



**CPS Advisory Council Meeting  
Friday, October 20, 2017**

**Agenda Items**

- I. Agenda Item 1 - Welcome and Introductions
- II. Agenda Item 2 - Roll Call and Orientation for New Members
- III. Agenda Item 3 - Updates from Via Hope / Staff Changes, Via Hope Exam, & HB 1486
- IV. Agenda Item 4 – Review of Old Business / Presentation on Professional Development
- V. Agenda Item 5 – New Business / Election of New Leadership & Celebration
- VI. Agenda Item 6 – New Business / Peer Policy Webinar

**Minutes to Follow on Next Page**

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### ***Minutes Pending Formal Adoption by Council***

Purpose of Meeting: In-person quarterly meeting of the Via Hope CPS Advisory Council Meeting called to order at 9:05am on Friday, October 20th, 2017 by John King.

Present: Kate Anderson, Bill Barters, Randie Benno, Jack Brown, Jim Cochrun (partial), Michael Cox, Larry Diaz, Tommy Higgs, Stacy Jones, Lora Keech, John King, Ginny Morgan, Wayne Mullan, Jess Mulliniks, Ayesha Newell, Lisa Pous, Cassandra Ramirez, Lisa Rawls, Cindy Trevino, Jerry Wainwright

Not Present: Latasha Taylor, Joyce Roy

Via Hope Staff: Christina Carney, Liz Castaneda, Jessie Hodet, Darcy Kues, Sandra Smith Council members participated in small exercise to meet new members and reintroduce current members. Then, each person gave a formal introduction and time was allotted for new members to ask questions.

### **UPDATES FROM VIA HOPE / STAFF CHANGES, VIA HOPE EXAM, & HB 1486**

Darcy gave update on Via Hope's new staff changes. She also discussed additional recruitment for new council members.

Sandra gave brief update on Via Hope's exam revision, including the small Advisory Council workgroup that reviewed the exam for clarity and errors. The exam will be rolled out for the October 29-November 4 CPS certification training. Sandra also gave an update on Texas House Bill 1486 workgroup, and mentioned the peer policy webinar to discuss the findings of RecoveryPeople's survey on HB 1486 (see Agenda Item 6).

### **REVIEW OF OLD BUSINESS / PRESENTATION ON PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Tommy Higgs presented a summary of past discussions on professional development, including a professional 'ladder' for Certified Peer Specialists. In May 2016, the Certified Peer Specialist Advisory Council set a foundation for the potential development of three separate designations for peer specialists, ranging from a novice peer specialist to a master-level peer specialist. They also discussed a mentorship program that would coincide with the ladder (where advanced peer specialists could support novice peer specialists). Tommy's brief presentation was meant to set the stage for a deeper discussion about professional development to be had by the entire Council at the January 2018 meeting.

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### **NEW BUSINESS / ELECTION OF NEW LEADERSHIP & CELEBRATION**

After a brief discussion about each position from the current elected officer, the Council held elections for the 2017-2018 term of the CPS Advisory Council. The elections were done by a plurality vote, so each member to receive the highest number of votes was selected to fill the position.

Jess Mulliniks was elected Secretary. Cassandra Ramirez was elected Vice-Chair. Larry Diaz was elected Chair. These members will remain in their elected positions until October 2018. After elections, Via Hope held a small celebration for the members rolling off of the Advisory Council, where each person received a small framed certificate and had a chance to give parting wisdom to the Council members who remained. Council members rolling off were: Bill Barthers, John King, Wayne Mullan, Ayesha Newell, and Latasha Taylor (not present).

### **NEW BUSINESS / PEER POLICY WEBINAR**

CPS Advisory Council joined the Peer Policy Group Meeting to discuss results of the Peer Support Bill (HB 1486) Rules Making Survey. The survey was administered by RecoveryPeople and was meant to collect input on various issues related to the Certified Peer Specialist & Peer Recovery Support Specialist workforces, to see where there is consensus among community members, and where there is not consensus. The Peer Policy Group Meeting was held in-person at Communities for Recovery, but the CPS Advisory Council joined as a webinar. Jason Howell of RecoveryPeople discussed the results of the survey in areas including Supervision of Peers, Certification of Peer Workforces, and Training of Peer Workforces. Many CPS Advisory Council members were able to join the discussion via microphone. After the webinar ended, the Advisory Council had time to debrief and discuss any final thoughts, questions, and concerns related to the information on the webinar.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** – Motion made to adjourn. Motion passes unanimously and meeting adjourned at 3:15pm. ***Our Mission: We provide education, training, and consultation to empower individuals, families, and youth to develop resilience, achieve recovery, and further mental health system transformation***

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