

Consumer Advisory Committee Minutes August 3, 2010

Members Present: T. Ackley, Clites, Janego, Lucas, McKenzie, Miley, Miller, Ostrander, Reed,

Absent: Holden, White, R. Wilson

Staff/Board present: Grossman, Myers, Smith

Public: Rauth

CALL TO ORDER: Ackley chaired.
Address correction requested. Cell phone/texting reminder

Introductions: Not needed.

Public comment (Non-CAC members): None

Previous minutes: MOTION by Ostrander to approve the minutes as written. SUPPORTED by Miller. MOTION CARRIED.

Additions to the agenda: Report about the Consumer Conference at the Kellogg Center.

Lenawee:

Report from Board meeting: R. Wilson did not attend. Miley reported that business was as usual about policies, New Focus, and financial/economic concerns.

Executive Director Report:

- Everyone is encouraged to vote in the primaries today. A handout of potential questions/candidate details was provided.
- Medicaid funding is expected to be cut, or there may be tax increases.
- All committees throughout the Affiliation are reviewing the value of their individual committee or groups of committees. Is there a legal basis for the group to meet? What is the importance/value of the committee to the Affiliation or local CMH? What is the "charge" of the group? How frequent should the group meet? Review the operating guidelines for relevance.

As the CMH Director Myers request that CAC focus a meeting on this discussion. Staff can arrange to get examples of how other CAC's operate. At the next

CAC meeting we will arrange for a facilitator to help with this discussion.

Liaison: Grossman

- Grossman suggested that individuals not ignore any notice about their Medicaid coverage. Read all letters and do not ignore review dates. It is very easy now for computer generated termination of benefits. For example, people that are not reaching their spend downs for several months in a row are being dropped from the benefit. Obtaining Medicaid benefits seems to be getting more difficult as time goes on. Keep copies of all your paper work, and document when and to whom things have been turned in.
- Grossman and others are facilitating support groups at the Drop In Center.
- Grossman has some information about the operations of consumer run advisory committees.
- She plans to meet with Tim Kelly about current barriers to DHS services. Case numbers and releases are required.

CAC Subcommittees: (Groups CAC oversees.)

- **Legislative:** Has not met.
- **Mental Health Awareness:** The meeting was just prior to CAC and discussed the status of plans for Field Day and the Meet and Greet.

Affiliation:

- **Affiliation Consumer Advisory Committee:** Committee members from Lenawee will no longer travel to other locations for meetings. It seems only Lenawee and Livingston members are not traveling to other location for meetings. Attendance will be by either telephone conference call or video conferencing. Issues about the electronic connections to remotely attend meetings was discussed. Myers will be asked to talk to the other Affiliation members about their not traveling and about having the proper equipment set up so that everyone may participate in meetings. Everyone should be able to hear the discussions.

**Consumer input and concerns/miscellaneous updates/
INFORMATION SHARING** (CAC does not oversee nor have direct input into the operations of these organizations.)

- **Ostrander: Interconnections/Drop In Center:** a calendar of events was provided. Ostrander hired a part-time worker. The Center has a new cat. Updated flyers are needed in the lobby and Customer Service.
- **Vote today.**
- **Hope Center:** Camp Hope is underway.
- **Consumer Conference:** Miller attended and reported to the group about the workshops she found of value, and the keynote speech about Trauma Related issues.
- Miley was not able to provide the treadmill as promised to the Drop In Center, but has a printer available.

Board Reporting: (last Thursday of each month at 3:00 PM.)

Report from CAC to the Board:

- Request approval of CAC motions/recommendations.
- Direct CAC/MHAC/Legislative/ACAC activities. (not the Information Sharing portion of CAC meetings.)
- Personal comments are made when "Public comment" is requested.

Report back from the Board to CAC:

- Request approvals to recommendations
- Obtain directions or "charges"
- Main topics of interest/concern.

August: Ostrander

September 30:

MOTION by Miller to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 am. SUPPORT by Ostrander. MOTION CARRIED

Future agenda items:

- Review the Operating Guidelines regarding length of terms for Chair/Chair Elect.
- Review ACAC membership

NEXT MEETING: NO SEPTEMBER MEETING

**October 5, 2010 10:00 am LCMHA
ALLOW UP TO 2 HOURS FOR THIS MEETING**