

Minutes  
Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program  
Monitoring Program Committee  
May 20, 2016

- Call to Order: A meeting of the HPMP Monitoring Program Committee was called to order at 9:06 am at the Department of Health Professions office, Perimeter Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Center
- Presiding: Patricia Bernal, MS,R.N., Committee Chair
- Members Present: Trish Bernal, MS, R.N.  
Randy Ferrance, D.C., M.D.  
Chip Williams, M.D.  
Sean Sembrowich MSN, PMHNP-BC  
John Beckner, R.Ph.
- Others Present: Lisa Hahn, Chief Deputy Director, DHP  
Joel Silverman, M.D., VCU-HS  
Lillian Tidler, M.D., Medical Director, VAHPMP  
Janet Knisely, Ph.D., VAHPMP  
Peggy Wood, Program Manager, DHP
- Review of Additional Material: The Committee members reviewed copies additional material distributed. This material consisted of two dismissals and two noncompliance reports. Copies of the reports regarding urgent dismissals since the last MPC were also provided to the Committee.
- Disposition of Minutes: The March 18 2016 minutes were approved with corrections. Motion by Beckner seconded by Ferrance. The motion passed unanimously.
- Report from DHP: Ms. Hahn began her comments by thanking the committee for their hard work and dedication to the program. She reported on an upcoming 1.5 day training event for agency employees. Included in the training will be customer

service training, detecting fraudulent applications, appropriate workplace interactions in and outside of the workplace. Additionally the employee service awards will be presented.

Jay Douglas, Executive Director of the Board of Nursing has completed a response to the HPMP Audit conducted by CCA. She has presented this report to Director Brown.

The agency has recently been experiencing problems with the phone system in particular with incoming calls from the general public. Ms. Hahn reported that over 1,000 calls are received daily at the agency. This is an increase in volume partly because of questions regarding the newly initiated background search requirements for nursing licensees. The issues are being analyzed for a prompt solution.

On June 13<sup>th</sup> there will be a meeting to review the HPMP website changes underway. Materials being developed will also be presented by the DHP communications staff.

New Business:

The Committee certified: a resignation and vacated stay for 4963, vacated stays for 4420, 4827 (and dismissal), 4968, 5049, and 5096. The certifications were approved by a motion from Beckner, seconded by Ferrance and carried unanimously.

The committee was asked by Wood to develop a mission statement for HPMP which will be used in materials under development and on the website. The group agreed on the following mission statement:

**“The mission of the Health Practitioners’ Monitoring Program is to assist participants in the recovery process by providing comprehensive, and effective monitoring services toward the goal of each participants return to safe, productive practice.”**

Report from VCU:

The new interim Medical Director, Lillian Tidler, M.D., was introduced to the committee members and staff.

Janet Knisely, Ph.D. provided a copy of the guidelines currently in use for consideration of readmission into

HPMP for those who have been dismissed or resigned. The committee had no recommendations for changes to the guidelines. Ms. Hahn will take the guidelines to Dr. Brown and Jay Douglas for their input before the next meeting.

Dr. Silverman and Dr. Knisely reported on meeting with the Department Development Officer who will be identifying people who might want to donate money for assistance to participants in need. Dr. Silverman stated that statistics support the fact that physicians and those with resources for treatment have much higher return to practice percentages as many as 80-90%. Nurses in the program with more limited resources for screening and treatment may end up leaving healthcare for equivalent jobs in for example retail. Dr. Silverman stated the strategy is twofold:

1. Raise money in the community for scholarships for eligible participants
2. Online learning/therapy modules to augment current treatment levels. The efficacy of this is being reviewed in the published literature now.

Ms. Bernal and Dr. Knisely met with the development officer as well. Items discussed were a letter to go to all graduate requesting help for others in need of the HPMP. For this type of fund raising it is always helpful to have specifics on what services can be provided by a particular level of monetary donations. i.e., \$ = x number of screens, etc. Potential donors include professional associations, hospital corporations, insurance companies and pharmaceutical manufacturers.

In preparation for this effort all associations registered in VA with membership affiliated with DHP were contacted. A total of 69 were contacted. 55 responses were received and 31 requested more information about HPMP. Seventeen hospital systems were contacted including their EAP programs and risk management departments. Once the messaging materials are finalized emphasis will be on getting them out to potential interested parties. Suggestions from the committee included posting in locker rooms and break rooms in hospitals.

Dr. Knisely reported that negotiations are underway with a potential provider of electronic recordkeeping and screening services for the program. Two vendors have

been reviewed the current TPA, Affinity and Recovery Trek. Recovery Trek appears to offer a superior product and services including a relapse module. Dr. Knisely has spoken with other programs currently using Recovery Trek and has gotten very favorable reviews. Pricing for screens has been negotiated to represent significant savings. It appears that a decision will be made before the next MPC meeting.

The 2015 Program Performance Report was distributed to those present and sent electronically to all committee members. A few corrections to names and professional designations were suggested. The revised report will be distributed and available for viewing on the HPMP webpage by June 1, 2016.

Closed Session:

The Committee voted to enter into closed session at 10:55a.m. The motion was made by Williams and seconded by Beckner.

Open Session:

The committee meeting resumed in open session at 11:51a.m. Dr. Williams moved that the Committee certify that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion for closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered during the closed meeting just concluded. Beckner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Williams further moved that case 5131 be reported to the respective licensing board. He also moved that the corrections be made to reports 5138 and 4964. The motion was seconded Sembrowich and carried unanimously.

Dr. Ferrance moved to dismiss the following participants: 4725, 4827, 5069, 5104, 5131, 5159, 5170, 5173, and 5189. Participant 5179 was dismissed as ineligible. Dr. Ferrance moved to successfully complete cases: 4132, 4136, 4204, 4215, 4224, 4231, 4234, 4236, 4243, 4245, 4250, 4251, 4257, 4259, 4264, 4275, 4433, 4484, 4638, 4666, 4718, 4887, and 4964 Motion was seconded by Beckner and passed unanimously.

Adjournment: Lunch was served and the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2016

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Peggy Wood  
Recorder

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_