

Continuum General Assembly Minutes

Date and Time

Thursday, August 15th, 2013 12:00PM-1:00PM

Location

Federal Building, 3rd Floor, HUD Conference Room, 275 Chestnut Street, Manchester, NH

Attendees

Beth Alves	Emily MacDonald	Natalie Martin	Mark Crandall
Cathy Kuhn	Jean Melvin	Regent Champigny	Katy Hiza
Cate Sementa	Keith Howard	Roger Beauchamp	Catherine Teague
David Carroll	Kevin Kinter	Susan Howland	Lynn Morrow
Elise Annunziata	Kyle Beaulieu	Shasta Winn	
Erik Wirkkala	Mary Sliney	Christana Wolski	
Erin Kelly	Mark Stokes	Ruthanne Oczykowski	

June Minutes Approved

Speakers from Substance Use Treatment Programs

- 1. Emily MacDonald – Families in Transition Family Willows Intensive Outpatient Program**
161 South Beech St. 603-935-7900 ext. 1711 Drop in hrs: 9am-12pm Mon-Thurs fwintake@fitnh.org
 - They are trying to get word out about the program – 211 knows and can refer callers.
 - This IOP is female only.
 - They offer a sliding scale based on income, child care and transportation assistance also available.
 - Group and individual counseling available, initial screening determines level/type of care needed.
 - They treat co-occurring conditions, not just substance use.
 - Relapse is treated as a learning opportunity, not a failure. This program works with people wherever they are.
- 2. Reggie Champigny – Serenity Place – Tirrell House IOP**
15 Brook St. 603-836-5450 rchanpigny@serenityplace.org
 - Male only program for men 18 and older. They have 14 beds and men may either be referred or mandated.
 - This program may help clients get drivers licenses back as well.
 - They use the Matrix Model, an evidence based program.
 - Phase 1 – Initial Assessment, orientation.
 - Phase 2 – 9 Group sessions, 12 men at a time. 1 per week at 6:00pm and one 1 on 1 session per week.
 - 1 random drug screening per week
 - Phase 3 – Aftercare – individuals counseling sessions. Opportunities for further 1 on 1 counseling as well.
 - Serenity Place also has Lynn House for women. Similar to Tirrell House with 12 beds.
 - IOP may be appropriate for individuals who may not use every day but still struggle with a substance.

3. Shasta Winn – Child and Family Services Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment

454 Chestnut St. 1-800-640-6486, ext. 4229 or 603-518-4229 winns@cfsnh.org

- This is an IOP for youth 12-24 years old.
- After an initial assessment to determine an individual's needs, the group meets 3 hours a day, 3 days per week for 6 weeks.
 - 4:00pm-7:00pm, including dinner.
- The Step Down process is another 6 weeks, with meetings 2 days a week from 4:00pm-6:00pm.
- The opportunity exists for further 1 on 1 sessions.
- Many youth are court mandated to participate, many are unmotivated.
 - Incentives for good behavior.
- Marijuana is the main substance in question; this is difficult because of the controversy surrounding the drug.
 - The individuals in the group must recognize the harm marijuana has caused them.
- The youth are not treated as addicts, the effort is trying to prevent future problematic behavior and use.

SNAP Outreach from NH Food Bank

Katy Hiza – SNAP Outreach Coordinator for the NH Food Bank

603-669-9725 ext 124 snap@nhfoodbank.org

- 10%-11% of NH residents are food insecure. This is relatively good, compared to ME and VT, for example, but of those 10-11%, many are not accessing the assistance available.
- Outreach is working to provide assistance to everyone eligible, especially seniors.
 - Application assistance is available at the Food Bank.
 - If going to DHHS, applicants are encouraged to go early, 8:00am.
 - Phone interviews are encouraged.
- Levels of assistance run from \$16-\$200 per month. There are cutoffs for able bodied adults after 3 months.
- There may be an increase in assistance levels for the month of October, but they also anticipate a \$10 drop in SNAP benefits for all recipients beginning in November. This will cause confusion and frustration.
- Farmers markets match EBT dollars up to \$10.
- Other programs include cooking classes and culinary training sessions.

New CPD Representative From HUD

Lynn Morrow – CPD Representative

603-666-7510 ext. 3027 lynn.morrow@hud.gov

- Elise commented on unexpected decrease in ESG (Emergency Solutions Grant) funds for city of Manchester, and asked about whether other HUD programs would fill this gap.



- Lynn said that she also was surprised about the decrease in ESG funds, and the field offices did not know about this cut in advance. She elaborated that all HUD programs come out of the same pot of money and that after former Shelter plus Care/SHP (Supportive Housing Program) awards were made that adjustments had to be made to ESG and other HUD programs in some communities.

No Committee Updates

Minutes Prepared By

Erik Wirkkala, VISTA
MCoC Coordinator