



**ADDICTION COUNSELING ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Friday, January 30, 2015  
1:00-3:00 PM  
Hannah Hall, room 117**

**Members Present:** Lynette Tracy, Committee Chair, Lifeline Connections; Chris Thompson, Vice Chair, VOA; Sandi Kendrick, Clark County Public Health; Laurie Ellett, Helping Professionals; Helen MacArthur, Cowlitz Tribal Treatment; Roberta Morgan, Western Psychological Services; Jared Sanford, Lifeline Connections

**Members Absent:** Josh Barrett, Western Psychological Services; Ed Febish, Columbia River Mental Health; Angela Ball, Daybreak Youth Services

**Clark College:** Dr. Marcia Roi, Professor, Addiction Counseling Ed.; Jim Jensen, Instructor; Catherine Kroll, Professor; Miles Jackson, Dean, Social Science & Fine Arts; Andreana DiGiorgio, Secretary Sr., Advisory Committees

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Committee Chair, Lynette Tracy, called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m. with introductions.

A motion was made to approve the November 7, 2014 minutes as written. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

**Office of Instruction**

Andreana invited the committee to the advisory committee recognition breakfast being held on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 7:30 a.m. She said local economist Scott Bailey will be the keynote speaker and will talk about the local economy as well as a review of Washington State's economy as a whole. Andreana said to watch their email for more information and invitation to the event.

**Director/Division Chair Report:**

Marcia reported that codes came out today. These are codes to allow students into the courses and Jim is busy meeting with students right now. Marcia said that they changed the process because new students were jumping into courses and displacing students who were well into the program. She reported that one class was cancelled for fall and this was the first time a class had been cancelled in a long time. She said enrollment is increasing. There are nine students that are in field placement. Marcia said she would like to look at taking a sabbatical in fall 2015 to research the BAS for this program. This is an item on the work plan.

**Work Plan**

The work plan was discussed as follows:

1. **Advocacy to Board.** Marcia would like members to continue presenting to the Board of Trustees. Cowlitz Tribal Treatment, Sobering Station, and overdose prevention could be ideas to present.
2. **Successful students and recruitment & retention.** Students need help to be successful. Jim says students have trouble balancing their education with their life and is trying to help them with this balance issue by offering developmental advising. Hard to balance life with school. Also, students drop the program when they find a job. This get reported as a non-completer and the students should finish their education if they want to move ahead. Miles said this leads back to the need for a "recruitment and

retention specialist” position. He said no new positions will be created this year because of the large budget deficit. He will continue to advocate for this position for next year.

3. **Field placement.** Miles said he spoke with Foundation staff and a scholarship account has been established. There’s no money in the account yet and will continue to work with the Foundation to find donors.
4. **WACASE Consortium.** This is the Washington Consortium of Addiction Counselor Educators. Marcia said this lobby went to legislature because basically they don’t know the difference between mental health and addiction and changes are being made. She said WACASE does not support the fast tracking. Addiction counseling should be a subset of mental health. Roberta said she feels that Western already does this. She added that her area is a smaller part of the mental health agency. Jarod asked if it’s a good idea to create new curriculum for just a handful of people. Marcia said that there is a minimum of 15 students per class or it is cancelled. Lynette summarized the discussion by saying they are concerned about changes, not quite sure what the changes will be and for now, we’re not ready to change the program.
5. **Marketing the Program.** Marcia said a new handbook is needed. Marcia said they are asking students for advice and tips to include in the handbook along with pictures. Lynette said there will be a Lifeline Alumni event on February 27 from 6—9 p.m. and Marcia and Lynette will man a table at this event.

### **New Business**

Scott Simms of Columbia Treatment Services and Helen MacArthur representing Cowlitz Tribal Treatment were both voted in as new advisory committee members.

### **Old Business**

**Recovery Coach.** Marcia had lunch with Vince Collins and Barbara Gerrier from DSHS and discussed this. Use of a Recovery Coach cannot currently be billed to insurance because there is no credential in the state of Washington. For some background on this issue: Currently addiction is being treated as an acute disease instead of a chronic one. The Recovery coach's job is to conduct follow-up support after formal treatment. This is a much cheaper way to oversee patients. The patient is also kept in the system for a longer period of time. Marcia said she can come up with some peer-based curriculum, both faith and non-faith based to use in the credentialing process. She said the courses will need some rigor. Jarod said he’d like to hire these people for post treatment work.

**Sobering Station.** Jarod gave an update on this Lifeline Connections program. He said it is now open. No appointment is necessary but have to be a WA resident. This program supports alcohol and drug issues and the patient must be ambulatory. He said this is not a detox facility or program. Patients will stay on average 12 hours, to sober up. It is staffed 24-7. CDPT is helping and the Vancouver Police are using this program. Jarod will email a flyer to Andreana who will forward to the committee.

**Cowlitz relocation.** Helen reported that they’ve moved to Vancouver and now have their own building. She said this is an adolescent treatment and intensive outpatient treatment center. They are already full and need to expand. She said there are new opportunities for education classes outside of the mental health plan. They are located near the big Bingo Hall on 78th. She invited the committee to visit. Marcia said the ACES group can help with fundraising.

Sandi from Clark County Public Health talked about the county overdose education program. She reported that they have given out about 600 kits since April of last year. This education includes primary prevention for overdose, how to recognize an overdose, how to rescue someone from an overdose. She said there have been 75 primary reversals reported. Free kits are available at the needle exchange.

### **Next Meeting Date:**

The committee agreed that the next meeting will be Friday, April 24, 2015 at 1 pm. The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.