

HPR I REACH Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
July 23, 2015
Region Ten CSB

Gail Paysour called the meeting to order. There were 14 attendees including: Gail Paysour (HPR I), Robert Hurt (Arc of VA), Tina Martina (Valley CSB), Martha Gunter (Horizon BH), Jen Acors (RACSB), Lana Hurt (Wall Res., Arc of VA), Judy Sorrell (CA), Martha Maltais (Region Ten), Lynn Shoen (Region Ten), Heather Norton (DBHDS), Beverly Rollins (DBHDS), Erin Haw (dLCV), Robert Tucker (VCSB).

James Vann gave the Director's Report. He acknowledged that the program has seen its first major staff turnover, as two coordinators have pursued other employment, citing only that the position was not a good fit for them, schedule-wise. He noted that there is also an opening for a clinical director, for which he has three applications. Ms. Paysour noted that turnover may be due to the 24/7 on-call nature of the job, and both she and Mr. Vann asked the group for any suggestions as to how to make the position more attractive. The group asked for clarification as to how the shifts are structured. Robert Tucker suggested salary increase, if possible, and Robert Hurt added that employees could perhaps have one of their two weekly days off on the day after a 24/7 shift.

Ms. Paysour then began the discussion concerning CETs. She informed the group that she attended the training given by Dr. Kaul, and wanted to know why more people are not attending. Ms. Lana Hurt stated that travel was possibly the most difficult part, and asked if there was a way to attend remotely via the Web. Ms. Heather Norton added that she could post training dates on the Department website for more exposure.

Mr. Vann then went over the April, May, and June data from the Quarterly report, which can be found in the handout. Ms. Paysour added that added referrals are making caseloads larger, and states that diagnoses are hard to obtain right away. Lynn Shoen offered that maybe additional funds could be used to hire another full-time person to help with the extra load, and Judy Sorrell said that full-time staff could be offered the opportunity to work more hours. Continuing the data report, Mr. Vann noted that CTH services began to improve this quarter, and that the numbers found in the handout are based on 3-person services. He also stated that there has been an increase for in-home services as well. Ms. Paysour informed the group that there would be more data available at the October meeting.

The next item on the agenda was the Project Manager's Report, led by Ms. Paysour. She asked the group to review the April minutes at their earliest convenience (minutes included in the handout) and report errors to her. The full project manager's report can be found in the handout. Ms. Paysour noted to the group that she, Dr. Kaul, and Mr. Vann worked with the UVA Social Work staff and states that they received good feedback from that team. She informed the group that REACH is looking into a more formal agreement with UVA. Paysour also added that the REACH team continues to look into working with Martha Jefferson for primary care to avoid emergency room visits for consumers. Paysour noted

that the billing services are going quite well, and that REACH will be nationally certified in START services by March.

The next item was the Regional Training Needs Proposal led by Ms. Paysour and Commonwealth Autism. She presented the first RBT training academy outcomes and informed the group that an additional \$40,000 has been awarded for the training. Ms. Judy Sorrell, representative from Commonwealth Autism, stated that CA is very excited to be working with the HPR I program. She described the new RBT credential, which is a 40-hour credential designed for direct care staff. She informed the group that the training has been well-received and praised Paysour for being so open with training. She and Paysour drew the groups' attention to the Commonwealth Autism handout (included in packet), which showed the training's evaluation results, which were rated highly in all categories. It was noted that so far, ten have completed/passed the assessments, 11 are pending, and 4 have been withdrawn/ineligible. Sorrell urged the group to be selective in who of their staff they would like to invest in, and was thinking that perhaps there could be "RBT Light" training for those staff for whom they would like to have the information but remain un-credentialed.

Ms. Barb Shue then gave the update on the Crisis Program for Children with ID/DD, discussing the regional plan and the need to form a separate advisory council for children, which will be much like the REACH advisory council, but will need to be separate due to the different players involved. Ms. Shue and Ms. Paysour informed the group that the three people have been interviewed for the Director's position and that offers would be going out soon.

The meeting was adjourned by Ms. Paysour at 11:45am, with a reminder that the next meeting will be held at Region Ten on October 22, 2015.