

**Name of Committee: Education Committee**

<b>Co-Chair(s):</b>	Laura Thomas	Virginia Suplee			
<b>Note Taker:</b>	BarbaraAnn Reith				
<b>Attendees :</b>	Wesley Sowers	Meg Park	Mike Gruber	Terri Bishop	Sarah E. Goldstein
	Roy Faloskey	William Boyce	Virginia Suplee	Sandy Beahm	Tim Morrison
	Dennis Hughes	Deb Wasilchak	Mary Jo Dickson	Melissa Medice	Sandy Kogut

**WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS:** Co-Chair Laura Thomas called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

**MINUTES:** The September 18, 2007 Meeting Minutes were approved as submitted.

**REVIEW OF AGENDA:** No changes were made to the agenda as presented

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Allegheny County Office of Behavioral Health and Community Care (along with other sponsors) will conduct a conference entitled "Which Way Out?" (The Sequential Intercept Model): A Framework for Decriminalizing Mental Illness). This conference will be held November 14 -16, 2007 at Sheraton Station Square Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA. It is expected there will be between 250-300 attendees. Fifty (50) scholarships have been set aside for consumers via Allegheny Family Network, Message Carriers, NAMI, PSAN and the Mental Health Association. There will be Hearing Voices Train the Trainer in the afternoon of November 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> in the morning of November 16<sup>th</sup>. Individuals interested (are welcome) in participating (both consumers and providers) in these trainings should contact Virginia Suplee at Community Care (412) 454-2605 for those interested in participating.
2. Allegheny County was awarded a Technical Assistance Grant by OMHSAS to work with supported employment providers (in the county) to enable them to increase the Best Practice Model. A site visit has been scheduled for November 7 & 8, 2007. There may be site visits to mental health agencies as well as to support employment providers. The Employment Transformation Committee meets at the CART office (938 Penn Avenue, Suite 501) the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each Monday (1PM - 3PM).
3. Veterans' Career Fair '07 will be held Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007 (10AM-2PM) at Highland Drive Division of VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System. Brochures were distributed.
4. A Trialogue will be held on November 10, 2007 (10AM - 4PM) at Allegheny Center Alliance Church (East Ohio Street, North Side). A "Triologue" is a conversation between consumers, family members and providers. Dr. Sowers announced they are especially in need of providers for this Trialogue. Please, contact Wes Sowers at [WSowers@dhs.county.allegheny.pa.us](mailto:WSowers@dhs.county.allegheny.pa.us) should anyone be interested in attending.
5. Mary Jo Dickson announced that two classes have been scheduled for the Certified Peer Specialist Training. The first training is currently taking place. The second training is scheduled from November 12 -16, 2007 (first week) and November 26 - 30, 2007 (second week). There will be forty (40) peers trained with five (5) slots available for the November training with applications presently being accepted through October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Applications may be FAX'd to Regina's (Supervisor of Mental Health Operations) attention at (412) 350-4245. An Advisory Steering Committee will be formed to discussed how individuals will be matched-up with jobs. There was a recommendation at the Provider Meetings to do a job fair after Certified Peer Specialist Training has been completed in order to hear about all the possibilities available in Allegheny County, It was also recommended that the Center For Excellence might pull this together.
6. Melissa Medice announced that the Center for Excellence is currently exploring a means to assist individuals being discharged from Mayview in order to support them coming into the community. The possibility of a dinner has been suggested. Ideas and suggestions are welcome.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **Agenda Item: Marketing Plans for Recovery Groups**

**Committee Spokes Person:** Laura

**Committee Goal Being Addressed:** How do we bring the various groups (NAMI – “In Our Own Voice” and Message Carriers) together?

**Discussion:** At the September meeting Harriet Baum had ask each attendee (who) has contact with two or three organizations (they did not have to be human services organizations) that might be affiliated with or in contact with and ask that individual if they would be interested in having a “In Our Own Voice” presentation. Mike Gruber will be responsible for establishing this list and forward onto Message Carriers and/or NAMI. Those in attendance were encouraged to continue to think of various groups that could be added to an ongoing list. Additionally, links to both NAMI and Message Carriers websites was could be placed on the ACCR website (along with information about various speaking opportunities). ACCR will not be recruiting individuals from various organizations to speak but will assist in “drumming-up business” for presentations. It was suggested a brief program description be obtained to post on the website from each organization that wishes to participate. The first step in this process is to establish a list and forward to Susan Harrington (NAMI). Mike Gruber will explore the links to the ACCR website at a meeting scheduled for October 25, 2007.

<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Target Date</b>
Contact organizations for possible speaking opportunities	All Education Committee members	11/20/07
Discuss with AHCI posting speaker information on ACCR website	Mike G.	10/25/07

### **Agenda Item: Recovery Booklet (Staunton Farms Grant)**

**Committee Spokes Person:** Virginia & Wes

**Committee Goal Being Addressed:**

**Discussion:** The first printing of HOPE and CHANGE (of 1000) has been distributed (mostly at Undependence Day on July 7, 2007). Community Care took on the expense of having an additional 2500 booklets printed as book was taken to a conference in New York and proved to be a great success. An application has been approved (by Staunton Farms) for an additional \$12,000 grant to print (and distribute throughout areas outside Allegheny County) It is estimated that approximately 30,000 - 40,000 additional books will be printed. Although there will not be many mailings, areas will be identified places where bulk quantities can be delivered for distribution. The VA was recognized as a location for distribution. Plans to copyright this book were discussed. Community Care staff does have the capability to research the process of copyrighting.

**Agenda Item:**

**Committee Spokes Person:** Terry

**Committee Goal Being Addressed:**

**Discussion:** Tree of Life Celebration will be held on November 30, 2007 from 11AM > 1PM at the Gallery of the County Court House on Grant Street. This is the fifth year for the Tree of Life Celebration. A Gala is scheduled for the evening of November 30, 2007 at the Pittsburgh Institute for the Arts. Tickets are currently available for \$100. Those interested may contact Message Carriers at (412) 361-0142.

**Agenda Item:**

**Committee Spokes Person:** Sandy/Tim

**Committee Goal Being Addressed:**

**Discussion:** The Veterans' Career Fair '07 promises to be an exciting event for veterans of all eras. Last year's Career Fair was attended by over 450 veterans and over 60 employers. Employers look upon veterans as dependable leaders and durable employees who are well organized and loyal. Workshops will cover: resume writing, interview skills

and job searches using the Internet. Parking will be free. Morning coffee and snacks, plus a light lunch will be served. Those interested in attending (or for directions) may contact the any of the following Vocational Specialists: Christy Carroll at (412) 365-5796, Mike Bobella at (412) 365-5971 or Maria Marsico, Social Worker at (412) 365-5767.

**Agenda Item: ELI Marketing**

**Committee Spokes Person:** Laura

**Committee Goal Being Addressed:**

**Discussion:** ELI has trained individuals to prepare them to participate on organization boards and committees.