

Holyoke/Chicopee Site Board Meeting Minutes

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

DATE: 3/28/18
 TIME: 2:30PM -4:00PM
 MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 2:40PM
 MEETING ADJOURNED: 4:00PM
 NEXT MEETING: 6/13/18

RECORDER: Brad Cole
 ATTENDEES: Brad, Doug, Terry, Jim.
 Also, from WestMassElder Care, Vanessa Bernecer participated.

ABSENT: Kym S, Denise H and Melissa P.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ASSIGNMENT/TASK	POINT PERSON	NOTES
Renewal of (3) three-year term	Jim McAleer recently received notice that he has been approved for a new, three- year term on the Board, which ends on 3/20/21.	N/A	Brad	Congratulations Jim! Terry L. is still interested in renewing her term and will complete the paperwork.
New DMH staff	A new DMH Case Manager has been hired. Heather Larsen will start on 4/2/18.	N/A	Brad	Heather had previously worked as a TAY DMH Case Manager for the H/C Site office. However, when budget cuts occurred in 2009, she was one of the case managers laid off.
Legislative Breakfast	This occurred on 3/9/18. There was a great turnout, which included providers and area politicians or, their aides attending.	N/A	Brad	Discussed with the board how the Holyoke Police Chief, Chief Neiswanger, and Lt. Manny Reyes, spoke at the breakfast about the collaborative relationship with DMH and the benefits of the CIT training for their officers.
Odyssey Clubhouse update	Discussed how Odyssey has hired a new employment coordinator and also mentioned their daily attendance numbers.	N/A	Brad	Odyssey recently hired a new employment coordinator to find employers in the area to have a relationship with Odyssey for employment purposes for members at Odyssey. Also, Odyssey's average daily attendance {ADA} is now in the mid -twenties. They are funded for an ADA of 27. About a year ago their ADA was just in the mid - teens.

ACCS update	Discussed that the RFR process is still occurring. No formal decision has been made as to the outcome of the process, or who will be awarded the new contract.	N/A	Brad	Discussed with the board that H/C will have a new Intensive Medical Group Living Environment {IMGLE}. This is the Medically Ill/Mentally Ill {MIMI} GLE that is currently in Westfield and is overseen by BHN. Also discussed that the new ACCS census will be 300, which means that H/C will need to close some 48 individuals prior to 7/1/18 to meet the 300 census. Also discussed the Governor's budget for DMH and how it has been increased by 12% from the previous fiscal year to help fund the new ACCS program.
New Director of Recovery for DMH	Discussed that Earl Miller was recently hired as the new DMH Western Mass Director of Recovery.	N/A	Brad	Earl had previously worked at CHD as their Dir. of Peer Supports. He is interested in coming to a Board meeting to introduce himself and to discuss his role. Doug, who is a member of the Area Board, mentioned that a Community Conversation will occur in Springfield at some point in the near future. There is an Area Board meeting on 3/28 and more info will likely be obtained about this. Earl will likely be involved in this.
VIBRA update	Updated the board that VIBRA will now remain open as our DMH unit in Western Mass until 6/30/18.	N/A	Brad	No other info about this or other possible sites for the unit is available.
DMH /MRC Pilot program	Jim, from MRC, who has been involved with this project, updated the Board. The project is for young adults ages 18-26 and CHD is also involved.	N/A	Jim	A meeting is scheduled for 4/12/18 which will include the consultant for the project and Michael Stepanksy, DMH Employment Dir. No new recent referrals have occurred. Two individuals have advanced through the MRC process. Despite CHD being quite proactive in trying to recruit young adults for this, it has been difficult getting people to actually stay for an entire meeting.

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