**PAIMI Advisory Council Report to DRM Board**

**December 2022**

**DRM’s PAIMI Advisory Council (PAC) met on November 15, 2022.**

Chair: Sheryl Eni

Vice-Chair: The position is currently vacant, because the former Vice- Chair’s term expired and she is no longer on the PAC. At the last PAC meeting, the PAC was asked to approve Ann Steinberg and Vanessa Brooks as Vice Co-Chairs, however there was not a quorum at the meeting. Therefore, a Survey Monkey was sent out to the PAC members who were not at the meeting. **Now, a majority of PAC members (4 at the meeting and 3 through Survey Monkey) approve Vanessa Brooks and Ann Steinberg as PAC Vice-Co-Chairs and we are asking the DRM Board to approve their nomination at the December meeting.**

**Membership**

Sheryl Eni and Jess Cowing, PAC Membership Committee members, interviewed two candidates for PAC, Tony Wright and Dorothy Lemon Thompson.

Sheryl would like the DRM Board to know the following about Tony: “Tony was previously on the PAIMI Council and he also served on the Board of the DRM. He currently serves as a Director overseeing five Recovery Centers in Baltimore County. His background entails advocacy, peer support, empowerment and behavioral health. Tony offers the perspective of a peer and also as a provider. According to Tony, ‘the mission of my Centers and PAIMI closely align. I want to ensure an equilibrium within the mental health community so that everyone is on the same footing.’.

I recommend Tony as he would bring a wealth of work and lived experiences to the Committee. Based on his interview, Tony has the passion to return to the PAIMI Council and serve in excellence.”

Jess would like the DRM Board to know the following about Dorothy: “Dorothy Lemon Thompson has worked for almost 20 years as a professional in mental health and behavioral services. She has a connection to people living with mental health disabilities and her responses to the interview questions were very much in line with expressed values of PAIMI and PAIMI members. She lives in Baltimore County. I think she would be an excellent candidate for PAIMI and bring a lot of experience and expertise to our work.”

**A quorum of PAIMI Council Members (4 at the meeting and 3 through Survey Monkey), have approved Tony and Dorothy’s candidacy and PAC is asking the DRM to confirm.**

**Staff Reports**

* DRM Staff visited Spring Grove multiple times, as well as Perkins Hospital and also visited Eastern Shore, for the first time in a while. DRM staff gives “Know Your Rights Presentations,” and patients approach staff afterward and ask about rights issues. The team is spreading the word and getting to know the patients.
* Team Members also went to North Branch Prison as part of the Green case, to visit with incarcerated individuals about solitary confinement and mental health treatment.
* Our legal intern helped write an amicus brief supporting civil rights enforcement pertaining to the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights.
* Staff is working on response to the new “dangerousness” regulations.
* Managing Attorney is scheduled to meet regularly with MDH “higher ups” to discuss concerns in the State hospitals, including visitation.

**Annual Reporting**

* The Executive Director presented the 2022 DRM PAIMI Grievance Report. Murphy reported that no grievances were filed against the PAIMI program this year; one person initially filed a grievance, but a number of discussions were had, and she withdrew her grievance.
* The 2023 Advocacy Services Plan was reviewed
* The Managing Attorney discussed the importance of the ACR for the PAIMI PPR.

**End of report**