

**DDS-South Region
Regional Advisory and Planning Council
Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2013**

Members Present: Jean Brookman, Carol Cooney, April Dipollina, Lauralyn Lewis, and Thomas Dailey, Regional Director, DDS South Region.

Members Absent: Diane Martin, Jeff Depina, Michael Del Sole, Lori Richardson, and Danielle Shepard.

Guests: Stephen Harney, Danielle Librandi, Page Librandi, and Kathy Peters.

Call to Order – Jean Brookman called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Introductions – All made introductions.

Citizen Comment – Jean Brookman shared that she has been working with the pupil personnel director in her school district. He wanted to know what happens (for students) after transition. Jean brought the Pupil personnel director together with the Vista organization. Together a 2 week pilot was developed. In this pilot Vista will assesses student's and make recommendations to the district. The district will get the benefits of Vista's expertise. Vista will have greater exposure for their programs. Council member commented on the positive outcome from this collaboration and the need as a council to help develop more opportunities like this.

Mr. Harney spoke about many development ideas and project that he knows of. He has been staying connected to the Creative Housing parent workgroups to learn more about housing for people with disabilities and to continue working on a housing development idea of his own that he would like to build in east Lyme.

Approval of Minutes - In the absence of a quorum, the minutes of the last meeting were not approved

Regional Director's Report

Distribution of dollars- Thomas Dailey went over power point slides that described the Fiscal Year Budget 2013, the line item rescissions, general strategies, and specific strategies.

Health Standard 13-01- This document gives guidelines for review of long term placements. The purpose is to establish a DDS departmental review process for individuals supported by DDS who are being considered for long term placement in a CT skilled nursing facility. DDS wants to ensure that steps are taken to support individuals so they can remain in the community.

PRC Pilot Proposal- Summary of the original PRC Pilot Proposal was handed out. There are not sufficient staff or provider resources at this time to implement the original proposal. Commissioner Macy is looking to find a different program.

PRAT Survey- The survey analysis was handed out. Consistency across regions was noted as a top priority. It was suggested that a private provider and a self-advocate be able to participate. The rules in the waivers system will probably not allow private providers to participate. However self-advocates will be invited.

South Region's After Hours on Call- Changes have been made to the On Call system. This brings the South Region call system in line with the North and West regions on call manager system.

Café to Go-Abuse and Neglect- The "Café to Go" focusing on Abuse and Neglect held in Groton was successful. This "Café to Go" will be repeated in Branford. The RAC members discussed what was considered abuse and neglect. Carol Cooney commented that "HIPPA" can become a barrier to finding out the result of an investigation.

Old Business

Creative Housing-The Creative Housing Forums will start again in September. The dates are as follows: September 10 at DDS in Norwich, September 17 at DDS in New Haven, September 24 at DDS in Norwich and October 1 at DDS in New Haven. Both will be followed with a "Café to Go".

Creative Housing Parent Workgroups- April and Lauralyn gave an update. The Groton workgroup is working to get its social media network running. At this point the program "Wiggio" has not allowed the group a better means of communicating. The group could not decide what type of event would be best for a "Legislative Event". Everyone has been asked to give their input on both of these issues. Lauralyn and April will continue to work on them. For the Month of July Clinton and Groton parent Workgroups will have a combine meeting at Camp Harkness on July 10th.

RAC Education and Outreach Committee- Jean Brookman reported on this committee under the Citizen Comment (see above).

New Business

2013-2014 Executive Board Elections- a slate of nominees has been drawn up. In the absence of a quorum, elections had to be tabled until the next meeting.

Membership-Some members' terms are up. This leaves open slots on the council. Steve Harney will seek an appointment. The council will have to find out how many other slots are open and seek to fill them.

2013-2014 Council Goals- We did not get to this item.

Next meeting: September 18, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

April Dipollina