

Behavioral Health Advisory Council (BHAC)

December 13, 2023 Minutes

Draft

MEETING DETAILS	
Date and time:	December 13, 2023 10am
Venue:	Virtual through Zoom
COUNCIL DEMOGRAPHICS	
Present	Heather Orrock (VOCAL); Heather Pate (CPRS); Nathanael Rudney (DBHDS); Bruce Crusier (MHAV); Mary Ottinot (Advocate/RN); Cristy Corbin (FSP of VA) Justin Wallace (VDH); Kristinne Stone (VADOE); Maggie Finn (NAMI);); Terri Nunley (DARS); Nicholas Pappas (CPRS); Robin Binford-Weaver (DJJ); Patricia Parham (DOC); Dreamel Spady (provider); Sandra Nichols (provider)
Guest(s)	Dr. Edmund Creekmore; Susan Finke; Dietrich Bragg; Stephanie Showalter
Unexcused Absences	Mary McQuown (DBHDS)
Excused Absences	Hilary Piland (VACSB); Terry Nunley (DARS);
Minutes Taken By	Heather Pate, Secretary
Presiding Officer	Bruce Crusier - Filling in for Hilary Piland as Acting President
Order Called	Council convened at 10:00 am

Quorum was present in today's meeting (requires 13 members, a majority [7 out 13] of these members need be consumers/peers, advocates, and family members)

	Item	Discussion/Action	Responsibility/Follow-Up (if applicable)
	Welcome, Introductions, Public Comment:		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome: Introductions shared in chat 	Responsibility and Follow-up: N/A
	Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings		

	Item	Discussion/Action	Responsibility/Follow-Up (if applicable)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heather Pate gave the motion • Nicholas Pappas seconded the motion • All approved 	Responsibility and Follow-up: N/A
Treasurer's Report: Bruce Cruser:			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current balance \$13,434 • Please submit for any trainings that might be helpful for yourself and others related to the council work. 	Responsibility and Follow-up: N/A
Vote on New Member Applications			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants - Dietrich Bragg (Brighter Days), Susan Finke, Kristen Vaughan, Dr. Edmund Creekmore • Applicants stepped out and discussion took place. Moved and seconded that the applications from three members be approved at this time - Dietrich Bragg from Brighter Days, Susan Finke and Kristen Vaughan • A few members expressed a need for more information from Dr. Creekmore, and it was decided to postpone the vote on his application until the next meeting, after there is an opportunity for them to meet with him to discuss. Motion by Pappas, Second by Orrock to follow-up with Dr. Creekmore prior to the next council meeting. All approved. • Council members requested that applicants be informed after the meeting. It was suggested that maybe this could be a process we add. 	Responsibility and Follow-up: N/A Ad-hoc committee to follow up with Dr. Creekmore: Cristy Corbin, Heather Orrock, Nathanael Rudney. Bruce Cruser to notify applicants.

	Item	Discussion/Action	Responsibility/Follow-Up (if applicable)
Appoint Nominating Committee to recommend New Council President			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bruce indicated that the Nominating Committee needs to meet to recommend someone to replace Eli Bouldin-Clopton as President. Eli needed to resign as President for personal reasons. Her term ends June 30. • Vice President Hilary Piland agreed to serve as Interim President until another President is voted in to fill the position. • Heather Orrock shared interest in serving. • Nominating Committee Chair – Nicholas Pappas. Members – Maggie Finn, Dreamel Spady, Heather Pate. • Please send in your interest in President to Nick, Bruce or Nathanael. 	<p>Responsibility and Follow-up: Nicholas Pappas to convene the Nominating Committee to present a recommendation to the full board at the February meeting of someone to serve as president for the remainder of the current term (June 30, 2024).</p>
Strategic Planning Next Steps – Nathanael Rudney			
		<p><u>Debrief Recent T.A. Planning Session</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed the Technical Assistance Action Plan from Advocates for Human Potential. • See Technical Assistance Final Report 	<p>Responsibility and Follow-up:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance – Heather Pate Facilitator, Bruce Crusier Reporter

	Item	Discussion/Action	Responsibility/Follow-Up (if applicable)
		<p><u>Decide on new committees within the BHAC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assign people to these three focus areas to prepare for February 2024 council meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Governance ○ Block Grant ○ Advocacy • Motion to accept three focus areas by Heather Orrock, Heather Pate seconded, All approved. • Work groups for the three focus areas to create a structure for their area, identify purpose for these committees, begin to identify reasonable and measurable outcomes or deliverables. • Identify a point person to gather the meeting minutes to report back at the February 21, 2024 council meeting • Governance – Heather Pate Facilitator, Bruce Cruser Recorder • BG – Nathanael Rudney Facilitator, Terri Nunley Recorder • Advocacy – Cristy Corbin Facilitator, Mary Ottinot Recorder <p style="text-align: center;">BHAC Strategic Planning: Areas of Focus</p> <p>Tasks for Assigned Focus Area Groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify committee structure under focus area- i.e. membership, bylaws, BHAC finance for Governance; child & family, adult & elder for System Advocacy; funding & data/outcomes for block grant • Begin to identify purposes of committees and what they would be tasked with doing throughout the year- i.e. identifying potential informational presentations from DBHDS or stakeholders, research, etc. • Begin to identify what reasonable and measurable outcomes or deliverables would be provided by each committee on a yearly basis- i.e. annual report, contributing to yearly letters to commissioner/GA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG – Nathanael Rudney Facilitator, Terri Nunley Reporter • Advocacy – Cristy Corbin Facilitator, Mary Ottinot Reporter <p>Follow up February 21, 2024 for committee structure, identify purpose of these committees, and to begin to identify measurable outcomes.</p>

	Item	Discussion/Action	Responsibility/Follow-Up (if applicable)
		<p>Assigned Groups:</p> <p><u>Governance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bruce Cruser- Recorder • Heather Pate- Facilitator • Heather Orrock • Patricia Parham • Maggie Finn • Dreamel Spady • Mary McQuown • Kristen Vaughn <p><u>Block Grant Review</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nathanael Rudney- Facilitator • Patrice Beard • Sandra Nichols • Kristinne Stone- Recorder • Jennifer Witten • Karen Grabowski • Dietrich Bragg <p><u>System Advocacy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cristy Corbin- Fac./Rec. • Mary Ottinot- Fac./Rec. • Hilary Piland • Justin Wallace • Teri Nunley • Robin Binford • Susan Finke 	

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		A member noted that we need to continue to build diversity within the committees so that we have new eyes and ideas.	
Yearly Advocacy Letter from BHAC to General Assembly Committee Chairs			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ad Hoc Committee requested to write the Yearly Advocacy Letter. Hilary agreed to take the charge for the letter. We are starting with the letter from last year as a template for this year. • Those present suggested issues/items to include in the letter. • It was noted to be sure to add the JLARC report concerns in with the letter. This will be a high interest area. • 1115 Waiver request to put funding for new initiatives for Serious Mental Illness on a new footing with special funding from SAMHSA for the ARTS program. A letter is supposed to come out on a yearly basis. This would be a good request if it falls within the block grant • Advocacy for policy, process, and structure regarding oversight of funding according to standards that meet the Federal Requirements • National Shattering the Silence Coalition – Advocating for family members to qualify or go through the certification as a PRS and work with their own family members during transition into the community. • Possible roles for Peer Support Specialists to provide oversight to speak up when other staff are not following protocol. • Heather Pate noted that a Medicare Advantage Plan does not provide parity in the cost of copays for Mental Health and Substance Use Services. Out of pocket cost increased to \$60 per in-person mental health visit. • There will be further opportunity to share concerns and make adjustments via email. 	Responsibility and Follow-up: Hilary Piland
Misdemeanant Diversion Proposal from Criminal Justice System – Dr. Creekmore			

	Item	Discussion/Action	Responsibility/Follow-Up (if applicable)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation placed on hold at the request of Dr. Creekmore. It appears there will be a study on national best practices for diverting those with serious mental illness from the criminal justice system. 	Responsibility and Follow-up: N/A
New Business			
		None	

	Item	Discussion/Action	Responsibility/Follow-Up (if applicable)
Public Comment:			
		No Public Comment	Responsibility and Follow-up: N/A
Next Meeting:			
		February 21, 2024 meeting virtual - 10am-12pm	Responsibility and Follow-up: N/A
Other Comments:			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No further comments 	Responsibility and Follow-up: N/A
I. Adjourn [Next meeting: February 21, 2024]			
		Motion by: Cristy Corbin Second by: Heather Pate	Happy New Year
	Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm.	Notes taken by Heather Pate as Secretary	

Next Meeting(s):
February 21, 2024

Location of meeting: via Zoom

MINUTES APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON _____

DRAFT