

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

RICH FITZGERALD
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**Drug & Alcohol Planning Council
Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

**Human Services Building, Homestead Grays Conference Room,
One Smithfield St., Pgh., PA 15222**

Present D&A Planning Council: Theresa Edwards (Chair), Debra Romanelli

Absent D&A Planning Council: Abbie Scanio, Valerie Ketter, Keith Kaufold, Mario Browne,
Dr. Andrew Leuenberger

Present Staff: Denise Macerelli, OBH Deputy Director; Dr. Latika Davis-Jones, Bureau of D&A
Services Administrator; Michelle Lee, Bureau of D&A Services Clerk Typist 2

Absent Staff: Sue Martone, OBH Assistant Deputy Director; Bill Bedillion, OBH Manager of
Special Projects

I. Call to Order & Introductions

D&A Planning Council Chair Theresa Edwards called the meeting to order at 4:41 p.m.

II. Council Business:

May 2016 Meeting Minutes

The D&A Planning Council did not have a quorum, so it was decided that Bill Bedillion would send out the May 2016 meeting minutes for members to approve via e-mail. On July 18th, at 1:56 p.m., Bill Bedillion sent out the May 2016 minutes for approval. On July 18th at 2:09 p.m., Mario Browne made a motion to approve the minutes via e-mail. On July 18th at 2:23 p.m., Keith Kaufold seconded this motion. The May 2016 meeting minutes were approved.

III. D&A Updates-Dr. Latika Davis-Jones

Opioid Use Disorders Centers of Excellence (OUDCOE)

Dr. Davis-Jones recently heard from the state that the initial amount of about \$35 million that had been slated for the OUDCOE would be decreased. No exact numbers were given as of the time of this meeting. At the time of this meeting, there was no clear decision about how many Centers of Excellence there would be, including how many facilities would be selected from Allegheny County, due to the decreased funding. Dr. Davis-Jones and Denise Macerelli could only say if Allegheny County or CCBH had contracted with or had a history with Allegheny County OUDCOE applicants since they had not received the applicants' completed applications. As of this meeting, no selections had been announced.

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University of Pittsburgh's Institute of Politics

Many DHS leaders have been invited to attend the University of Pittsburgh's Institute of Politics' September opioid epidemic meeting in Nemaquin. The University of Pittsburgh plans to work with Carnegie Mellon University to apply for the MacArthur Foundation grants in order to fund a five-prong approach to the opioid epidemic, which includes working with medical schools to educate doctors, working with the public at large, predictive analytics, and brain imaging research. More information on the MacArthur Foundation grant may be available on September 23rd.

U.S. Attorney's Working Group on Opioid Addiction and Overdose

Dr. Davis-Jones said that the U.S. Attorney's Working Group on Opioid Addiction and Overdose has been meeting regularly. Dr. Davis-Jones is a part of the Implementation Planning Team, comprised of people from Allegheny, Westmoreland, and Washington Counties, which meets every Monday at 8 a.m. to come up with a plan to deliver U.S. Attorney Hickton's 2014 and 2015 strategies. The Implementation Planning Team meets with the University of Pittsburgh's Institute of Politics to discuss their work and to identify short-term, mid-term, and long-term goals. They will present their plan to other Western District SCA's at the PACDAA administrators meeting the week of July 18th.

Dr. Janice Pringle and her PERU (Program Evaluation and Research Unit at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Pharmacy) team created assessments to analyze the intervention, prevention, and treatment services SCA's were providing, and their responses to the opioid epidemic. The Implementation Planning Team got all 25 SCA's in their region to complete these assessments, and they will be presenting their final report based on these assessments at the upcoming PACDAA administrators meeting. U.S. Attorney Hickton will be attending the upcoming PACDAA meeting to get buy-in from the rest of the SCA's to carry out the U.S. Attorney's Working Group on Opioid Addiction and Overdose's plan.

Allegheny County's Overdose Report

Dr. Davis-Jones said that DHS and the Allegheny County Health Department have been working on a joint report regarding Allegheny County's current opioid epidemic. Denise Macerelli said this report is based on 2008-2014 data and includes coroner data. Dr. Davis-Jones said D&A Planning Council members would receive a copy of this report after it was released, which will hopefully be at the end of this month.

MAT (Medication-assisted Treatment) Pilot Project

Dr. Davis-Jones said that OBH/D&A received notice from the state that they would not be receiving the grant funding they had been awarded for the ongoing MAT pilot project at Allegheny County Jail (ACJ) since this funding had not been included in the state budget. This program is designed to make sure that inmates who need MAT services have access to these services upon their release. Marc Cherna decided to make this project a priority and continue it. Because of Medicaid expansion, most pilot participants are covered through Medical Assistance (MA). Marc Cherna asked OBH/D&A to keep track of the number of uninsured participants the county would be paying for.

Allegheny County's Recovery Walk

Allegheny County will have a recovery walk on September 10, 2016. For further information please see the following website link: <http://pghrecoverywalk.org/about/>.

Pittsburgh Today

Dr. Davis-Jones said that more information would be forthcoming about a possible opportunity for OBH/D&A to work with *Pittsburgh Today* on a piece about the opioid epidemic.

Hiring New Staff

Dr. Davis-Jones is currently looking to hire a quality assurance coordinator, an assistant D&A administrator, an additional program monitor, and an administrative assistant since hers will be retiring.

IV. OBH Updates-Denise Macerelli

Denise Macerelli said DHS/OBH was actively recruiting to fill vacant positions, including for her administrative assistant, who recently retired. Mary Jo Dickson, Bureau of Adult MH Services Administrator, will be retiring at the end of August. Denise Macerelli is working with Mary Jo Dickson, Dr. Latika Davis-Jones, and Ruth Ann Koss, Senior Child/Adolescent MH Services Supervisor, to work on figuring out how to make DHS/OBH more integrated.

CCBHC-Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics

Pennsylvania is in the process of applying for the CCBHC federal grant to become a pilot CCBHC state and has already gotten through the first round of applicants. Pennsylvania has until October 1st to submit a draft of how it plans to be a CCBHC pilot state. Pittsburgh Mercy was selected as a CCBHC site for Allegheny County. The CCBHC concept will force Pennsylvania to address its current regulations, which impede the provision of co-occurring treatment services. Denise Macerelli heard the week of July 4th that there may be some behind-the-scenes discussions happening regarding these regulatory impediments. The week of July 4th, Pennsylvania said that although some CCBHC sites had dropped out, they still have enough CCBHC sites to move forward with the CCBHC grant application.

State Budget

Denise Macerelli said there is currently a very flat state budget. As of July 12th, the governor had not yet signed the budget since he said he would not sign it if there was no revenue attached to it. He did not want to veto the budget and risk shutting down schools. The unsigned budget will likely go through. Medicaid expansion has allowed more of the county allocations to be used to fund the uninsured/underinsured, to pay for services not covered by MA, and to pay for the ACJ MAT pilot and other programs.

Stepping Up Grant

Denise Macerelli said Allegheny County was one out of 50 counties in the country who was given the Stepping Up grant. She went with Rich Fitzgerald, Allegheny County

County Executive; Warden Orlando Harper, Janice Dean, Director of Pretrial Services; and Pat Valentine, DHS Executive Deputy Director for Integrated Program Services, to Washington D.C. on a trip for the Stepping Up grant. During this trip, there were discussions about how to keep people with mental illness and/or co-occurring addictive disease, who commit non-violent crimes associated with these illnesses, from going to jail. Two strategies proposed to the county executive were to make greater use of Pittsburgh Mercy's CRC (Central Recovery Center) at Southside and to discuss how to maximize the use of Re:solve. There is an upcoming meeting with Re:solve, Pittsburgh Mercy, police, and other law enforcement to discuss topics, like how to get those who need treatment into treatment, rather than jail. Rich Fitzgerald supports the Stepping Up grant work. When he asked what our county needs to work on, Denise Macerelli replied that housing is the top priority.

V. Discussion About D&A Licensing

Dr. Davis-Jones said she would bring up Theresa Edwards' question about if the state would be looking to support licensing individuals in D&A to DDAP Secretary Gary Tennis at the PACDAA meeting during the week of July 18th.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

VII. Next Public Meeting

The next public meeting will be a joint meeting with the MH/ID Advisory Board on Wednesday, September 14, 2016, from 4:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m. It will be held at DHS in the Homestead Grays Room, Lower Level.