

**Connecticut Workforce Collaborative on Behavioral Health**

**Minutes of: Executive Council**

**Date: March 16, 2011 Time: 1:00 –2:00 p.m. Via Teleconference**

**Members Present:** M. Hoge (co-chair), J. Stoneman (co-chair), M. Peloso, K. Flaherty, J. Giard, J. Walter, B. Bugella

**Others Present:** J. Wolf

**Members Absent:** P. Susen, E. Farnsworth, R. Plant, C. Foley Geib, C. Thatcher

| TOPIC                                       | REPORT / DISCUSSION   | CONCLUSIONS / NEXT STEPS   |
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| <b>Approval of Minutes</b>                  | The minutes from 10/18/10 were reviewed and approved by members who attended that meeting.  | N/A  |
| <b>1. Career Pathways, WISH, &amp; WIBs</b> | <p>M. Hoge provided a brief overview of the three reports recently issued in final form as part of the Career Pathway initiatives. The initial document received from CCSU was one integrated report of significant length and complexity. A decision was made to separate this information into three reports to enhance utility and the ease with which the documents can be navigated. J. Wolf described the effort made to have experts review, strengthen, and approve of the content about specific occupations and professions. As part of this review, occupations were divided into two critical categories: those exclusive to behavioral health and those non-exclusive (e.g., nursing).</p> <p>The final reports were presented by L. Coddington, J. Wolf, and M. Hoge to the Connecticut Allied Health Workforce Policy Board in Rocky Hill on January 26. Mary Ann Hanley, the Director of the Office of Workforce Competitiveness, also invited M. Hoge to present this work on February 24 to the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee of the State of Connecticut Legislature.</p> <p>Recognition of the Collaborative's efforts led to the inclusion of behavioral health as one of four core areas of focus in the statewide workforce strategic plan being developed by the CT Employment and Training Commission. M. Hoge and J. Wolf also met with four of five Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) to present an overview of the Collaborative and the Pathways reports and discuss potential collaborations. One immediate outcome is that J. Wolf will present the Pathways resources to Health Career Advisors employed through each WIB.</p> <p>B. Bugella complimented the quality and utility of this work and reported that her daughter has used the Pathways reports to inform her own decision about a behavioral health career.</p> | <p>Pathways reports being broadly disseminated.</p> <p>Collaborative is representing behavioral health in statewide workforce plan development.</p> <p>J. Wolf to present Pathways resources to Health Care Career Advisors.</p> |
| <b>2. C-RECS Update</b>                     | <p>The funding for C-RECS has ended and the program has come to a close after a period of transition for persons in recovery who were receiving support. It was a unique program that assisted in helping secure employment for 81 individuals, half in the field of behavioral health. The program manual, which was shared with the Council, was developed as a guide to the model that emerged in this program.</p> <p>K. Flaherty commented that with that success rate, it was unfortunate that the program wasn't sustained through some means. As the economy improves or if/when DMHAS puts vocational services back out to bid, there is a need to look for opportunities to secure funding for this program.</p>  | <p>C-RECS final reports to be released shortly. Program manual is complete and publicly available. Will be posted to the Collaborative website.</p>  |
| <b>3. Leadership Development</b>            | <p>The 2010 cohort of the Yale Leadership Program in Behavioral Health completed the program on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The Executive Council reviewed the evaluation from this program, the findings of which were very positive. The 2011 cohort has</p>   | <p>2011 cohort to begin monthly sessions in April.</p>   |

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|                                       | been selected and began the program with a 2.5 day workshop on March 9-11. M. Hoge identified the individuals in the new cohort for Council members. Positive comments on this workshop were offered by J. Giard, who is a member of the 2011 cohort, and by M. Peloso, who spoke with a few CSSD employees in the 2011 cohort.   |  |
| 4. Parent Leadership                  | <p>J. Stoneman provided a report on the Parent Leadership Network development process. From her perspective the three major challenges are: (1) finalizing the “foundations” of purpose, principles, and practices, (2) fostering group development and clarifying who is to be included in the Network; and (3) addressing staffing and capacity concerns. A lot of progress has been made: there is now a name and mission statement; membership has been defined; a membership agreement has been crafted; and the responsibilities and privileges of membership are now documented. The Network is creating a web page of Network agencies and resources and may link to the Connecticut Clearinghouse. The consultation on agency program evaluation was provided by The Consultation Center at Yale. J. Wolf reported that she has a colleague who has agreed to work on a capacity building grant for the Network. Getting people “to the table” remains a struggle. The next meeting of the Network is March 16. M. Hoge thanked Jeanette and Jessica for their leadership in moving this initiative forward.</p> <p>M. Hoge reported that the contract regarding Parent Leadership Development with Families United had been terminated by mutual agreement.</p> | Parent Leadership Network to meet next on March 18. Work to continue on Network development. |
| 5. Addition of New Members            | Based on feedback received from Council Co-Chairs, M. Hoge presented a list of potential new members for the Executive Council. These new members would strengthen the addition of representation from persons in recovery, family members, providers, and educators. After brief discussion, the list was approved.  | M. Hoge to extend membership invitation to the individuals identified.                       |
| 6. Other                              | J. Walter inquired if there was further information about legislative action by DPH on the Practice Act as discussed during the last meeting. M. Hoge agreed to contact B. Plant who raised this at the last meeting. If there is a substantive update it will be circulated to the Council members.  | Request for an update to be forwarded to B. Plant.   |
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| <b>Next Executive Council Meeting</b> | To be scheduled   |  |