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DELAWARE NURSING HOME RESIDENTS QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION  
Brandywine Nursing & Rehab Center  
505 Greenbank Road  
Wilmington, DE 19808  
FINAL

Meeting May 12, 2015  
Minutes

Commission Member (s) Present: Melissa VanNeerden; Yrene Waldron; Karen Gallagher; and Representative Michael Barbieri.

Commission Member (s) Absent: Senator Bethany Hall-Long; Kyle Hodges; Vicki Givens; Amy Milligan; Patricia Dailey Lewis, Esquire and Lisa Furber. Lisa Barchi (DAG) was also not in attendance.

Others Present: Margaret Bailey; Quinesha Harris, DHCI; Carol Lovett, Consumer; Barbara Bass, Aide to Karen Gallagher; Tom Johnson, DSAMH; Bryan Gordon, DSAMH; Dawn Moore, Governor Bacon; Debby Vandiver, Volunteer DE 50+; Dana Camoirano, Home Instead Senior Care; Julie Saville, MeadowWood Behavioral Health System; Staci Marvel, DMMA; and Dr. Cheryl Bolinger, Medical Director for State of DE - LTC.

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 AM by DNHRQAC member, Melissa VanNeerden.

2. Approval of the Minutes for the meeting of:

January 13, 2015 & March 10, 2015 meeting minutes were approved as written.

3. Discussion of:

Promise Program- Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (DSAMH)

Tom Johnson and Bryan Gordon, DSAMH Provider Relations Unit, provided an overview of the Promise Program to Commission members.

The Promise Program will provide support services for individuals living in the community that have been identified as having severe and persistent mental illness. This is achieved by promoting optimal mental health for individuals through supports and employment.

History: July 15, 2011 the US Department of Justice and State of Delaware agreed that people living with severe and persistent mental illness should not be kept in institutions and should live in the least restrictive environment. As a result, the State of Delaware and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) entered into a partnership that leverages State funding for services with this targeted population.

DSAMH's Eligibility and Enrollment Unit (EEU) determines if a person qualifies for this program. Eligibility factors include: age, behavioral health finding and function level (American Society for Addiction Medicine Assessment tool). EEU: (302)255-9454.

Promise will offer 15 community-based and recovery-oriented services to help people live independently in the community. The Request for Proposals (RFP's) are in process. Participants will choose services necessary to meet their needs: care management; individual employment services; short term small group employment services; financial coaching; benefits counseling, peer support; non-medical transportation; community-based residential support; nursing; community psychiatric support and treatment; psychosocial rehabilitation; respite; independent activities of daily living; personal care and community transition services.

The State housing unit can also assist in providing housing for participants.

Commission members asked: how many individuals are expected to enter the Promise Program, what will be the ratio of case managers/clients, who is on the list of participating Community Mental Health Promise Assessment Centers and when does DSAMH plan to launch this program. Tom Johnson will forward answers to commission member questions - shortly.

#### State Office of Volunteerism (SOV) – Volunteer Delaware 50 +

Debby Vandiver, Volunteer Delaware 50 + Program Manager, provided an overview to DNHRQAC members. The program was launched April 1, 2015 to meet community needs by encouraging and supporting volunteerism throughout Delaware.

Volunteer Delaware 50+ replaced the Federal and State funded Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) in New Castle and Sussex counties. This new program will provide the same meaningful opportunities to valued senior volunteers; lower program enrollment age from 55 to 50 and provide a larger scope of services and potential impact by expanding into Kent County.

The volunteers (age 50+) utilize their skills and talents while serving activities within the community. 50+ volunteers choose what type of service they would like to offer; where they would like to assist and how frequent they elect to serve.

There are currently 985 New Castle County 50+ volunteers & 1,200 Kent/Sussex 50+ volunteers in the program. The volunteers work with more than 200 organizations throughout the state to offer a variety of assistance such as: mentoring, coaching, clerical support, disaster preparedness, etc. Volunteers typically provide 2 - 4 service hours per week.

To contact Volunteer Delaware 50 +: NCC: (302)255-9882, Kent: (302)857-5006, Sussex: (302)857-5816 or [www.volunteerdelaware.org](http://www.volunteerdelaware.org).

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2015 QART Report

Commission members received 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr 2015 QART Report. After reviewing three surveys involving “G” level deficiencies, the QART Team recommended to uphold all three of the “G” level deficiencies cited by the surveyors. As a result, none of the “G” level deficiency recommendations were downgraded.

4. Old/New Business:

#### DNHRQAC Office Space

Ms. Bailey mentioned that due to the temporary closure of Emily P. Bissell Hospital for repairs(~six months), her office will be re-located 5/14/15 to: 2540 Wrangle Hill Rd Suite 223 Bear, DE 19701.

Contact information will be updated on DNHRQAC website:  
<http://courts.delaware.gov/AOC/DNHRQAC/> and public meeting calendar.

#### DNHRQAC Chair Person Vacancy

Brian Posey recently resigned as Commission chair - due to a change in his employment duties at AARP. Mr. Posey served on the commission for multiple years and will be sadly missed. Ms. Bailey is working with the Governor's Office regarding the vacancy.

#### DNHRQAC Revised 2015 Meeting Calendar

Ms. Bailey modified the 2015 meeting calendar to reflect "new" meeting location for July and September. Both meetings will be held at: Brandywine Nursing and Rehabilitation Center: 5-05 Greenbank Road Wilmington, DE 19808.

#### 5. Public Comment:

##### May/June 2015 Observances:

- May is Older American's Month
- May 6 - 12 Nurses Week
- May 10 - 16 National Nursing Home Week
- June 12 - 19 National Nursing Assistant Week
- June 15<sup>th</sup> World Elder Abuse Awareness Day – Delaware will host a panel discussion in several locations to commemorate the occasion. Senator Hall-Long and Representatives Barbieri and Longhurst will sponsor a concurrent resolution for this event.

##### All Stars Award Ceremony

Yrene Waldron mentioned that Delaware Health Care Facility Association will be hosting their fifteenth All Stars Awards Ceremony at Dover Downs Hotel & Casino - May 13, 2015. Fifteen individuals will be recognized for their excellence in providing quality care and services to the elderly and disabled in long term care facilities across Delaware. Victor Orija will be receiving special recognition during the ceremony for his 13 years of service as the State's Ombudsman. This year's theme - "Bring on the Fiesta".

6. Next meeting will be **Tuesday September 8, 2015 @ 9:30 AM. The meeting location: Brandywine Nursing & Rehabilitation Center: 505 Greenbank Rd Wilmington, DE 19808.**

#### 7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 AM by Melissa VanNeerden.

Attachments: January 13, 2015 meeting minutes draft  
March 10, 2015 meeting minutes draft  
1<sup>st</sup> Qtr 2015 QART Report  
Promise Program Presentation (DSAMH)  
State Office of Volunteerism – Volunteer Delaware 50+  
CMS 2014 Antipsychotic Medication Report  
Revised 2015 DNHRQAC Meeting Calendar