

State Mental Health Planning Council Employment Subcommittee

5/18/22

IN ATTENDANCE: Don Hughes (Co-Chair); Steve LaMaster (Co-Chair); Kim Anderson; Jo Davis; Amelia Dillon; Michael Stepansky; Kristin Rotes; Justin Brown

1. Introductions: Attendees introduced themselves. Kristin Rotes will be replaced by Cynthia Mellor representing Viability. In light of several absences from committee members, the presentation on race and clubhouse data will be postponed for the following meeting.
2. SRC/Subcommittee Update: Michael has connected with Naomi Goldberg, Chair of MRC's SRC Policy Subcommittee. The Policy Subcommittee recently completed a major project and is interested in discussing potential collaborative work, though may not have the expertise or bandwidth to plan a best-practices forum. Several areas of potential overlap were discussed:
  - Race, Mental Health, & Employability, particularly for ex-offenders. This topic may also focus on availability of supports/resources to underserved populations, including how state services are promoted/made available in underserved communities.
  - Coordinating other efforts around diversity
  - Raising Expectations for persons with mental health challenges receiving vocational services
  - Issues related to access to services, including: (1) A "No Wrong Door" model for employment, similar to the model for housing; (2) Re: above, improved access to underserved communities; (3) CIES services in schools; (4) How are service gaps covered?

An initial meeting with the Policy Subcommittee can broach these ideas, with a goal of enhancing service delivery for persons in both the Mental Health and Vocational Rehabilitation systems.

Michael will reconnect with Naomi and forward a date for representatives of both committees to meet.

3. Other:
  - Workgroups: This agenda item is tabled for the June meeting.
  - Viability is piloting use of virtual reality in delivering employment services. The subcommittee is interested in updates as the project progresses.
  - Subcommittee members have interest in learning more about PRE-ETS services.

~ Adjourn ~

