

Allegheny County Coalition for Recovery
Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes
4/28/06

Present: Sarah Goldstein, Sharon Alberts, Melissa Medice, Wes Sowers, Harold Hartger, Sherry Shaffer, Robin Spencer, Curtis Upsher, Mike Gruber.

Welcome and Introductions

Co-Chair Sharon Alberts called the meeting to order.

Announcements

1. Geoff Stillson has resigned as the Allegheny County Transformation Coordinator.
2. Flyers were passed around announcing the System of Care Summer Seminar Series—Supporting Youth in Transition and two films being shown as part of May is Mental Health Awareness Month—“No More Shame” and “Out of the Shadow”. Contact Mike for more information.

Minutes

Minutes from the 3/31/06 meeting were approved.

Decision Items

1. The Universality of Recovery statement recommended by the Education Committee was approved as an official ACCR position. The Committee also approved asking the Education Committee to develop a strategy for promoting its use to stimulate discussion about a unified concept of recovery.

Discussion Items

1. *End of Year Spending* – Mike gave a brief update on the budget. It was pointed out that last month’s minutes did not reflect the cost of prepaying a new ACCR brochure. It was suggested that a graphic artist be hired to redesign the layout of the brochure. Bobbi Donovan is writing new content for the brochure. Mike will investigate the cost of hiring a graphic artist and report back to the SC.
2. *By-laws* – Harold presented a draft of the ACCR by-laws. Mike will distribute the by-laws and request comments. That feedback will then go to a committee which will incorporate the comments into a draft to be presented to the Steering Committee. Sarah and Harold volunteered to serve on the committee. Mike will solicit other participants.
3. *Forum on Terminology* – Discussion of the by-laws raised the issue of terminology in referring to people and issues. For example, should ACCR documents refer to consumers, service users, clients, etc. It was suggested a forum be convened to discuss what terminology was used. There was general consensus about this but no action taken.

4. *Committee Report Format* – Sharon requested committee co-chairs follow the below procedures in preparing and giving their reports at SC meetings:
 - a. Reports should be in writing following a format (to be determined).
 - b. If neither of the committee’s co-chairs can attend the SC meeting, the co-chairs should designate someone from the committee to give the report. Doing so will ensure the SC receives the information it needs to perform its duties, and the pertinent needs, concerns, and successes of the committee will be addressed in a timely manner.SC Committee members were asked to forward to Mike suggested report formats.
5. *Committee Reports*
 - a. *Public Awareness* – PA is waiting for permission from the city for the location to hold the Undependence Day celebration. Planning continues to move ahead for the event. Craig Dorin taped a segment about the celebration which will be shown on the Pittsburgh Community Television show Community Matters .
 - b. *Child and Family* – C&F has been revising the Guidelines for Developing Recovery Oriented Behavioral Health Systems to make them more applicable to family and children service organizations. The Committee has added a section on prevention and is deciding in what section of the manual child and protective service belong.
 - c. *Quality* – Is working on a set of principles for service planning, which there is consensus on. The Committee will be elaborating on these and trying to develop some measurable indicators. The long-term goal is for consumers to own their recovery plan and for it to be portable from one agency to the next.
 - d. *Consumer/Provider Collaborative* – The C/P Collaborative participated in a trialogue at New Horizons on 4/20 that was sponsored by Staunton Clinic. Overall, the event went well, but there was some disappointment that only two professionals from Staunton showed up. Sarah Goldstein and Paul Freund presented at the local NAMI Conference about dialogues.
 - e. *Education* – The media event related to the release of the Building Better Tomorrows booklet is going to be folded into the Undependence Day celebration. The Committee is considering co-sponsoring training with NAMI called “In Our Own Voice”, an anti-stigma training, for approximately 15-20 participants. OMHSAS has decided that approximately \$5000 is available to Allegheny County to pursue technical assistance in developing the marketing plan it had requested assistance with from the inception of the NFI grant.
6. *ACCR Support Staff* – Jan Boyd has taken a 2 month leave of absence from her job at AHCI.

Time did not permit discussion of consumer/family recruitment plan.

Next Meeting:

May 26, 2006 – 12:30-2:15 Life’s Work, 1323 Forbes Avenue