

**Allegheny County Coalition for Recovery
Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes
5/27/05**

Present: Sarah Goldstein, Judy Wood, Melissa Medice, Robin Spencer, Mary Jo Dickson, Dave Else, Tammy Marsico, Darlene Cridlin, Wes Sowers, and Mike Gruber.

Welcome and Introductions

Co-Chair Sarah Goldstein called the meeting to order.

Review of Agenda

No modifications were made to the agenda for the meeting.

Announcements

1. There were no announcements.

Minutes

Minutes from the April 29, 2005 meeting were approved with a change to the title the title of the book published by OBH to Emerging Best Practices in Mental Health Recovery in Allegheny County.

Decision Items

1. Mission Statement – A draft Mission Statement was presented by the ad hoc committee as well as one written by Harold Hartger. Because a number of regular attendees were not present today, the SC voted to recommend the statement proposed by Harold with a small editing change. The statement drafted reads as follows: “The mission of ACCR is to increase awareness of behavioral health recovery and to promote the use of recovery principles and practices in behavioral health services in Allegheny County.” Mike will poll all SC members for their opinion. Harold also proposed an alternative to the existing ACCR Vision Statement. Again those in attendance recommended adopting this and Mike will poll the remaining SC members for their opinions. The suggested Vision Statement reads as follows: “Every Allegheny County resident with a mental health and/or substance use disorder is supported in his/her recovery journey by friends, families, communities and service providers who understand and practice recovery principles.” The SC, at Harold’s suggestion, also recommended that the bullet point items listed in proposed draft Mission Statement be adopted as goals by ACCR. This will be discussed further at the next meeting. Those goals are:
 - Providing information, education, and tools about recovery to persons receiving services, family members, and providers.
 - Promoting best practices for recovery oriented services.
 - Raising public awareness of recovery.
 - Sharing, collaborating, and communicating about recovery-related efforts.

- Promoting leadership development for persons receiving services and family members.
2. End of Year Spending Plan – Sarah reviewed the results of the email poll that asked members to rank spending priorities. The results are as follows in order of priority:
- Leadership development training for consumers
 - WRAP training for 1-2 people who in turn would train others in Allegheny County
 - Update the ACCR brochure after the mission statement is revised and the content of the brochure is reviewed
 - Reprint copies of the Toolkit after it is edited.
 - Purchase space on billboards for a Recovery awareness campaign
 - T-shirts

Mike updated the Committee about 2 meetings held this week to plan for consumer leadership development. Both groups recommended that the Consumer Empowerment Project (CEP) function as the coordinating organization in planning in conjunction with other organizations a Leadership Training Institute. CEP will prepare a proposal to be presented to the Education Committee in June. As part of that proposal, CEP will identify resources that can be purchased for the Institute with year end money.

There was discussion about purchasing WRAP manuals. Judy Wood shared a self-help book called Pathways to Recovery that obtained recently at a conference. Someone else mentioned that Mary Ellen Copeland has published a WRAP book for dual recovering individuals. The group decided more time was required to review these materials before making a large-scale purchase and decided to table this matter for this fiscal year.

The Steering Committee decided that given the limited time until the end of the fiscal year, it would prepay for Recovery Festival resources, purchase brochures with the new Mission and Vision Statement, and purchase brochures for the Consumer-Provider Collaborative.

3. Western Region CSP funding request – The Western Region CSP is holding a regional recovery conference for 250 consumers, providers and family members in Armstrong County on June 2. The planning committee has asked if ACCR would pay for copies of the Toolkit to be printed at a cost of \$1002.50. The SC rejected this request.

Discussion Items

1. *Subcommittee Reports.* Time did not permit any subcommittee reports.

Next Meeting:

June 24, 2005 – 12:30-2:15 Life's Work, 1323 Forbes Avenue