

Region 3 DBHDD Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2021

Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 2:35 pm on Thursday, January 21, 2021, by Dianne Hiltman, Chairperson for the Region 3 Advisory Council.		
Welcome/ Introductions	Ms. Hiltman, Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed Council Members, staff from the Region 3 Field Office and today's speaker and his parent. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves and made a brief statement about why they wanted to be on the Advisory Council. This meeting was conducted by 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; Urmil Tracy Marshall; Freda Hammonds; Nyree Williams; Sunita Joshi; Janice Scott; Dave Ake</p> <p>Excused Absence: Dianna Williams; Evelyn Cunningham; Solomon Adewusi</p> <p>Region 3 Staff: Gwen Craddieth, RSA for Behavioral Health Services; Ruth Coody, Assistant to the Region 3 Advisory Council; Kerri Bradford, Administrative Assistant for Developmental Disabilities</p> <p>Speaker: John McCarty and his mother, Joan McCarty, from DeKalb County spoke about John's diagnosis of Autism, his behavior and service needs over the years and finally getting approved for a waiver in December, 2020, after eight years on the waiting list. The waiver will provide a support person to work with John so he and his mother will be able to both be independent for the first time.</p>		
Approve Minutes	The Chair, Dianne Hiltman, asked for a motion to approve the November 19th, 2020, minutes. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Freda Hammonds and Venessa Abram seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.		
AGENDA	AGENDA ITEM(S)	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Old Business	Statewide Leadership Council	Dianne Hiltman, Venessa Abram, and Tracy Marshall plan to attend the January 22, 2021, meeting of the Statewide Leadership Council. Dianne Hiltman and Lynne Anderson attended the November 20, 2020, meeting via the WebEx system. Discussion at the last meeting centered around the impact of budget cuts and staffing issues being caused as a result of the cuts. The Statewide Leadership Council also discussed Priorities and options for how these will be determined before sending them to the DBHDD Commissioner, Judy Fitzgerald. The Region 3 Advisory Council Chairperson, Dianne Hiltman, intends to present the Top 3 priorities for our region at the January 22, 2021, meeting after the Region 3 Advisory Council discusses and approves them at today's meeting.	The next meeting of the Statewide Leadership Council will be Friday, January 22, 2021. The meeting will be a virtual meeting using the DBHDD Cisco WebEx system.

<p>Old Business (continued)</p>	<p>Region 3 Priorities</p>	<p>The Chairperson, Dianne Hiltman, reviewed each of the 3 Top Priorities, the Goals for each Priority, and the Key Strategies for each of the Top Priorities for the Region 3 Advisory Council that were developed by a Small Group of members she designated during the November 19, 2020, meeting. Members of the Small Group were the Chairperson, Dianne Hiltman; Vice-Chairperson, Lynne Anderson; Secretary, Venessa Abram; Melinda Morgan-Carson; Tracy Marshall; Gwen Craddieth, Vivia Black and Ruth Coody. The Small Group met once to reach agreement on the Proposed 3 Top Priorities. Goals for each Priority, and the Key Strategies for each Priority. The Chairperson, Dianne Hiltman, presented the material for the members of the Small Group to react to and make edits or suggest additions. The work of the Small Group was sent out to all members of the Region 3 Advisory Council in December 2020, and again before the January 21, 2021, meeting. As Ms. Hiltman presented the work of the Small Group and they were approved unanimously. During the discussion, Venessa Abram volunteered to work on Priority 1 which is Community Awareness. Sunita Joshi, Tracy Marshall, Nyree Williams, Lynne Anderson, and Janice Scott volunteered to work with Venessa. Dave Ake volunteered to work on Priority 2 which is Prevention and Early Intervention. The Chairperson, Dianne Hiltman, volunteered to work on Priority 3 which is Recruit and Train Additional Certified Peer Specialists.</p>	<p>The Chairperson, Dianne Hiltman, will present the Top 3 Priorities, the Goal for each Priority and the Key Strategies for each Priority at the Statewide Leadership Council Meeting on January 22, 2021.</p>
<p>New Business</p>	<p>RSA Reports</p>	<p>Gwen Craddieth, RSA for Behavioral Health, gave a report. This past Tuesday was Mental Health Day at the Capitol for a virtual event that was very well attended by advocates and legislators. The Local System of Care Academy will be in June and will be a virtual event again this year. She encouraged members to attend and watch for the announcement and do your registration quickly because this is a very popular conference. DBHDD continues to work with apartment complexes to provide housing but gentrification is interfering because complexes know they can make more money. The Georgia Housing Voucher Program continues to provide housing and no individuals have been evicted. The DBHDD Office of Prevention will continue to offer the 2x2 presentations. The DeKalb CSB continues to provide telehealth</p>	

New Business (continued)	RSA Reports (continued)	appointments and use their mobile vans to provide services. Grady Hospital has hired a Certified Peer Specialist to provide services in their Emergency Room. Question was raised about resources for young adults with mental illness who are living at home and become physically violent. Gwen reviewed the services and answered questions. She will send the list to Ruth Coody who will forward the list of resources to all members of the R3 Advisory Council.	
		There was a written report from the RSA for Developmental Disabilities, Vivian Black, who was not able to attend today's meeting. The report will be attached to the January 21, 2021 minutes to keep for the record.	
	Announcements & Questions	A question was raised about service providers' ability to obtain the COVID-19 vaccine. Gwen Craddieth responded by saying that service providers are trying to get their staff vaccinated first but they get caught in the bottleneck just like all citizens trying to obtain the vaccine shots.	
	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, March 18, 2021.		
Minutes recorded and submitted by Ruth Coody, Advisory Council Assistant for Region 3			
Approved: _____			