

**Allegheny County Coalition for Recovery
Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes**

February 27, 2004

Present: Sarah Goldstein, J.R. Brenner, Cathy Hewitt, Jan Boyd, John Cassase, Sharon Alberts, Harold Hartger, Paul Freund, Mike Gruber

The minutes to the February 10 meeting were approved.

Committee Updates

1. Education Committee (EC) - Report by Jan Boyd and Sarah Goldstein, EC co-chairs
The EC designed a curriculum and identified potential training sites. It is now dealing with process issues regarding what is its role, when does its work stop on a project, and when should the EC hand off its work to another entity.

Speakers Bureau – there have been a number of requests for speakers, but it has been hard to find volunteers to fill all the slots. Jan has been trying to do this, but is finding that it is consuming more time than she has available. Several options were discussed for this.

2. Public Awareness (PA) – Report by John Cassase
The PA Committee is planning a fall event and exploring the possibility of putting on a Recovery Fair in the spring.

Jan Boyd is trying to get a First Night square dance scheduled for next year. She knows a band that may be willing to play.

John suggested the PA needs to bring in outside help to assist in developing a strategy for what the focus of the PA should be.

3. Quality Improvement (QI) – Report by Harold Hartger
The QI Committee is close to finalizing its Quality Improvement Guidelines document, but is still accepting feedback. A final draft is planned for the end of March. The committee has received feedback about the document, much of which has been very positive.

The next task for the QI is creating an evaluation plan. It was suggested to Harold that the committee investigate existing evaluation tools rather than “re-inventing the wheel.”

4. Nominating Committee – Report by Harold Hartger

The committee has talked with Sharon Alberts about becoming one of the co-chairs of the Steering Committee. She is considering this but has not decided yet. Sarah Goldstein and J.R. Brenner have expressed interest in being the other co-chair. The committee will be talking to all interested parties over the next month.

Announcements

Jan Boyd announced that Turtle Creek Valley MH/MR Center is interested in partnering with ACCR around a Recovery event.

Jan Boyd informed the SC that AHCI is starting Centers of Excellence in Recovery. Six organizations have signed on to participate. The first stage is conducting a self-evaluation survey and then the organization will develop an action plan to address the results of the survey. She will keep the SC apprised of these activities.

Discussion

Membership

There was discussion about what constitutes membership in the ACCR. A number of different ideas were expressed. Paul Freund made a motion that a Membership Subcommittee be formed to define membership categories and to make recommendations as to how to recruit new members to ACCR. The motion passed unanimously and J.R. Brenner, Cathy Hewitt, and Harold Hartger volunteered to work with Paul on the subcommittee. They will make a report back to the SC by the end of April.

The SC agreed to discuss what should be the function of the SC and what should be composition of the SC at next month's meeting.

Next Meeting

March 26, 2004 – 12:30-2:15

Life's Work, 1323 Forbes Avenue

**A special thanks to Jan Boyd for arranging our meeting space
at Life's Work!!!**