

Region 3 DBHDD Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

May 18th, 2023

Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 2:38 pm on Thursday, May 18th, 2023, by Urmil Tracy Marshall, Chairperson, for the Region 3 Advisory Council. A quorum was present for today's meeting.		
Welcome/ Introductions	Ms. Marshall, Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed Council Members, staff from the Region 3 Field Office and the speaker for today. This meeting was conducted using the DBHDD Cisco WebEx system due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.		
Attendees	<p>Council Members Present: Urmil Tracy Marshall, Chair; Shirley Davis; Monique McDowell; Andrea Alabi; Lina Christian; Sharlene McLendon; Debra Hoyte-Malette; Dave Ake, Vice-Chair; Dianne Hiltman; Domonique Cooper; Sunita Joshi; Evelyn Phillips-Cunningham; Cheryl Brannon; Dr. Laklieshia Izzard; Elizabeth Bolton-Harris</p> <p>Excused Absence: Sunita Joshi</p> <p>Region 3 Staff: Gwen Craddieth, RSA Behavioral Health Services for Region 3; Ruth Coody, Assistant to the Region 3 Advisory Council; John T. McQueen; Camille Rowe</p> <p>Speaker: Danny Childers, GMHCN RESPECT Institute shared his story, The Power of Connection. Danny had his first drink at 12, smoked pot at 13, started meth and selling meth at 16. Married at 18 and the first baby arrived at 21. He was sentenced to prison for 10 years for selling meth when he was 23. He did get his GED while in prison and learned how to do electrical work. Things rocked along until he started doing meth again. Divorced after 28 years of marriage. Got involved with a Drug Court which helped him with accountability and staying sober. AA helped him too. Danny has been sober for 3 years and doing a Mentorship Program and working to obtain Peer Certification as an Alcohol Counselor to help others. He remarried his wife.</p>		
Approve Minutes	The Chair, Urmil Tracy Marshall, asked for a motion to approve the March 16th, 2023, minutes. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Domonique Cooper and Dianne Hiltman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.		
AGENDA	AGENDA ITEM(S)	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Old Business	Statewide Leadership Council	Ms. Marshall reported on the meeting held on March 17, 2023. During the March 17, 2023, meeting, the Statewide Leadership Council discussed the Statewide Priorities and the six regions' priorities .Ms. Marshall submitted the Region 3 Top Priorities to the Chair of the Statewide Leadership Council. The six regional priorities and the Statewide Priorities were submitted to the DBHDD Commissioner, Kevin Tanner. Ms. Marshall will attend the May 19th meeting of the Statewide Leadership Council. Dave Ake, Vice-Chairperson, will not be able to attend. Dr. Laklieshia Izzard, an alternate, will attend. Ms. Marshall will	The next meeting of the Statewide Leadership Council will be Friday, May 19th, 2023. The meeting will be a virtual meeting using the DBHDD Cisco WebEx system.

Old Business (continued)	Statewide Leadership Council (cont.)	check with Lynne Anderson, Secretary of the Region 3 Advisory Council, to determine her availability for the meeting. Each region has 3 votes at the meeting so attendance of officers or alternates is important.	
	Region 3 Priorities	The Chairperson, Urmil Tracy Marshall, asked for updates to the Top 3 Priorities. Historically, the regional priorities were intended to track the progress of DBHDD in each region. Ms. Marshall stated that more tangibles are needed for the Top 3 Priorities. Monique McDowell is chairing Priority #1 which is Community Awareness. She did not have any new activities to report for this Priority. Priority #2 (Prevention and Early Intervention) is chaired by Dave Ake. He provided some information about a “channel” called SLACK which could be used by members of the Region 3 Advisory Council to communicate with each other, Gwen Craddieth, RSA for Behavioral Health, said this will be okay to use for Advisory Council members to communicate with each other but it cannot be used to communicate with DBHDD staff or used to replace the official lines of communication. This would be voluntary for Region 3 Advisory Council members. He also proposed another IT process called “AGILE” which looks at outcomes and putting people before processes. He suggested the topic of “DD waivers’. Gwen stated that DD waivers is one of the more complicated processes due to federal and state government involvement and the requirements set forth by the Department of Community Health (Medicaid). She recommended that he submit a written proposal to her and she will send it to DBHDD to see if there is any interest. Dianne Hiltman chairs Priority #3 which is increasing the number of certified Peer Specialists. She did not have any new updates. She will contact Dana McCrary at DBHDD for updates.	This topic will be on the agenda for the July 20, 2023, meeting.
New Business	County Forum	Clayton County was selected by the members of the Region 3 Advisory Council to host a Community Forum in 2023. Monique McDowell volunteered to coordinate the forum and will be assisted by the other representatives from Clayton County—Dr. Monica Hooker, Shirley Davis, and Joe Grubbs. Clayton State University is the selected site at the Harry S. Downs Center on the campus. The university is offering space at no charge. The Community Education and Awareness Forum will be on June 24 th from 10:00 am to Noon. The agenda is set by DBHDD and will include a brief introduction by the Region 3 Advisory Council Chairperson, Tracy Marshall, and Gwen Craddieth, RSA for Behavioral Health and Vivia Black, RSA for Developmental Disabilities, will do	Clayton County is the selected site for the Community Forum on June 24 th , 2023.

		presentations about available services for their respective areas. There will be a Question and Answer period following each of their presentations.	
New Business (continued)	Advisory Council Elections in July Meeting	Ruth Coody discussed the upcoming election for Advisory Council officers and the appointment of two alternates for the Statewide Leadership Council. Three officers—Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary will be elected at the July 20 th , 2023, meeting of the Region 3 Advisory Council.	Election of Officers and the appointment of two alternates to the Statewide Leadership Council will be done in the next meeting on July 20 th , 2023
	RSA Reports	Gwen Craddieth, RSA for Behavioral Health, reported that Grady Hospital is opening a 16 bed MED/PSYCH Unit to serve individuals on a short-term basis that need to be stabilized. Slated to open July, 2023. Grady and PAD (Policing Alternative and Diversion) are working together to identify individuals who are homeless and need services. The SWEEP team identifies homeless individuals and then they are placed in temporary housing (hotel), receive case management and the team seeks out permanent supportive housing. DBHDD has approved 51 individuals for the GA Housing Voucher and 31 have been housed. DBHDD is funding this initiative. The Atlanta Detention Center has allocated space for the soon to open Diversion Center. The Diversion Center is a 24/7 facility where individuals can be dropped off by law enforcement in lieu of being arrested if they commit minor and/or non-violent crimes. There will be behavioral health screenings; needs assessments, sobering rooms, case management, food and showers. Opening date is not known at this time. Jail In-Reach continues with DBHDD funding a position for Gwinnett and DeKalb counties. Case manager works with jail social workers who have identified individuals with a behavioral health diagnosis to link people to services and housing prior to release. DBHDD also has a monthly meeting with DeKalb, Fulton and Clayton County social workers at the jails and Public Defender offices to provide the same assistance. MATCH (Multi-Agency Team for Children was created by the MH Parity Act. Goals are collaboration across state agencies, explore resources and find solutions for complex cases. This is in the planning phase.	Ms. Black will submit a written report and the report will be emailed to each member of the Advisory Council. Ruth Coody will attach a copy to the minutes for the May 18th, 2023, meeting to maintain a documented copy of the complete report.

<p>Announcements/ Adjournment</p>	<p>The 9-8-8 Anniversary Celebration will be May 19th, 2023. Dr. Laklieshia Izzard announced that Dianne Hiltman has been elected to the Board for the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill.</p> <p>The Chairperson, Ms. Marshall, adjourned the meeting at 4:10 pm after she made a motion and a second was made by Monique McDowell. The next meeting of the Region 3 Advisory Council will be Thursday, July 20th, 2023.</p>	
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Minutes recorded and submitted by Ruth Coody, Advisory Council Assistant for Region 3

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