

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

June 25, 2004

Present: Sharon Alberts, Sarah Goldstein, Wes Sowers, Chris Weis, Dano Zack, Paul Freund, Rev. J. David Else, Nadine Penwell, Jeannette Lee, Jan Boyd, Judy Wood, and Mike Gruber.

The minutes to the May 28, 2004 meeting were approved.

New Business

1. Jeannette Lee was unanimously approved as Co-Chair of the Public Relations Subcommittee.
2. Jan Boyd provided an update on the Centers For Excellence program being conducted by AHCI. The process involves helping participating agencies conduct a self-assessment on their Recovery readiness, developing an action plan to rectify deficiencies, and evaluating the results of their efforts. AHCI is working with the County to get resources to providers to implement their action plans. AHCI believes the ACCR can play a role in helping to provide Recovery training to agencies.
3. Mike Gruber updated the SC about the year-end budget status. All the expenditures directed by the SC at last month's meeting have been made. The SC authorized increasing NAMI's administrative fee by \$1000 to \$2500 for the year as requested by NAMI and directed the purchase of \$1000 of shirts, the purchase of services from Runner's High for the September Walk/Run, and the purchase of \$250-\$300 in binders and pocket folders with money still remaining in the budget.
4. An ad hoc committee was established to review the budget and make recommendations to the SC regarding the reimbursement of consumers for their participation in ACCR committees and events, the fiduciary relationship with PSAN, and the budget allocation process to ACCR's subcommittees. Volunteers for the committee are Chris Weis, Dano Zack, Wes Sowers, Sarah Goldstein, Jeannette Lee, and Mike Gruber.
5. The SC voted to adopt the temporary domain name, CoalitionForRecovery.org, as the permanent domain name for its web site. The SC also authorized the purchase of 3-4 related domain names. The SC voted to establish a web site advisory subcommittee that would have one representative from each of the other subcommittees within ACCR.

6. Organizational Structure

- a. The SC voted to form an Advisory Board to ACCR that would meet two times per year to provide guidance and recommendations to the SC. Having an Advisory Board will provide greater visibility for the ACCR and engage more participants in ACCR. **Suggestions for Advisory Committee organizations can be phoned, emailed, or mailed to Mike Gruber (412-350-4271, mgruber@dhs.county.allegheny.pa.us).**
- b. SC membership will be expanded to 21 members and will be comprised in the following manner:
 - 8 subcommittee co-chairs
 - 3 OBH representatives – the Medical Director, one person from MH and one person from D&A
 - 1 representative from AHCI
 - 1 representative from CCBH
 - 8 at-large positions, 7 of whom must be consumers

Current SC members are encouraged to send their suggestions about the nomination and election process to the Steering Committee to Mike Gruber (see above) prior to the next meeting.

7. Announcements

- a. Jan Boyd announced the kick-off of the New Freedom Initiative in Harrisburg June 28 & 29. As part of the NFI, Allegheny County has been awarded a technical assistance grant to assist the County in further developing a Recovery oriented service delivery system. ACCR will be well-represented at the event by Mary Jo Dickson, Jan Boyd, John Cassase, Wes Sowers, Sarah Goldstein, and Harriet Baum.
- b. Wes Sowers announced the Child and Family exploratory meeting will be held 7/16 on the 4th Floor of Wood Street Commons at 9:00 a.m.
- c. The ACCR Fall Festival will be celebrated this year on September 11 at Schenley Park. A Walk/Run For Recovery will be the centerpiece of the event. The Public Awareness Committee is looking for sponsors for the event.
- d. Chris Weis noted that the multi-county event, Celebration of Recovery, will be held September 18 at Station Square. Attendance is limited to 50 people per county.
- e. Dave Else reported SAMHSA invited him to Washington D.C. to participate on an advisory committee.

Next Meeting

July 30, 2004 – 12:30-2:15

Life's Work, 1323 Forbes Avenue