

**Name of Committee: Education Committee**

**Co-Chair(s):** Laura Thomas Virginia Suplee  
**Note Taker:** BarbaraAnn Reith  
**Attendees :** Sandy Beahm Terri Bishop William Boyce Roy G. Faloskey James Galanten  
Mike Gruber Dennis Hughes Sandra Kogut Melissa Medice Craig Dorin  
Arlene Abram Meg Park Paul Wittman Michael Reber

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

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. Revisions are currently being completed on "HOPE and CHANGE" booklet. This project proved to be time intensive (and is coming to a end). Proper logos will be placed on the booklet along with the process of having the booklet copyrighted (since we are having this vehicle reprinted and now is the time for having any changes completed).
2. Ed Casper's Supportive Employment Service has been greatly under utilized. The goal for the Supportive Employment Providers is to adhere to Best Practices. Mike Gruber announced that In March and April two training will be conducted. A half day training geared for Executive Directors (along with family members, consumers, case managers and stake holders) will be scheduled to discuss requirements to implement the model. This will be an information session and participation will be voluntary for this project. Although the second training (three or four weeks later) is primarily for staff, it may include other stakeholders and will be working around the steps needed to implement the Best Practice model. Hopefully providers (in Allegheny County) will see the writing-on-the-wall as this is the direction we are headed. Training will be free. Kate Donegan and Norm Council are the consultants for SAMHSA on Supportive Employment Tool Kit.
3. Mike Reber announced that Allegheny County remains the only count funding the Empowerment Project and thus is fading-out. Six years ago (at it's start) there were eleven counties funding and contributing. Mike will keep up with the networking area.
4. Virginia Suplee announced that the contract with Pat Deagan and John Rio involves identifying the kind of strategic plan Community Care can initiate in working with the county in order that the employment project fits together (and insure there are no gaps). John Rio is currently working on a plan regarding the aforementioned. One thing John Rio spoke about related to the transformation team, stakeholders, consumers in doing job development and working on a means of talking to employers regarding meaningful jobs for consumers. Stigma and employment could come together as many individuals do not self-identify (even as behavioral health employers or agencies, for good reason); individuals may feel stigmatized if people became aware that they were someone using behavioral health services. This committee will be appraised as the reports that come back from John Rio's proposal.
5. Additional information regarding stigma busters could be sent out (on a regular basis) to providers. Someone (from this committee) could take on this responsibility (possibly chairs) to keep this list current and mail out the stigma busters info.
6. Spring Conference for Community Care has been scheduled for March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008 (from 8:30 am > 5:00 pm) at the Omni William Penn. This event to free to consumers and family members. Pricilla Ridgway, PhD, Assistant Professor, Yale University School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry, Program in Recovery and Community Health will be the keynote speaker.
7. A Latino Summit has been scheduled for April in Berks County. All are welcome to attend. Berks County has been a farming and rural community. Presently the population is 42% Latino and with this there have come challenges for people regarding language and culture diversity.

8. On June 5, 2008 there will be a Psycho Pharmacology Conference will be in York County.
9. The VA is attempting to put together a recovery oriented conference/seminar in the Spring (no date has yet been set).
10. Sandy Kogut will be attending the Mary Ellen Copeland WRAP Train the Trainer in South Carolina in February.

## **MINUTES:**

Minutes from the January 15, 2008 meeting were approved. The minutes were review by those in attendance and there were no objections

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Agenda Item:** ACCR Goals and Role

**Committee Spokes Person:** Laura

**Committee Goal Being Addressed:** Role of the ACCR

**Discussion:** The three goals were reviewed.

1. Work with New Freedom Initiative (VFI) and other partners to organize a train-the-trainer workshop that teaches providers how to train-the trainer workshop that teaches providers how to train their staff in recovery principles and practices. Partner with NFI to make available a video that teaches providers how to train their staff in recovery principles and practices.
2. Work together with the Consumer/Provider Collaborative to develop a plan for establishing dialogues between MH and D/A communities to resolve barriers to Consumer/Provider Collaborative to develop a plan for disseminating information communication tool throughout the behavioral health system. Work with the Consumer/Provider Collaborative and the AHCI Center of Excellence project to create increased opportunities for dialogues at project agencies.  
(The Consumer Collaborative shall be invited to attend the February meeting to discuss the facilitation and supports necessary for this project to go forward)
3. Social Marketing Plan

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Agenda Item:** Public Awareness Committee

**Committee Spokes Person:** Craig Dorin

**Committee Goal Being Addressed:** Public Awareness Collaboration

**Discussion:** The \$10,000 spent for the Un-dependance Day Event. It is felt for the dollar amount invested in this event that there could have been more Mr. & Mrs. J.Q. Public involved. A more critical care (and eye) could be taken to define a more responsible means for stewardship regarding funds expended. Would more people be impacted and affected changing our method (as opposed to one large event such as Un-dependance Day Celebration). If Public Awareness Committee could be the bull horn (so to speak) and have the Education Committee be the words coming out of the bull horn. It seems as though we have come to a point of time when we decide what singular messages are put forth. It seems as though there has not been enough change and/or traction through the activities that we have been doing. Both Chris Michaels and myself would like to try to move the venue for the event (possibly to the Pittsburgh Zoo) to a different location. We have done the event in Schenley Park, although, we feel we were not getting enough people out of their seats (so to speak). The zoo is somewhat of a compromise (there was much discussion regarding the change), so, we wanted to get to the action. The whole idea is to get the public there and have all of us there as a supporting cast. In prior years the methodology was "let's all show up and maybe the public will also show up". Various strategies have been discussed as to having a similar event without the food, T shirts and those things. We thought we would like to use the money to attract the public rather than have trinkets to take away. Another idea was to have a local community type speaker event that would be networked through the community libraries. Through this means we would hope to educate the public about recovery. We are sure there is curiosity and myth that surrounds recovery. A good back-drop would be to allow the public to become familiar with sensitivity materials while giving the public the opportunity to speak with Dr. Sowers, individuals in recovery, and maybe a Peer Specialist. To add to that back-drop, possibly having the Crisis Intervention Team Initiative (through the Pittsburgh Police Department and how this teams works with individuals with mental disabilities. We thought this would be a great tie-in to what the community benefit would be.

We could have a "Recovery Treasure Hunt" and the treasure hunt would be knowledge. Individuals would be moving through the zoo to various stations and get different audience appropriate information related to recovery and disabilities. There has been much discussions of individuals working full-time and having their medications and benefits (they need to stay well). We thought this could be a networking opportunity for the public and collaborating with the child and family. We thought we would bring this to the Education Committee and how you could assist in this event. We are making some attempt to pitching this event to the zoo officials and are waiting to see if they would be interested in such an event along with what days would be possible on their calendar. This would be the first time in using the zoo venue as an additional educational venue. The thought came up as to doing this event on a free day offered by the zoo (there would be a higher attendance). There is a time-table involved and it is important to get this project underway, plus, to determine what we hope to achieve and what parallels do we want to draw and then have an outline for such and decide what it will take to complete this event.

**NEXT MEETING**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Time</b>
Tuesday, February 19, 2008	Community Care @One Chatham Center (7 <sup>th</sup> Floor)	12:30 PM