Holyoke/Chicopee Site Board Meeting Minutes

***PLACE: 4 VALLEY MILL RD, 3RD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM-HOLYOKE, MA 01040***

DATE: 1/24/18

TIME: 2:40 PM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 2:40 PM

MEETING ADJOURNED: 4:00 PM

*NEXT MEETING: 3/28/18 at 2:30 PM*

RECORDER: Brad Cole

ATTENDEES: Doug A, Terry L., Jim M, and Kym S.

ABSENT: Melissa P and Denise H.

*Approval of prior Meeting Minutes: yes*

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| **TOPIC** | **DISCUSSION** | **ASSIGNMENT/TASK** | **POINT PERSON** | **NOTES** |
| RLC  ACCS RFR | Briefly discussed the RLC’s new office/space on Main St in Holyoke. The RLC is now on the ground floor {was on the 3rd fl} which may make access easier for some individuals.  Discussed the time lines for the new program. | N/A  N/A | Brad  Brad | As indicated.  Updated the board as to the time lines of the RFR, and also some of the new components that will be part of the new program. To include; more clinical work/involvement, substance abuse services/supports, family engagement, and more team coordinators. |
| CDP/HPD meetings  Board members and re-applying  DMH/MRC pilot project | Updated the board as to the progress of these meetings.  Updated the board as to which members have expired terms. Kym has not been sworn in yet and she was approved to be a formal board member on 7/11/17 {expires on 7/11/2020}  Jim and Kym, both from MRC, updated the board about this pilot project | N/A  Brad will follow-up with the area office about the issue with Kym.  N/A | Brad  Brad  Jim and Kym | Discussed with the board the recent mtg with the CPD/HPD on 1/19/18. Also discussed the CIT {Crisis Intervention Training} that this writer is and has been part of with BHN with local police and fire depts. Gave an example of how the CPD feels that this training has already helped officers who need to be involved with substance abuse or mental health related calls in the community. The next meeting is at the HPD on 3/18/18.  Doug discussed the Veteran’s Court that Holyoke has and how beneficial it is for veterans who are arrested and the support they receive from this.  Jim has re-applied and Brad will bring the application to the area office. Terry has the paperwork to complete to re-apply. Brad will discuss this with Melissa Perry whose term expired on 5/29/17.  Brad just found out that individuals now do not need to be sworn in and board applications are now being reviewed and approved by the Area Director, Julie Schwager. So, with this change, the hope is that the process will not take as long as it used to.  This pilot project started last July and involves three DMH site offices—H/C, Fitchburg and New Bedford. The purpose is to collaborate with MRC and the local CBFS program {for us with CHD} with a focus on young adults ages 18-26 for employment. All three sites have had similar progress and outcomes to date. We have had 7 refs to MRC. Three were closed from MRC after the 30 day processing list. Prior to the closing of the three people, Kym had tried to do a lot of follow-up {calls, letter} with them. But because of a lack of response, they were closed. It is likely that their active symptoms hampered the process for them. Kym is the primary point person at MRC for this project. The meetings have occurred at CHD and have been twice a month, but may now change to monthly and will likely occur after job club at CHD. A couple of individuals are already involved with MRC and they have attended the group meetings at CHD and have talked with the group and have been good spokespeople about MRC and their support. Two other people have proceeded to eligibility and one person has an employment plan. Kym will follow-up with this person for a possible vocational assessment that will entail: job readiness, ability to follow direction and attendance, to name a few. One other person, who was already eligible for MRC, has a voc counselor and will be part of this project. One person was closed due to their mental health symptoms interfering with their ability to engage. At the last meeting at CHD, Jim and Kym did some role playing and the young adults that attended were engaged in this process. The overall goal is employment focused. This project will end in late June. There will be another meeting in Westborough, as that time approaches. DMH/MRC staff from Boston will also likely visit the three DMH sites in March. This will likely take place at CHD. |

**DMH STAFF:** Minutes should be emailed to **DMH-DL – Open Meeting Notices** after they are approved by the Public Body.