

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

3/17/2023

Mental Health Block Grant Planning Council Minutes

****FINAL****

Present Members: Marla Simpson (Chair) Dan Towle (he/him) Cinn Smith Laurie Emerson (NAMI)
 Laurie Mulhern Daniel Blankenship (VHSA)

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 Karen Barber Laura Flint Carolyn McBain Cheryle Wilcox Tom Coleman (DMH Contractor)

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

Public: David Silverberg Alison Segar (Vermont Language Justice Project)

Agenda

- 1:00 Introductions and Member Updates
- 1:10 Review February 2023 Meeting Minutes
- 1:15 MHBG Updates
- 1:55 Break
- 2:00 MHBG Planning Council 1-1 Meetings Update
- 2:10 Vermont Language Justice Update
- 2:40 Public Comment
- 2:45 Meeting Wrap-up and Closing Comments
- 2:50 Adjournment

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Agenda Item	Facilitator/Timekeeper: Steve DeVoe; Minutes: Joanne Crawford
DMH Staffing Updates	None.
Recruitment	None.
Review February 2023 Meeting Minutes	Daniel Blankenship made a motion to approve. Victoria Hudson seconded the motion. No discussion. Vote to approve was unanimous.
SAMSHA MHBG Technical Assistance Project	<p>SAMSHA released information around providing technical assistance (TA) for block grants. This will help states and territories to focus on a particular area of improvement around block grant management, oversight, or planning councils. Because of staffing issues, previously SAMSHA had chosen to no longer issue Technical Assistance directly, and so gave funds to the states to facilitate it themselves. This TA is available again. Regarding peer related work around Technical Assistance, SAMSHA will pull together subject matter experts from around the country as a resource. They will also do needs assessments. They will give you full reports and data. They will also assist with implementation of innovative and evidence-based models. They will provide on-site and off-site assistance. Send recommendations to Steve on how best to use this assistance.</p>
SAMSHA State Planners and Planning Council Members TA Listening Sessions	<p>SAMSHA is providing State Planner and planning council Technical Assistance listening sessions. Steve is the State Planner and he can delegate someone from this group to attend those sessions. This is an opportunity to provide feedback directly to SAMSHA. The sessions will be on April 18 and April 19. Steve can provide more information on this event.</p> <p>I. Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at 4:00 PM EST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/dFimC73Bm5cpAr4i0YGNe <p>II. Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at 6:00 PM EST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/ZaAzC9rEo5i3kJLuGW9uE
MHBG “Special Projects Fund” Notice of Funding Opportunity	<p>The special projects funds is a way for organizations who have innovative ideas on how to support individuals with severe mental illness or children with severe emotional disturbance. The council last months said yes to moving forward with these projects.</p> <p>Lee Dorf and Steve developed a “Notice Of Funding Opportunity” (NOFO) form. Steve shared the form with the group for review. Broad outreach is important in order to be sure to include a wide range of organizations.</p> <p>What is the criteria for the organizations that may want to apply? We need to think strategically on how to get the money out the door. Be careful about awarding to agencies/organizations that are already spread too thin</p>

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	and potentially could not complete the work. Timeline for posting NOFO is the next few months with work to start in Fall 2023. This the first time of working on this so need to work out any wrinkles.
Break	
MHBG Planning Council 1-1 Meetings Update	Update from Tom Coleman from Maeven Group on general themes that he has collected from the one-on-one interviews he has had with members of the group. He still needs to meet with four more members. Everyone has been very candid. Once the meetings are done, he will produce a list of ideas that came up. There will need to be a refresher or rebase outlining on the planning council; what it is, the statutory roots and what other states have done. This will make sure everyone is on the same page. Look at different roles that the council can take. Do some skill and interest mapping. Who can we leverage for what kind of topics. Will be doing some preliminary outreach to other planning council to see what they have been working on. Will focus on similar size states.
Vermont Language Justice Project Update	<p>https://www.vtlanguagejustice.org/ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e3XkzHyHagg&list=PL0uaGz81U--4qm3iFDMfvZJbQEXOulnzX&index=1</p> <p>Alison Segar started the VT Language Justice Project three years ago. The impetus for the project was the fact that COVID resources were only produced in English. Anyone who did not speak English was left without the information needed to stay safe and health. The first of the videos produced by the project were about COVID. They are now part of CCTV (community access television). So far, over a 100 videos have been put out. COVID test videos went out in 16 languages and American Sign Language. There are over 400 plus subscribers to their YouTube channel with 27,000 hits on the channel.</p> <p>Working on videos on suicide right now. One for adults and one for youth.</p> <p>Anyone that would like to reach out to Alison can contact her at asegar@cctv.org.</p>
Public Comment	<p>A member of the public asked the Council revisit First Episode Psychosis initiatives. David S. brought his story to the Vermont Department of Mental Health and Steve invited him to this meeting.</p> <p>Is there a way to find out how much the state spends on early childhood mental health? Yes, it can be found in the Department of Mental Health’s budget line items.</p> <p>http://www.vermontbusinessregistry.com/BidPreview.aspx?BidID=57567 http://www.vermontbusinessregistry.com/bidAttachments/57567/RFP%20EEP%20Initiative%202-15-23.pdf</p> <p>The designated agencies were unable to diagnosis this individual’s family member’s psychosis.</p>
Meeting Wrap-up and Closing Comments	What is this council doing to advocate besides sitting in meetings and approving budgets? The group should start thinking about this. It was requested that this be put on the next month’s agenda.

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Adjourn	Laurie Mulhern made a motion to adjourn. Anne Rich seconded the motion. The vote to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 258p.
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