

Region 3 DBHDD Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2019

Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 2:35 pm on Thursday, September 19, 2019, by Melinda Morgan-Carson, Chairperson for the Region 3 Advisory Council.		
Welcome/ Introductions	Ms. Morgan-Carson, Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed Council Members, staff from Region 3, community residents and guests. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.		
Attendees	<p>Council Members Present: Melinda Morgan-Carson, Chair; Tracy Marshall; Dianne Hiltman; Solomon Adewusi</p> <p>Excused Absence: Dianna Williams</p> <p>Conference Call: Sunita Joshi; Shirley Davis; Veneesa Abram; Janice Scott; Evelyn Cunningham</p> <p>Region 3 Staff: Gwen Craddieth, Regional Services Administrator for Behavioral Health Services; Kerri Bradford, Administrative Assistant for Developmental Disabilities Services; Ruth Coody, Assistant to the Region 3 Advisory Council</p> <p>Invited Guests: Mitch Dyke and John Manson, IV, Staff to the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners</p>		
Approve Minutes	The Chair, Melinda Morgan-Carson, asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 5, 2019, Called Meeting. Dianne Hiltman made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted and Tracy Marshall seconded Ms. Hiltman’s motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.		
AGENDA	AGENDA ITEM(S)	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Old Business	Statewide Leadership Council	Melinda Morgan-Carson reported that elections for the Statewide Leadership Council (SWLC) officers will be conducted at the meeting on Friday, September 27, 2019. Members discussed representation from Region 3 at the meeting. Melinda Morgan-Carson and Dianne Hiltman are planning to attend and most likely Lynne Anderson will attend. The six regional advisory councils are awaiting the results of the data collected from the RAC surveys. Ruth Coody distributed a report regarding the input portion of the process. 8,625 surveys were completed from all of the 159 counties in Georgia. This number exceeded the goal by 1,000 surveys. The report included information about the number of completed surveys county-by-county for each region. Region 3 completed 889 surveys which was 53% of the goal to collect 1,675 completed surveys.	The next meeting of the Statewide Leadership Council will be Friday, September 27, 2019, in Macon, Georgia, at Rivers Edge Community Service Board.

	Community Forums	The Chair, Melinda Morgan-Carson, wants to do a Community Forum before the end of the calendar year. Locations for the forum were discussed after Ruth Coody presented the historical sequence of counties used by the Region 3 Advisory Council to determine the location. The sequence has been Dekalb, Clayton, Gwinnett, Fulton, Rockdale and Newton counties. Members indicated they wanted to look at Dekalb County as the next location for a forum. Dianne Hiltman volunteered to check with the Dekalb County Community Service Board about their willingness to host as well as the availability of space on a Saturday. Mitch Dyke and John Manson, IV, volunteered to check the availability of the Manuel Maloof Administrative Building in Decatur. Mr. Dyke and Mr. Manson work as staff for the Dekalb County Board of Commissioners.	Updates regarding possible locations for the Community Forum in Dekalb County will be presented at the November 21, 2019, meeting of the Region 3 Advisory Council. A formal vote will be taken in this meeting about date and location.
New Business	County Reports	The Chair, Melinda Morgan-Carson, acknowledged the newest member of the Region 3 Advisory Council, Shirley Davis, who is from Clayton County. Ms. Morgan-Carson discussed the importance for new members and all members of the Region 3 Advisory Council to acquaint themselves with the location of the Community Service Board in their county and what services are offered by the local CSB. Gwen Craddieth provided Council members the names of the three CSBs in Region 3 and the names of the directors for each of the CSBs.	No action is required by the Region 3 Advisory Council members.
	Discussion Regarding Region 3 Meetings	The Chair, Melinda Morgan-Carson, asked Council members to engage in a discussion about being present for the meetings and not just on the conference call for the meetings. She asked for members to comment on the meeting day and time as a way to focus the discussion. Some members discussed their work obligations and that it was hard to schedule attendance at the meetings. Ms. Morgan-Carson reminded them of the RAC Bylaws and their responsibility to attend the meetings and they are only allowed two unexcused absences. After a lot of discussion, the consensus among the Council members in attendance is that the Thursday afternoon time of 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm every other month and retain the conference call option seems to work the best.	The Region 3 Advisory Council meetings will continue to be the third Thursday, every other month, from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm. Ruth Coody will send out the meeting dates for 2020.

New Business (continued)	New Member Orientation	The Chair, Melinda Morgan-Carson and Gwen Craddieth, RSA for Behavioral Health Services, discussed several dates and options for the Orientation for new Council members without reaching a conclusion for a date. Kerri Bradford, Administrative Assistant for Developmental Disabilities Services, pointed out advantages of a new technology system that DBHDD will be using in the near future. She will receive training along with other staff including the Region 3 Advisory Council Administrative Assistant, Ruth Coody, in the near future.	A decision about a date for Orientation for New Members could not be reached. Council Members would like to explore what the new technology system will have to offer and then look at using it to provide the Orientation.
	Vendor ID Forms	Ruth Coody distributed the new Vendor ID form with instructions about filling it out to new Council members and other members who may wish to request travel for reimbursement to the Region 3 Advisory Council meetings, Community Forums and other approved travel events. She discussed a handout from Adrian Johnson and Allen Morgan regarding some reminders about submitting requests for reimbursement. Travel requests should be submitted within 10 calendar days, but no later than 45 calendar days after completion of a trip or event. The current state mileage rate is \$0.58 per mile.	There is no action required by the Region 3 Advisory Council.
	RSA Reports	Gwen Craddieth, RSA for Behavioral Health, reported that DBHDD received 26 million dollars to expand the APEX Program in schools for children and adolescents. The new funding has not been distributed yet. DBHDD may use providers other than the Community Service Boards (CSBs). There are always questions from Council members about APEX. The key community person to get things started to receive funding is the local school superintendent. During the discussion about APEX funding, the Chair Melinda Morgan-Carson mentioned the Priorities Process used by the six regional advisory councils to determine the top 3 Priorities for each region. This was used in 2017-2018. One of the top three priorities for Region 3 was to provide services in schools. She went on to mention the other two priorities which were Community Awareness and the Justice System. Each of the three priorities had several strategies. Ms. Morgan-Carson asked that all Council members become knowledgeable about these priorities. Ms. Craddieth stated that Suicide Prevention Education is a top priority of DBHDD. There will be budget cuts in the DBHDD budget for 2019-2020 in the amount of \$35 million and the budget cuts will be	The Priorities for the Region 3 Advisory Council for 2017-2018 will be sent to all the Council Members by Ruth Coody

New Business (continued)	RSA Reports (continued)	\$54 million in 2020-2021. October 2-4 is the Behavioral Health Symposium at Callaway Garden. Behavioral Health has a contract to do services with local jails. Adrian Johnson at DBHDD has been promoted to Deputy Director of Behavioral Health but he will remain as Director of Field Operations for Behavioral Health. Ms. Craddieth discussed some of the negative comments from the Department of Justice about DBHDD's efforts to provide supportive housing. There are 850 persons with housing vouchers in Region 3. DBHDD will have a Supportive Housing Division by October, 2019, to highlight and place emphasis on the importance of supportive housing. There will be Navigators in emergency rooms in hospitals and crisis centers to link to services. Daphne Rosalis, RSA for Developmental Disabilities, was not able to be present at today's meeting. Kerri Bradford, the Administrative Assistant for Developmental Disabilities, was present to answer any questions.	
	Announcements	There were no announcements.	
	Public Comments	There were no public comments.	
Adjournment	The Chair, Melinda Morgan-Carson, adjourned the meeting at 4:10 pm. The next meeting of the Region 3 Advisory Council will be Thursday, November 21, 2019, at 2:30 pm.		

Minutes recorded and submitted by Ruth Coody, Advisory Council Assistant for Region 3

Approved: _____