

Futures Peer Support Program Development Workgroup

Minutes March 25, 2009

Alternative Crisis House

Next meeting: April 29th, 10-12pm, 10-12 pm, Unitarian Church, Montpelier, VT

Present: Karen Lorentzon, Catherine Mayo, Linda Corey, Kitty Gallagher, Jeanne Smith, Steven Morgan, Jean G. New, L. Kimball, Jennifer Marandino, Xenia Williams, Nick Nichols, Marty Roberts

Consultant L. Kimball speaks

Point of clarification regarding house

1. Available to anyone statewide
2. The opportunity to do something different
3. When in crisis a 14 day stay may be used to explore different ways of thinking about crisis and self discovery
4. There needs to be a statewide understanding of what this house is for and who it is for
5. It is a peer crisis Alternative

L. Kimball talks about “bridger programs and step down,” which this is not. Discussion and clarification questions posed by group.

This is only for people choosing alternatives to hospitalization--not for folks coming out of the hospital

Xenia speaks: There are a lot of places for extended stays past hospital...we do not want this as a “dumping ground” Karen speaks ...there are not places in southern Vermont for “ extended stay” maybe respite beds but they are for a small segment of population and limited.

L. Kimball speaks: Intentional Peer support--what it is: a coming together for self reflection, respectful communication, and relationship (a way for those involved to be heard equally, that there is a shared responsibility for your half, and the need to understand and develop an awareness of different world views).

L. Kimball speaks: Description of Board training what is involved. Talk about staff evaluation she recommends someone from Yale for this purpose

LK will send draft bylaws online and the Personnel policy will be developed.

LK talks about recovery and peer support--what would that person look like; this is a person who would benefit from developing and learning about peer supports and recovery tools.

The idea of developing a proposed statement about this house for hospital/professional use was mentioned and agreed should be done

Xenia expressed concern about a house located in Rutland...which she sees as not receptive to alternatives, Karen explains that it is actually surrounding communities that are being looked at.

Discussions regarding Wyndy Orchard in Barre . S. Morgan lives there
Discussion regarding Another Way took place as a non-profit, a bit confusing here as Steve presents his search for a new location for Another Way and somehow dialogue starts to switch looking at Another Way as location for crisis house discussion continues,,,no conclusions

Tasks:

Lenora will submit materials to Nick for distribution no later than April 22 This is 1 week prior to the April 29th meeting so the committee can have time to review and comment at the April 29th meeting

Lenora will aim at May 15th for completion but may take until May 29th to accommodate last minute changes that may be presented by the committee on May 13th the last scheduled meeting for the Alternative Crisis House group

Linda will add one week to the contract bringing it to the May 15th but time is given for changes, additions and omissions and the project submission date will be MAY 29, 2009

Karen will confirm space on April 29th and possible meeting in May (date to be determined) which will be a longer meeting ending at 1 PM