



The Portsmouth Department of Behavioral Healthcare Services (PDBHS) Advisory Board held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at 1811 King Street, at 4:30pm in Portsmouth, Virginia.

Members Present

Dr. Marie Shepherd, Chair
Pastor Milton Blount
Charlene Chavis
Denise Key, Vice Chair

Absent Members

Dorescia Paige, Secretary
Sean Prince

Council Liaison

The Honorable Paul J. Battle

PDBHS Staff Present

M. Elaine Breathwaite, Director

Called to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:04pm.

Review Minutes

The board reviewed the May 8, 2019 minutes. Pastor Blount motioned for the minutes to be approved with a second by Ms. Key. The board approved unanimously.

Updates

- Director's updates were presented by the Director, Ms. M. Elaine Breathwaite:
 - ✓ On Saturday, June 1, 2019, an email was sent to all 40 CSBs Executive Directors requesting that there will be a need for crisis counselors to assist Virginia Beach employees on Monday, June 3, 2019.
 - PDBHS submitted a list of twelve staff that volunteered to cover various shifts to assist Virginia Beach employees Monday through Friday.
 - The staff have provided grief counselling for Virginia Beach employees and the families of the staff that are deceased or injured at the Virginia Beach Convention and Family Assistance Centers.
 - The Family Assistance Center (FAC) was step up to provide resources for Virginia Beach employees and families. Some of the resources available were Red Cross, Salvation Army, Insurance Companies, EAP, Workman's Comp, VRS, etc.
 - PDBHS had staff at the FAC to escort the employees and families to the resources that were onsite, to be with the residents the entire time of the process for support.
 - ✓ Productivity is low for the Case Managers at the Hampton Roads Regional Jail (HRRJ) due to safety concerns. The Portsmouth Sheriff's Department has been very cautious about transferring individuals to the HRRJ.
 - ✓ The agency's workforce is down and we have been aggressively recruiting for full time.
 - Competing with higher salaries of other CSBs and MCOs in the region is impacting our efforts to recruit new staff.

- ✓ The agency recognizes the challenges and struggles with opioid misuse and mental health and will continue to have events such as the Youth Summit held on May 11, 2019 and Mental Health and Opioid Awareness Day held on May 16, 2019 that provided an opportunity for community and healthcare partners to empower, engage and educate our youth on overall wellness, making healthy choices and staying drug free. We will continue to strive to provide a platform to discuss mental health, HIV/AIDS and opioid awareness, substance use disorder and peer services.
- ✓ Ms. Breathwaite will be given presentations within the next few months on updates from the State. This presentation will cover:
 - Same Day Access (3 hour process that includes financial, medical and mental health assessments)
 - Daily Living Assessment (DLA) – 20
 - Primary Care Assessment – doctors and nurses available to check consumer’s vitals and to follow-up
 - Agency challenges outline clearly
 - Salaries competitiveness
 - Where the agency is in meeting the mandates from the State.

Old Business

- No old business discussed.

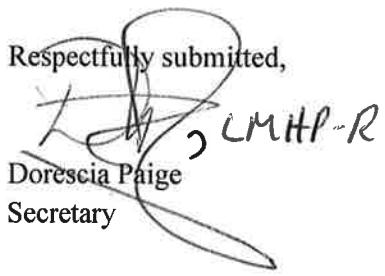
New Business

- No new business was discussed.

Next Meeting/Adjournment

The meeting ended at 5:54pm. Refreshments were made available before and following the meeting. Our next meeting is scheduled for August 7, 2019 at 4:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Dorëscia Paige
Secretary