

This meeting was not recorded. Seven members are needed for a quorum.

**9/16/2022**

**Mental Health Block Grant Planning Council Minutes**

**\*\*DRAFT\*\***

**Present Members:**  Marla Simpson (Chair)  Dan Towle (he/him)  Alice Maynard  C Rubin  Cinn Smith  Laurie Emerson (NAMI)  
 Michael McAdoo  Laurie Mulhern

**Vermont Care Partners/DAs/SSAs:**  Dillon Burns  Julie Tessler  Michael Hartman

**DMH:**  Eva Dayon (they/them)  Steve DeVoe (he/him)  Trish Singer (she/her)  Nicole DiStasio (they/she)  Anne Rich  Joanne Crawford  Brian Smith  Karen Barber

**State of Vermont:**  Heather Bouchey (AOE)  Danielle Bragg (DVHA)  Diane Dalmasse (DAIL)  Victoria Hudson (DCF)  Annie Ramniceanu (DOC)  Emily Trutor (she/her; VDH DSUP)

**Public:** None

**SAMSHA:** Asha Stanly, Kisha Ledlow

**Agenda**

- 1:00 SAMSHA Presentation on MHBG
- 1:30 Introductions and Member Updates
- 1:45 Review July 2022 Meeting Minutes
- 1:50 MHBG Updates
- 2:05 Meeting Follow-ups from July 2022 Meeting
- 2:45 Public Comment
- 2:50 Meeting Wrap-up and Closing Comments
- 3:00 Adjournment

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Agenda Item	Facilitator/Timekeeper: Steve DeVoe; Minutes: Joanne Crawford
<b>SAMSHA Presentation on MHBG</b>	Representatives from SAMSHA met with the Council and provided background information and statutory responsibilities of MHBG, as well as information on the block grant requirements, and restrictions. The PowerPoint will be shared with the group.
<b>Introductions and Member Updates</b>	Nicole DiStasio is now the Department of Mental Health Program Policy Director. The position of Interim Assistant Director of Quality has been posted. Eva Dayon has been acting that role. The department has now hired Puja Senning to fill the Quality Management Coordinator position. Steve is going to follow up with Julie Tessler on her participation in this group. A member of the Adult State Program Standing Committee might be interested in joining this group.
<b>Review July 2022 Meeting Minutes</b>	The group reviewed the July 2022 meeting minutes. Alice made a motion to accept the minutes with the suggested changes. Cinn seconded. Vote to approve the minutes was unanimous.
<b>MHBG Updates</b>	<p>There is the “big” application federal fiscal year 2022 and then the in between years there is the “mini” application, which is a minor update or revision to the bigger application plan. Steve will collate all the information that was submitted to SAMSHA for this mini application because we are allowed to revise it. Steve was not able to get it to the Council before the September 1 deadline, so members can review it now.</p> <p>We are going to be receiving an additional supplemental award through the Safer Communities Act. Not sure of the amount of the award, but Steve will keep everyone posted.</p> <p>The COVID Supplemental award was approximately \$1.4 million. SAMSHA notified DMH that they would be able to apply for a no cost extension. Steve will get the application to the Council to review, which was submitted on 9/8/22. The current period of performance for this award is until March 15, 2023, so this extension will give us until March 14, 2024, to expend the funds.</p> <p>Implementation report is due 12/1/2022. The Council would like to review this report.</p> <p>Council members can have access to the SAMHSA reporting platform, WebBGAS, but there is a lot of technical assistance needed to navigate it.</p>
<b>Meeting Follow-ups</b>	<p><u>MHBG Outcomes, Goals 8 - 10</u></p> <p>At the 12/21 meeting, the Council discussed outcomes reporting. Goals 8 and 9 was for the VT Psychiatric Survivors Organize, Goal 8 was their operating expenses and Goal 9 was their peer operated initiatives. Steve located their quarterly</p>

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<p><b>from July 2022 Meeting</b></p>	<p>reports. The Council requested the previous two years of their reports, which were quarterly reports between 10-30 pages. Steve asked the Council how they would like him to get the reports to them. To streamline the reporting, maybe the Council can ask for 10 questions from recipients, so that the information is more manageable for all and would be more easily comparable. Current reporting from subaward recipients varies greatly. Need to develop a better reporting system that provides outcomes, as well as performance measures. Steve working with Maven Group to develop standard reporting templates. Steve would like to have the DMH program point person who oversees the subaward to come to the Council to answer questions annually to report on the respective initiative. Members suggested setting up a Share Point site to allow the public to review grants and outcomes.</p> <p><u>2016 SAMSHA audit results of Vermont MHBG</u></p> <p>This draft report is what Steve could find from this site visit in 2016. We may never receive a final report. Ask Kesha Ludlow is there was ever a final report. SAMHSA is pushing to have integrated planning councils between substance use and mental health, but Vermont has historically resisted. We are overdue for a site visit, but due to COVID there is a backlog of required site visits for SAMSHA.</p> <p><u>Identify next MHBG PC Chair and Vice Chair</u></p> <p>Marla will be stepping down in December so the Council will need a new Chair.</p> <p><u>Create, finalize, and publish MHBG Planning Council Member list</u></p> <p>The MHBG Planning Council Member list should include affiliations for the individual on the Council. SAMSHA also requires representatives from certain categories, and a certain percentage of people with lived experience or family members of those with lived experience. Steve will share the required categories with the Council.</p> <p><u>Review MHBG Budget Tracker</u></p> <p>Steve would like to share the MHBG budget information with the Council in a digestible format. What format would the Council like him to use? Spreadsheets are fine.</p>
<p><b>Public Comment</b></p>	<p>None.</p>
<p><b>Meeting Wrap-up/Closing</b></p>	<p><u><a href="http://Lavender-Life.com">Lavender Life Company, Organic Lavender Products - Lavender-Life.com</a></u></p> <p>Through a collaboration with Lavender Life and Rutland County Foster Adopt and Kin Association, we have an opportunity to gift children meeting those definition foster, adopt and kinship one of these wonderful critters, throughout Vermont We have cats gray, black, and marmalade. If you are interested in having one of these creatures for your kiddo, Please contact our President, Sue Traverse, at 802-770-2420 or <u><a href="mailto:sue.traverse@yahoo.com">sue.traverse@yahoo.com</a></u> or Cinn Smith 802-353-6817 phone or text</p> <p>We hope that through this interaction with the local association you will see the value of collaborating with us. We meet virtually the last Monday of the month. The link is on our Facebook page Rutland County Foster Parents. When you speak</p>

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	<p>with Sue ask her to invite you to the Facebook group and you will have access to our meeting. We are trying to collect some data and will ask permission to share your info with your local association.</p> <p>Carefully designed for everyone to enjoy. Simply warm the removable heating pack in the microwave for a few seconds, giving a minimum of 20 minutes of warmth and therapeutic support.</p> <p>The glow in the dark heart recharges after a few minutes in the sunlight. Place the critter in direct sunlight and grab before bed to see the heart glow. Hand wash to keep your critter germ-free and fluffy</p>
<b>Adjournment</b>	<p>Cinn made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Alice seconded the motion. The vote to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 3:06.</p>