WebEx system due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.		
Attendees	<p>Council Members Present: Dianne Hiltman, Chair; Lynne Anderson, Vice-Chair; Venessa Abram, Secretary; Shirley Davis; Dr. Monica Hooker; Meia Ballinger; Evelyn Cunningham; Sharlene McClendon; Cheryl Brannon; Urmil Tracy Marshall; Nyree Williams; Freda Hammonds; Dianna Williams; Angeliqye Coke</p> <p>Excused Absence: Dave Ake; Janice Scott; Elizabeth Bolton-Harris; Sunita Joshi</p> <p>Region 3 Staff: Gwen Craddieth, RSA for Behavioral Health Services; Ruth Coody, Assistant to the Region 3 Advisory Council</p> <p>Speakers: Ms. Candis McDow from the RESPECT Institute, spoke about her history of mental illness and the things that helped her overcome it. Ms. Layla Fitzgerald, Program Manager, Office of Children, Youth and Young Adults for DBHDD, did a presentation about the services available in the key areas of schools (Georgia APEX), System of Care, Free Your Feels focused on Suicide Prevention, Prevention/Early Intervention and Mental Health Resiliency Clubhouses. Ms. Fitzgerald will forward a copy of her presentation after updating some of the information. During the Q and A part, she acknowledged there is a gap in follow-up for youth and their families after a suicide attempt. Members will receive a copy of her presentation.</p>		
Approve Minutes	The Chair, Dianne Hiltman, asked for a motion to approve the May 20, 2021, minutes. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Lynne Anderson and Evelyn Cunningham seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.		
AGENDA	AGENDA ITEM(S)	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Old Business	Statewide Leadership Council	The Region 3 Advisory Council Chairperson, Dianne Hiltman, reported on the May, 2021, meeting of the SWLC in Macon. The meetings are still virtual. The SWLC meetings may continue to be held virtually since there is better attendance for the meetings. It is hard for members to travel to Macon. The SWLC sent a document to DBHDD Commissioner, Judy Fitzgerald, containing the Top 3 Priorities for the state. The document contains the regional priorities from the six regional advisory councils and the Top 3 Priorities selected by the SWLC based on the regional priorities.	The next meeting of the Statewide Leadership Council will be Friday, July 23, 2021. The meeting will be a virtual meeting using the DBHDD Cisco WebEx system.

Old Business (continued)	Region 3 Priorities	Ms. Hiltman reiterated the importance of the document the SWLC sent to DBHDD Commissioner, Judy Fitzgerald, and that Council members need to read the document to understand the differences in priorities among the six regional councils. It is important to know the Top 3 Priorities developed by the SWLC for the State of Georgia and to be familiar with the regional priorities. There are differences in priorities based on urban and rural areas. Questions were raised about how Council members can utilize the information. Suggestions were to meet with the state elected officials in each member's county and to work with other coalitions like the Behavioral Health Coalition to do advocacy with elected officials.	Ruth Coody will send the document developed by the SWLC to the Region 3 Advisory Council members.
New Business	Annual Election of Officers and Alternates to the SWLC	The Annual Election of Officers was held. After some discussion and questions about eligibility and willingness to serve, Evelyn Cunningham made a motion to accept the slate of President, Dianne Hiltman; Vice-President, Lynne Anderson; Secretary, Venessa Abram, by acclamation. Dr. Monica Hooker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Chairperson, Dianne Hiltman appointed Tracy Urmil Marshall and Evelyn Cunningham to continue as Alternates to the SWLC.	Annual Officer Election results for FY 2022 are President, Dianne Hiltman; Vice-President, Lynne Anderson; Secretary, Venessa Abram. Chairperson Hiltman appointed Tracy Urmil Marshall and Evelyn Cunningham to serve as Alternates to the SWLC.
	RSA Reports	Gwen Craddieth, RSA for Behavioral Health, reported that Public Emergency still exists in Georgia due to COVID-19 until December 21, 2021. As long as this designation lasts, providers will be able to provide services using telehealth without having people come to offices/centers. Clayton County CSB is working with the Clayton County Police to do mobile crisis services. DBHDD is working with three vendors to provide Supportive Housing 2.0. The vendors are Assertive Community Resources, Viewpoint CSB, and Step-Up. Each of the three vendors has a designated target for the number of people they must serve. 700 plus people are being served in the Georgia Voucher Program with over 200 receiving a voucher but not connected to services. The Fulton County Superior Court, staff from Fulton County BH and staff from the Fulton County Jail are working together to reduce the number of people with mental illness being placed in the jail. In the near future, there will be a national number (#988) that people can call when experiencing a mental health crisis, feeling suicidal, etc., and ask for assistance.	

New Business (continued)	RSA Reports (continued)	Vivia Black, RSA for Developmental Disability Services, could not be today's meeting due to a conflict with another DBHDD meeting she had to attend.	
	Announcements/ Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dianne Hiltman reminded members about the July 17, 2021, NAMI DeKalb Multi-Cultural Program at Milam Park in Clarkston, Georgia. It will be from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. This will be to recognize Minority Mental Health Month. 	
	Public Comments	There were no public comments at today's meeting due to the meeting being conducted using the Cisco WebEx system.	
Adjournment	The Chairperson, Dianne Hiltman, adjourned the meeting at 3:55 pm. The next meeting will be Thursday, September 16, 2021.		
<p>Minutes recorded and submitted by Ruth Coody, Advisory Council Assistant for Region 3</p> <p>Approved: _____</p>			