

ESN3

The Employment Services Network was established as a resource to address the needs of those persons with mental illness wishing to make changes to their current education or employment status, and to better partner with Employers to provide support and education of services.

The ESN shall report outcomes to the CSN (Community Services Network) monthly.

Goal:

To increase rates of employment for people with mental illness:

- ✓ More companies educated about employing people with mental illness
- ✓ Improved strategies for helping people with mental illness find and keep employment. Improve opportunities for continued education.

Meeting Minutes:

Meeting date: November 19, 2009; 1:00p-3:00p

Meeting location: Allies Inc., 150 Capital Street, Augusta, Maine

Guest Presenter:

Mel Clarrage, PABSS; plan presentation at next ESN3, December 2009

Present:

Karena Aveau, Employment Specialist, Project with Industry, Allies, Inc.

Carol Mitchell-Cusick, Vocational Rehabilitation, Casework Supervisor

Brian Charette, ACT Team Employment Specialist, Riverview Psychiatric Center

Jay Carey, ESM, Human Resources, Employment Services

Debby Maguire, ACT Team Employment Specialist, HealthReach

Jennifer Raymond, LSW, Program Director, Graham Behavioral Services, Inc.

Marc Rodrigue, Disability Program Navigator, Career Center

Gwen Schottin, Guest Peer Representative

Deborah Thibodeau, Employment Specialist III, Maine Medical Center Initiative, Kennebec Behavioral Health (host agency)

Absent:

Margie Bryant, ESM, Director of Employment Services

David Dubay, CWIC, Benefits Specialist, Maine Medical Center

Wanita Page, Consent Decree Coordinator, State of Me., Bureau of Adult MH Services

Norman Elvin, Owner, G & E Roofing and the China Dine-ah

Lisa Milne, Peer Representative

Lisa Woods, Career Center Consultant

Elaine Ecker, Executive Director, Consumer Council of Maine

1:00p-3:00p

-Discussion: WorkReady Pilot Program, March 2010

- how to fund, presentation to the OAMHS, December 2009
- bring Carol Mitchell-Cusick, VR up to speed on Pilot Program

-Discussion; Develop a “How to” guide, pathway that might be used by persons with mental illnesses; to enable persons to gain employment or education on own. Review together handbook as developed by the Canadian Mental Health Association.

- must be user friendly
- target date for completion of Draft March 2010, consider sub-committee

Other:

-Mark Rosenberg, Peer Representative was hired by Employment Specialists of Maine as a Case Manager for the Rockland area. Congratulations, Mark! Mark will continue to serve with the ESN as a representative to the ESN4, Rockland.

-Webinar, December 2, *DPN training on Electronic tools*, contact Marc Rodrigue

-STRIVE Initiative, transportation link, Greater Portland area-survey provided

-Maine Housing Search, new website, www.MaineHousingSearch.org

-Resource Guide, Transition-Debby Maguire to make member copies

-Next meeting dates: December 16, 2009 and January 21, 2010

Next meeting: December 16, 2009, 1:00-3:00p; Marquardt Building

Agenda:

Mel Clarrage; PABSS

Brian Charette to invite employer or provider

The goal of the ESN is to increase rates of employment for persons with mental illness. Task ahead; inventory the existing resource for Supported/Employment/Education (SEE) in each CSN. The core members of the ESN will invite and expand membership to those SEE providers whose population served represents at least 30% of individuals with mental illness. With this expansion, we can expect to make operational a way to serve the increased numbers of clients who indicate a strong or urgent desire to become employed or attend school.

Respectfully submitted;

Deborah Thibodeau, Employment Specialist III

Maine Medical Center, Department of Vocational Services

(host agency, Kennebec Behavioral Health)

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