

Region 3 DBHDD Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2023

Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 2:35 pm on Thursday, September 21, 2023, by Dave Ake, Chairperson, for the Region 3 Advisory Council. A quorum was present for today's meeting.		
Welcome/ Introductions	Mr. Ake, Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed Council Members and staff from the Region 3 Field Office. This virtual meeting was conducted using the DBHDD Cisco WebEx system.		
Attendees	<p>Council Members Present: Dave Ake, Chair; Shirley Davis, Vice-Chairperson; Monique McDowell, Secretary; Andrea Alabi; Debra Hoyte-Malette; Domonique Cooper; Evelyn Phillip; Dr. Laklieshia Izzard; Sharlene McClendon; Dr. Monica Hooker; Michelle Jordan-Vidal; Elizabeth Bolton-Harris; Cathy Murphy</p> <p>Excused Absence: Dianne Hiltman; Lina Christian</p> <p>Region 3 Staff: Gwen Craddieth, RSA Behavioral Health Services for Region 3; Ruth Coody, Assistant to the Region 3 Advisory Council; John T. McQueen; Camille Rowe; Terrence Franklin</p> <p>Speaker: Ruth Coody announced that there would not be a speaker today from the Georgia Mental Health Consumer Network (GMHCN) RESPECT Institute. The staff person at GMHCN who has been the person working with Ruth to obtain a speaker left the agency to take a new job. Ruth will contact Toyia Mather at the GMHNC to see about the availability of a speaker from the RESPECT Institute for the November 16th, 2023, meeting of the DBHDD Region 3 Advisory Council.</p>		
Approve Minutes	The Chair, Dave Ake, asked for a motion to approve the July 20 th , 2023, minutes. Prior to the meeting, Monique McDowell, Secretary, asked for two corrections which were made prior to the meeting. The corrections were to remove the wording about using the WebEx system due to the pandemic since the federal government made a change in the pandemic status and to insert the pound (#) sign by the number 3 in the RESPECT Institute speaker's comment. The minutes were approved unanimously during the meeting after a motion by Domonique Cooper and a second by Dr. Laklieshia Izzard.		
AGENDA	AGENDA ITEM(S)	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Old Business	Statewide Leadership Council	There was not very much to report from the July 28 th , 2023, meeting. The Statewide Leadership Council continues to work on the Statewide Top Priorities which are selected from the submissions of the Top 3 Priorities from the six regional advisory councils across the state. Jo Ellen Hancock from Region 1 continues to chair the Statewide Leadership Council and has been in communication with the DBHDD Commissioner, Kevin Tanner, and his staff about the Statewide Top Priorities to make sure they are aligned with the Priorities of DBHDD. It is possible that the	The next meeting of the Statewide Leadership Council will be Friday, September 29 th , 2023. The meeting will be a virtual meeting using the DBHDD Cisco WebEx.

		<p>Commissioner will be present at the September 29th, 2023, to participate in discussions with the Statewide Leadership Council. The three officers for the Region 3 Advisory Council and the two alternates all hoped to participate in the September 29th meeting.</p>	
<p>Old Business (continued)</p>	<p>Region 3 Priorities</p>	<p>Today's discussion regarding the 3 Top Priorities for the Region 3 Advisory Council focused on changing the leadership for the three priorities. During the Region 3 Advisory Council elections on July 20th, 2023, Dave Ake was elected Chairperson and Monique McDowell was elected Secretary of the Region 3 Advisory Council. Monique McDowell was the leader for the #1 Priority of Community Awareness and Dave Ake led the #2 Priority of Prevention and Early Intervention. Dianne Hiltman has been the leader for the #3 Priority of Certified Peer Specialists. Dianne was not present for the discussion due to a technical issue with the computer link for today's meeting. Both Dave Ake and Monique McDowell asked to be relieved of their duties as leaders of their respective priorities since they will be taking on other leadership duties as officers of the Region 3 Advisory Council. Two Council members, Andrea Alibi and Evelyn Phillip indicated interest in the Community Awareness Priority. Evelyn Phillip asked that more information be sent out to everyone so that members can be clearer about the 3 Top Priorities to assist members in deciding about which priorities they may be interested in leading. Ruth Coody will send out the 3 Top Priorities to everyone for review to determine if members will volunteer to lead one of the priorities. Ms. Coody will be sending the information to members asap. The Chairperson, Dave Ake, also asked about looking at the 3 Top Priorities and making changes. Monique McDowell said she has some suggestions and will share those with the Chairperson.</p>	<p>This topic will be on the agenda for the November 16th, 2023, meeting of the DBHDD Region 3 Advisory Council. Ruth Coody will send out the 3 Top Priorities for Council members to review to determine if any members are willing to volunteer to lead one of the priorities.</p>
<p>New Business</p>	<p>Fulton County Dept. of Mental Health Update</p>	<p>LaTrina Foster, Director for the Fulton County Department of Mental Health, did a presentation for the Region 3 Advisory Council members about several of the services provided by Fulton County. She explained that Fulton County opted out to be a Community Service Board under the State of Georgia's DBHDD. Fulton County operates three adult clinics located in North Fulton, Central Fulton and Southwest Fulton. She was very excited to talk about their latest news which is that Fulton County is</p>	<p>Ms. Foster will send her power-point presentation to Ruth Coody who will distribute it to all the Region 3 Advisory Council members.</p>

		<p>building a Behavioral Health Crisis Center. They recently had the groundbreaking ceremony. Fulton will be able to serve 68 individuals at one time. It will be a 24/7 facility using the Living Room model. February, 2024, is projected to be the opening for the new facility. The new facility was due to the Georgia DBHDD bed study to identify gaps in services. Fulton has a very diverse population and they are recruiting Hispanic speaking clinicians especially for the North Fulton service area. Fulton has 550 supportive housing units, they provide wraparound services, and a Re-Entry Team who works with the Fulton County jail.</p>	
New Business (cont.)	RSA Reports	<p>Gwen Craddieth, RSA for Behavioral Health, reported on a conference held at Jekyll Island with DBHDD and Law Enforcement. The Fourth Opioid Summit was held in DeKalb County. During a meeting with the DeKalb County Commissioners, Commissioner Ted Terry, was a good advocate for a Crisis Center to be located in DeKalb County. Clayton County wants to build a Crisis Center and DBHDD is looking at the Bed Study. The Grady Med/Psych Unit is still on track for opening. She talked about a presentation she heard from a DeKalb County/Clarkston, GA. provider called Positive Growth and she was very impressed. Monthly meetings with law enforcement officials continue to be held in Clayton County. The goal is finding individuals in jails who need to be linked to mental health services but they are not getting the referrals. Monique McDowell, a representative from Clayton County, wants to understand what the issues are with not getting referrals from law enforcement. She said she will contact Gwen for more information. Dr. Izzy from Newton County reported that their Stepping Up Initiative with local sheriffs is going well. DeKalb County will implement the Co-Responder service.</p> <p>Vivia Black, RSA for Developmental Disabilities, was not present and did not submit a report.</p>	
	County Updates	<p>The Chairperson, Dave Ake asked for County Updates. There were no updates for Clayton, DeKalb, Fulton or Rockdale counties. Michelle Jordan-Vidal spoke about the Gwinnett Coalition and their new effort called Stop for Help. It is for individuals who are on probation/parole and need assistance. Gwinnett County is working on getting the word out about this service. Dr. Izzy spoke about the Newton/Rockdale Suicide Coalition and the Stepping Up Initiative with local sheriffs in Newton.</p>	

Announcements/ Adjournment	<p>The Chairperson, Dave Ake, mentioned the SLACK channel is live. He encouraged the members of the Region 3 Advisory Council to join in and share.</p> <p>The Chairperson, Dave Ake, adjourned the meeting at 3:50 pm. The next meeting of the Region 3 Advisory Council will be Thursday, November 16th, 2023, at 2:30 pm.</p>	
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Minutes recorded and submitted by Ruth Coody, Advisory Council Assistant for Region 3

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