

HPR I REACH Advisory Council
October 22, 2015

There were 21 attendees at the HPR I REACH Advisory Council meeting, including Erin How (dLVC), Nancy Hopkins Garriss (Pleasant View & NNPP), Gail Paysour (HPR I), Jessica Lawrence (HPR I), Jill Hinton (REACH), Amanda Cunningham (HPR I), Krista Lynch (VCSB), Tina Martina (VCSB), Martha Maltais (R10), Lana Hurt (Arc/VA & WR), Gayl Brunk (VAIL), Martha Gunter (HBH), Michele Ebright (DBHDS), Jim Gillespie (RACSB), Judy Sorrell (Commonwealth Autism), James Vann (REACH), Christine Holland (Commonwealth Autism), Carla Scott (CVTC), John Malone (HRCBS), David Yereb (NWCSB), and Dennis Vaughn (HPR I).

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Ms. Paysour introduced Ms. Amanda Cunningham, the new director of the Children's Crisis Project, and informed the group that Ms. Cunningham began her position on September 1st. Ms. Cunningham said that she is excited about the new position, and she is looking forward to working with the group.
2. **Update on Regional Development of REACH Child IDD Crisis Services:** She informed the group that all CSBs in the region have either hired an IDD Navigator/MH Clinician or are in the process of interviewing and/or recruiting. She then went over the training schedule from Region 1, including the ES Crisis Responder training. Ms. Paysour noted that all CSBs in Region 1 are currently obtaining the required ID licenses in the following areas: Emergency/Crisis Intervention, REACH ID Supportive In-Home, ID Crisis Stabilization, and MH Outpatient Crisis Stabilization.
3. **RBT Training Academy #2 Updates, Commonwealth Autism:** Ms. Holland reported that most who participated have passed the trainings, noting that some were not completed and these have been rescheduled. Ms. Holland will be sending out follow-up surveys concerning BCBA. Ms. Sorrell inquired as to when the written portion will be completed, and was informed that this will take place in December. Ms. Paysour reported that a second round of trainings will begin in November for 5 providers including Horizon Behavioral Health, Valley CSB, Rockbridge CSB, Wall Residences and Pleasant View, Inc.
4. **Agency Updates and Announcements:** Ms. Paysour informed that Region Ten will be sponsoring conferences and workshops featuring Dr. Temple Grandin on July 30th, 2016 at the Doubletree Hotel in Charlottesville. She added that the venue has a capacity of 400-500 people. Ms. Sorrell informed Ms. Paysour to let her know if Commonwealth Autism could help to facilitate any
5. **Review of Annual Data and Assessing Needs and Challenges to Guide Future Direction:** Ms. Paysour presented the chart found on page two of the handout, which concerned system gap analyses, workforce development, and identification of risk factors, pointing out that more emphasis is given to tertiary, emergency intervention for individuals in crisis, while preventative measures such as improved access to services and treatment planning receives less attention and funding. The group discussed strategies to ensure that more attention is focused on primary and secondary interventions. Ms. Paysour then reported that it is time for the REACH program to re-evaluate and re-bid, which may give Easter Seals a chance to re-commit, or for a board such as Region Ten to take over, adding that this may help to alleviate the issues of staff

turnover, as connecting with a Board in a team atmosphere may provide support for coordinators. Ms. Paysour presented Michelle Ebright's REACH Data Summary report, found on pages 3-34 of the handout. The group then discussed the challenges of staff retention and crisis bed utilization. Also discussed were systemic gaps in the system of care. The council explored possible transitional housing options for individuals with no waiver, who are on long wait lists, or have no payer source. Ms. Paysour will follow up on an idea related to providers' willingness to establish transitional housing.

The meeting was adjourned at noon. The next HPR I REACH Advisory Council Meeting will be held on January 28, 2016.