

# MARYLAND STATE DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE COUNCIL

## MINUTES

### July 27, 2006 Meeting

**In Attendance:** Alan Friedman (Acting Chair), Terry Brown (appointee), Dawn James (appointee), Arlene Lee (appointee), George Lipman (Judge, District Court), Peter Luongo (Director, ADAA), Christopher McCully (DBM), Pat McGee (P & P), Kevin McGuire (DHR), Pat Miedusiewski (MHA/DHMH), Robert Nalley (Judge, Circuit Court), Richard Rosenblatt (Assistant Secretary for Treatment, DPSCS), Alan Woods (Executive Director, GOCCP), Suzan Swanton (Executive Director)

#### I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order 2:00 p.m.

#### II. Announcements

- a. Alan Friedman, serving as acting chairperson, introduced Suzan Swanton as the new executive director of the council.
- b. *Blueprint for the States: Policies to Improve the Ways States Organize and Deliver Alcohol and Drug Prevention Treatment*, a publication of Join Together (Boston University, School of Public Health) was discussed. Copies of the publication were mailed to council members prior to the meeting and were available to the public in attendance at the council meeting. It was noted that of the six recommendations made by the panel of experts, Maryland is already implementing at least five of them. Members of the council members, as well as the public in attendance, were urged to read the *Blueprint* and bring recommendations for future tasks and ways to inform the council's work.
- c. It was announced that September is National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month and that ADAA will be holding a kick-off festival on September 8, 2006 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the lawn in front of ADAA. State and Local Council members, Treatment, prevention and recovery resource providers, legislators, and other State officials have been invited. The Governor will be in attendance in order to proclaim September as "National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month in Maryland". More information can be found at [www.maryland-adaa.org](http://www.maryland-adaa.org). To RSVP, contact Laura Burns-Heffner at 410-402-8611 or [recovery@dhhm.state.md.us](mailto:recovery@dhhm.state.md.us). It was requested that someone working with and/or advocating awareness of the causes and consequences of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome be contacted to set up an information table, and that the State DAAC and MHA have a table.

#### III. Old Business

- a. A summary was given of what occurred at the last meeting and the council's activities since that time. At the last council meeting: initial efforts in conducting the State Survey of Resources were presented; it was noted that the Local Councils had just submitted their initial plans to ADAA; a draft copy of the State Council's report to the governor was distributed and comments solicited; and, a report on the assessment and treatment of DWI offenders in Maryland was presented by Dr Arria from CESAR. Since the last meeting: the Planning and Coordination Sub-Committee continued working on the State Survey of Resources Matrix; the Local Councils have provided two updates to their plans (initial plans and updates can be found at [www.maryland-adaa.org](http://www.maryland-adaa.org)); and, the initial report to the Governor was presented to him on September 9, 2005.
- b. **Committee Reports:**
  - i. Because the work assigned to the Healthier Maryland Committee and the Safer Neighborhood Committee was dependent on the work of the Planning and Coordination Committee, these two committees have been inactive, pending the completion of the survey of State resources.
  - ii. **Planning and Coordination Committee:** The committee report was given by the chair, Peter Luongo. He submitted the current draft State Survey of Resources matrix to the council. Stressing it was a conservative estimate and that data from Health Choice and MSDE were pending, he noted that it appears that the state budgets a minimum of \$247, 530, 194.00 for drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse prevention, intervention and treatment. Of that amount, only \$123, 879,484 is contained in ADAA's budget. The figures represented on the matrix are budgeted amounts for FY 05. The committee will begin requesting amounts budgeted for FY 06 and 07 from each agency surveyed in order to analyze for three year trends. It was requested that the committee expand its inquiries to the Judiciary which received funds for drug treatment court via the Drug Court Commission. Dr. Luongo stated that after completing the three year survey of resources, the council would be able to determine if the state's resources were being used to support state policy. Alan Friedman commented that we not only want to know how much the State is spending, but what are we buying with it and is it worth it?
  - iii. Dr. Luongo also reported on the 7% increase in budget allocations ADAA received for FY 07. Approximately half of these dollars will be spent to improve the prevention, intervention and treatment infrastructure.
- c. Judge Lipman noted that he had completed a written protocol for 8-507 procedures. Before the meeting, he gave a draft copy to Delegate Menes for review.
- d. Gray Barton informed the Council that the Drug Treatment Court Commission received \$4.9 million dollars for their FY 2007 Budget. This money is to be used to assist in the planning, implementation, and maintenance of drug courts in Maryland. Five hundred thousand of this money has been allocated to ADAA to fund Drug Treatment Court priorities documented in plans submitted by Local Drug and Alcohol Abuse Councils.

#### IV. New Business

- a. **Fund Allocation Formula:** During the recent legislative session, budget language was included that charged the council with the development of a formula for the allocation of all alcohol and drug abuse prevention and treatment funds distributed by ADAA to local jurisdictions. The formula is to be implemented to apply to all ADAA prevention and treatment funds by 2010. A report is due to the legislature by February 1, 2007. Dr. Luongo provided the history behind this request, culminating in the Joint Chairman's Report of 2003. It was suggested that a work group be formed to accomplish this task. A consultant/expert in funding formulae will be hired to work with the workgroup and the workgroup will stay in close contact with the Department of Legislative Services to insure it is meeting the legislature's expectation. Suggested work group members: representatives from DBM, MADC, MACHO, ADAA, CJS/Judiciary, and other stakeholders and members of the council. Terry Brown volunteered to be on the council. It was suggested that someone from the Governor's grants office be a member of the workgroup. Lacking further volunteers, the council and the public in attendance were urged to contact the Executive Director if they wanted to be a member of or suggest a member for the work group.
- b. **Two Year Strategic Plan:** The council was reminded of one of its main charges to "develop a two year plan establishing priorities and strategies for the delivery and funding of state drug and alcohol prevention, intervention and treatment services." The work the Planning and Coordination Committee is doing is the foundation for future committee work and completing the final product of a two year plan.
- c. **Changing Committee Structure:** Originally, three committees were set up: the Planning and Coordination Committee, Healthier Maryland Committee, and the Safer Neighborhood Committee. The Executive Director proposed that this committee structure be changed to provide greater flexibility in meeting the Council's responsibilities under the Executive Order. The proposal provides that the Council operate through work groups rather than standing committees. Time-limited task/work groups would be formed as needed to do the work of the council. This would provide the work groups with specific tasks and outcomes and be a more efficient and effective use of the members' time. The Planning and Coordination Committee would act as the Fiscal and Policy Analysis Work Group. The Council agreed that such a flexible structure would be more efficient and effective in discharging its duties and the new structure was approved without objection.
- d. A motion to create an executive committee was made. The committee would consist of the Chair of the Council and representatives from DHMH, DBM, the judiciary and the provider community. The committee would act on behalf of the council, making decisions and performing activities that require action between meetings of the full council. The motion was tabled until the October meeting. It was felt that there was no current need for an Executive Committee but that one

should probably be formed before the legislative session begins in January 2007 and before the governor's budget is sent to the legislature.

- e. **Additions to work plan from Council:**
  - i. Further attention needs to be placed on the effect of the funding formula, budgetary items and funding issues.
  - ii. At the September meeting, we should look at what the council's next steps are, what work groups can/should be formed, and have a discussion about whether or not the council will become an advocate for more funding.

**V. Future Meetings**

- a. September 6, 2006 – 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- b. October 11, 2006 – 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- c. November 8, 2006 – 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- d. December 6, 2006 – 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

All meetings will be held at Rice Auditorium on the grounds of Spring Grove State Hospital from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**VI. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.