

Region 3 DBHDD Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2020

Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 2:35 pm on Thursday, September 17, 2020, by Dianne Hiltman, Chairperson for the Region 3 Advisory Council.		
Welcome/ Introductions	Ms. Hiltman, Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed Council Members and staff from the Region 3 Field Office. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves and mentioned some personal connection as the reason for wanting to be on the Region 3 Advisory Council. This meeting was done 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; Melinda Morgan-Carson; Solomon Adewusi; Freda Hammonds; Nyree Williams; Dianna Williams.</p> <p>Excused Absence: Sunita Joshi; Evelyn Cunningham</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>		
Approve Minutes	The Chair, Dianne Hiltman, asked for a motion to approve the July 16, 2020 minutes. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Freda Hammonds and Dianne Hiltman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.		
AGENDA	AGENDA ITEM(S)	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Old Business	Statewide Leadership Council	Discussion regarding expectations of the newly elected officers and the two alternates regarding who are automatic members of the Statewide Leadership Council and the role of the alternates. The three officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary) are automatically the three representatives for each region on the Statewide Leadership Council. If for some reason, one or more of the officers cannot attend the meeting, they may ask one of the alternates to attend and be a voting representative. Each region has 3 votes at the Statewide Leadership Council meetings. The Chair, Dianne Hiltman, and Vice-Chair, Lynne Anderson will attend. The Secretary, Venessa Abram, has a conflict. Ruth Coody will contact the two alternates, Evelyn Cunningham and Urmil Tracy Marshall to see if one of the alternates will be available to attend to assure that Region 3 has three votes. Officers for the Statewide Leadership Council will be a main item on their meeting agenda.	The next meeting of the Statewide Leadership Council will be Friday, September 25, 2020. 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 Chair, Dianne Hiltman, led the Council members in a discussion about all of the information contained in the documents for today's meeting. The documents were the results of the RAC Questionnaire completed in 2019 (Identifying Independence and Recovery Needs in Georgia), the Top 3 Priorities for the Region 3 Advisory Council in 2017-2018, and the notes from the initial discussion of the newly elected officers, the past Chair, Melinda Morgan-Carson, and Ruth Coody on 08/12/2020. All of the documents were sent to the Advisory Council members prior to today's meeting for their review. The discussion ended with the Chair, Ms. Hiltman, appointing Melinda Morgan-Carson and Ruth Coody, to take the work from the 08/12/2020 meeting and the other documents to develop a draft of the Top 3 Priorities for Region 3 for 2020-2021 and send the information out to the Council members at least one week prior to our next meeting on November 19, 2020. During the discussion, some questions were raised about how DBHDD determines the quality of services being provided by the provider network. Gwen Craddieth, RSA for Behavioral Health, pointed out the role of the ASO (Administrative Services Organization-Beacon), who does audits in helping DBHDD determine the quality of services. The Chair also asked Ruth Coody to work with the RESPECT Institute or the Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities to have a consumer or family member speak for about 5 minutes or so at the beginning of the November 19, 2020, meeting.</p>	<p>Melinda Morgan-Carson and Ruth Coody were appointed by the Chair, Dianne Hiltman, to prepare a draft of the Top 3 Priorities for Region 3 and distribute to the Council members at least one week in advance of our next meeting on November 19, 2020.</p> <p>Gwen Craddieth, RSA for Behavioral Health, will send a link to Ruth Coody to send to the Council members showing the results of audits the ASO (Beacon) does to assist the DBHDD with determining the quality of services provided by the network of providers.</p> <p>Ruth Coody will contact the RESPECT Institute or the Council on Developmental Disabilities to request a speaker for the next meeting on November 19, 2020.</p>
<p>New Business</p>	<p>RSA Reports</p>	<p>Gwen Craddieth, RSA for Behavioral Health, reported that DBHDD is reviewing applications for the APEX Program. The Behavioral Health Symposium usually held in October is cancelled and the projected to be held in March, 2021. The CSU (Crisis Stabilization Unit) for youth with autism has opened. Starting off with ten beds for youth ages 10-14. Providers using telehealth during the COVID-19 pandemic has proven to be very well received by the community. Housing is a major need during the pandemic and DBHDD has a strategic plan to connect individuals to services with case managers checking in with individuals to see what they need. Working in the jails to try to get individuals released and into housing. These individuals must be homeless and have a mental health diagnosis that is severe and persistent. The</p>	

New Business (continued)	RSA Reports (continued)	<p>capacity is for 108 individuals and continued funding is an issue. A question was raised about when state government employees are projected to be back in offices. Gwen reported that there is a large group of different state agencies looking at how to safely re-open buildings and offices.</p> <p>Kerri Bradford, Administrative Assistant for Developmental Disabilities, reported for Vivia Black, RSA for Developmental Disabilities, who had a family emergency. She reported that services for individuals with developmental disabilities continues to be provided virtually. Staff are continuing to support individuals and care givers.</p>	
	Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lynn Copeland, former Regional Director for Region 3, retired as of September 1, 2020. • The Chair, Dianne Hiltman, asked Ruth Coody about vacancies and Council members who are not adhering to the requirements for attending meetings. Ms. Coody provided a number for vacancies for each of the six counties in Region 3. There is one member from Clayton County who is not attending meetings as required in the RAC Bylaws but her second term ends in November, 2020, and she will rotate off the Region 3 Advisory Council. Clayton County is the only county who has all of their slots filled. • Ms. Hiltman announced that NAMI is hosting a walk on October 10th. 	
	Public Comments	There were no public comments at today's meeting due to the meeting being conducted using the Cisco WebEx system.	
Adjournment	The Chair, Dianne Hiltman, adjourned the meeting at 3:53 pm. The next meeting will be Thursday, November 19, 2020.		

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

Approved: _____