

## Region 3 DBHDD Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

July 20th, 2023

Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 2:40 pm on Thursday, July 20, 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.		
Attendees	<p><b>Council Members Present:</b> Urmil Tracy Marshall, Chair; Shirley Davis; Monique McDowell; Andrea Alabi; Lina Christian; Debra Hoyte-Malette; Dave Ake, Vice-Chair; Domonique Cooper; Evelyn Phillip; Dr. Laklieshia Izzard</p> <p><b>Excused Absence:</b> Sunita Joshi; Dianne Hiltman; Sharlene McClendon; Dr. Monica Hooker; Michelle Jordan-Vidal; Elizabeth Bolton-Harris; Lynne Anderson; Cathy Murphy</p> <p><b>Region 3 Staff:</b> Gwen Craddieth, RSA Behavioral Health Services for Region 3; Debora Cook, Intake and Evaluation for Region 3 Developmental Disabilities; Ruth Coody, Assistant to the Region 3 Advisory Council; John T. McQueen; Camille Rowe</p> <p><b>Speaker:</b> William Klosowski , GMHCN RESPECT Institute shared his story, Hope, Recovery and Independence . William had his first drink at 8, father died, raised in a care home in Boston, his mother ran a tavern and alcohol was easy to access. First arrest was at age 17 and he was arrested 28 times and served 14 years in prison. He had the opportunity of Drug Court presented as an alternate to him at the time of his last arrest. He took it and has not looked back. He has been sober over three years, serves on the Board of the Good Samaritan, is a Certified Peer Specialist and teaches classes to others to help them with their recovery.</p>		
Approve Minutes	The Chair, Urmil Tracy Marshall, asked for a motion to approve the May 18th, 2023, minutes. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Evelyn Phillip and Monique McDowell 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 May 26th, 2023. During the May 26th, 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 tried to cover two meetings at once. The first celebration of the rollout of 9-8-8 and the Statewide Leadership Council meeting. Ms. Marshall reported that there were discussions with Commissioner Tanner about the Priorities submitted from the Statewide	The next meeting of the Statewide Leadership Council will be Friday, July 28th, 2023. The meeting will be a virtual meeting using the DBHDD Cisco WebEx system. Ruth Coody will send the names of the three new officers and two alternates to Jo Ellen Hancock who conducts the SWLC meetings.

Old Business (continued)	Statewide Leadership Council (cont.)	Leadership Council. The discussions were productive and everyone believes that the SWLC Priorities are now aligned with the DBHDD Priorities.	
	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 in the May 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2023, meeting 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. Dave has been able to take “SLACK” live before our meeting. This is voluntary for Region 3 Advisory Council members. Dianne Hiltman chairs Priority #3 which is increasing the number of Certified Peer Specialists. She was unable to attend today’s meeting. She will contact Dana McCrary at DBHDD for updates.	This topic will be on the agenda for the September 21st, 2023, meeting.
	County Forum	The Planning Group for the Clayton County Forum, which was chaired by Monique McDowell, talked about the success of the Clayton County Forum. The other members of the Planning Group were Shirley Davis and Dr. Monica Hooker. There were about 30 to 35 people in attendance including a Probate Judge, a State Representative, and Clayton County Commissioner. Gwen Craddieth presented services offered through Behavioral Health and Allen Morgan presented services offered through the two waivers (NOW and COMP) for individuals with Developmental Disabilities. There was time for Questions and Answers after each presentation. There was a lot of positive feedback from the persons in attendance.	The DBHDD Region 3 Advisory Council members will nominate and vote for the next county which will host a Community Forum at another meeting in the near future.

	Advisory Council Elections	<p>Ruth Coody assisted the Region 3 Advisory Council members in electing three officers for the coming year, July, 2023-July, 2024. The officers elected by the members will be Dave Ake, (Provisional) Chairperson, Shirley Davis, Vice-Chairperson, and Monique McDowell, Secretary. Mr. Ake requested that his position be designated as Provisional until he checks with his work supervisor to make sure there are no conflicts of interest for them. This is not an issue from the perspective of DBHDD. The new Chairperson, Dave Ake, then appointed Dr. Laklieshia Izzard and Evelyn Phillip as the Alternates to represent any of the three officers, if needed, at the Statewide Leadership Council in order to have our region represented to cast votes.</p>	<p>Ruth Coody will send the names and email addresses of the new officers and the alternates to Jo Ellen Hancock who chairs the Statewide Leadership Council. Ms. Hancock sends out the link for the meetings.</p>
New Business	RSA Reports	<p>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 very soon. 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. This will probably be open in September, 2023. 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. DBHDD is looking at a Rate Study trying to help with the workforce shortages. DBHDD will also be conducting a thorough study of each regional field office to look at staffing needs or changing the types of staff needed in order to make Behavioral Health services and Developmental Disability services as effective as possible.</p> <p>Debora Cook, Region 3 Developmental Disabilities staff member, provided a brief update about waiver placements. They have placed 594 individuals in waiver services which surpassed their goal of 514 individuals to be placed in waiver services.</p>	

Announcements/ Adjournment	There were no announcements but Region 3 Advisory Council members showed their appreciation to the out-going Chairperson, Urmil Tracy Marshall, with “thank yous” and “doing a good job”.  Ms. Marshall asked for motions to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.	
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Minutes recorded and submitted by Ruth Coody, Advisory Council Assistant for Region 3

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_