

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration**

Minutes of the

SAMHSA Advisory Committee for Women's Services (ACWS)

August 26, 2014

Rockville, Maryland

Committee Members Present:

Johanna Bergan
Yolanda Briscoe, Ph.D.
Karen Mooney, L.C.S.W., CAC III
Brenda Smith, J.D.
Carole Warshaw, M.D.

Committee Members Absent:

Jean Campbell, Ph.D.
Vincent J. Felitti, M.D.
Shelly F. Greenfield, M.D., M.P.H.
Jeannette Pai-Espinosa, M.Ed.
Rosalind Wiseman, M.A.

SAMHSA Leadership:

Pamela S. Hyde, J.D., Administrator
Kana Enomoto, M.A., Principal Deputy Administrator
Mary Fleming, M.S., Director, Office of Policy, Planning, and Innovation
Sharon Amatetti, M.P.H., Lead, Women, Children, and Family Issues
Nadine Benton, M.B.A., Acting Designated Federal Officer
Geretta Wood, Committee Management Officer
LCDR Holly Berilla, Committee Management Officer

Presenters:

Sara Afayee, M.S.W., Public Health Advisor, Center for Mental Health Services
Karen Mooney, L.C.S.W., CAC III, Member, Advisory Committee for Women's Services
Danielle Tarino, B.A., Public Health Advisor, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment

Call to Order:

Ms. Nadine Benton called the meeting of SAMHSA's Advisory Committee for Women's Services to order on August 26, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. It was noted that there were not enough members present to meet a quorum.

Welcome Members, Roll Call, Approval of Minutes, and Remarks:

- Ms. Kana Enomoto, Principal Deputy Administrator, SAMHSA, welcomed the participants to the meeting, and the participants introduced themselves. She acknowledged members who are transitioning off of the Committee and thanked them for their service.
- The minutes were not voted on since there was no quorum to approve the minutes from the April 2014 meeting.
- Ms. Enomoto discussed details of a recent meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Mental Health Forum, where heads of state and economic and health leaders focused on behavioral health's impact on the well-being of the Asian-Pacific community. At the meeting, Ms. Enomoto participated in a workshop where she spoke about the economic impact of mental illness and substance abuse on the U.S. economy and global economy.
- Ms. Enomoto noted that SAMHSA convened a prescription drug abuse policy academy in partnership with the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials from August 11-13, 2014, in Washington, D.C. At this policy academy, 10 state teams presented on their policy strategies to address the number of deaths and adverse health effects of prescription drug and opioid use. Ms. Enomoto reported that, in July 2014, she participated in the Secretary's 50 state meeting, which focused on the prescription drug overdose issue.
- Ms. Enomoto also shared SAMHSA's status with regard to the budget and discussed the budget process.

SAMHSA's Working Definition of Trauma and Principles and Guidance for a Trauma-Informed Approach:

Presenter: Sara Afayee, M.S.W., Public Health Advisor, Center for Mental Health Services

Discussant: Karen Mooney, ACWS Member

- Ms. Afayee presented an overview of SAMHSA's working definition of trauma and of the forthcoming publication, "SAMHSA's Concept of Trauma and Guidance for a Trauma-Informed Approach." She stated that SAMHSA is developing strategies to implement its General Adult Trauma Screening and Brief Intervention (GATSBI) program should funds for this proposed program become available. Ms. Afayee invited Ms. Rebecca Flatow, Public Health Analyst, Office of Policy, Planning, and Innovation, SAMHSA, to expand on the topic of trauma and justice, as needed, during the presentation.
- Ms. Mooney invited member discussion on the topic and ACWS members commended SAMHSA on facilitating the implementation of trauma-informed approaches. Members expressed interest in the applicability of the new guidance in a variety of settings and in gender-responsive services tailored for women, men, and LGBT individuals.

- Dr. Carole Warshaw stated that her organization has been developing a tool for agencies to conduct self-assessment and volunteered to share the draft tool.
- Members reported that several assessment tools exist and others are under development to help organizations determine the degree to which they are trauma-informed. The value of a framework for implementation was noted.
- Ms. Afayee commented on work being done around SAMHSA's Trauma and Justice Strategic Initiative (SI), including a focus on males in trauma, particularly when considering SAMHSA's concept paper. Ms. Afayee invited Ms. Becky Flatow to weigh in on the discussion and Ms. Flatow commented on work being conducted on the SI, including the use of an expert panel with a heavy criminal justice background to help develop SAMHSA's concept paper.

Technology's Impact on High-Risk/High-Need Girls and Young Women:

Presenter: Danielle Tarino, Public Health Advisor, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment

Discussant: Johanna Bergan

- Ms. Tarino discussed the use of social media by young women, including certain negative websites that act as dangerous mutual-support forums for individuals with eating disorders; other sites that relate to self-image that have the potential to lead to traumatic experiences; and predators' use of social networking sites to mine information about intended victims. Ms. Tarino noted that, by contrast, a variety of initiatives leverage technology to reach young women and promote their healthy development, including, for example, summer camp programming for girls that teach iPhone software application (app) design; education on privacy concerns, best-use scenarios, and other cyber ethics topics; and education on the dangers of sexting.
- Ms. Tarino described several effective strategies for positive use of information technology in mental health, for example, apps that facilitate writing/journaling, practice of mindfulness, and self-esteem building. She noted that information on responsible social networking is available on multiple websites.
- Participants discussed strategies to increase the safety of social media users, particularly to develop online mechanisms to access online sites that attract young people, and to provide training to service providers in online-savvy language that would improve providers' communications. Positive efforts include websites that support recovery for young people and that offer mutual support to survivors of child abuse, eating disorders, and self-injury and suicide. Moreover, increasing attention is being paid to bullying prevention efforts and to teaching careful consideration of content posted online.
- Ms. Johanna Bergan asked whether online technology safety training for girls is available and, in doing so, she identified an opportunity to provide support. Dr. Warshaw stated that her organization would be interested in exploring a partnership to provide this training.

- Ms. Bergan stated that Youth Motivating Others Through Voices of Experience (Youth M.O.V.E.) is likely to create an app for its chapter leaders to create profiles separate from their other social networking sites and that reflect their role with Youth M.O.V.E.

ACWS Priorities for SAMHSA:

ACWS members discussed potential topics for future meetings, including the impact of trauma on women, gender specificity versus gender responsiveness across behavioral health, Pregnant and Post-partum Women's (PPW) program outcomes, strategies related to SAMHSA's trauma definition, and the needs of high-risk/high-need girls and young women.

Conversation with Administrator Hyde:

In response to SAMHSA Administrator Hyde's request for advice, ACWS members urged placing greater emphasis on women's gender-responsive services in the substance abuse block grant and other initiatives, addressing impediments to residential addiction treatment for pregnant women, and increasing programming for aging women—particularly for the growing population of older women who raise their grandchildren with inadequate supports. Members also urged consideration of the nature of gender-responsive mental health services, development of a more robust informed-consent process for electronic health records that views that process through a gender-specific lens, and consideration of gender across the behavioral health policy landscape. Ms. Hyde asserted that SAMHSA will continue to solicit the youth voice in the agency's work and to focus the majority of its efforts and investments on improving the behavioral health of younger people.

Public Comment:

An individual inquired about the availability of presentation slides and was told that they would be available on SAMHSA's internet site.

Closing Remarks / Adjourn:

In future meetings, the ACWS will focus on gender-specific and gender-responsive programs across mental health and substance abuse, including more data on the PPW program outcomes, and, perhaps, action planning regarding the trauma concept paper and how it applies to women and girls.

SAMHSA has tentatively scheduled the next meeting for April 8, 2015. Ms. Enomoto adjourned the meeting at 3:53 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes and the attachments are accurate and complete.

Date

Kana Enomoto, M.A.
Associate Administrator for Women's Services
Principal Deputy Administrator

Minutes will be formally considered by SAMHSA's Advisory Committee for Women's Services at its next meeting, and any corrections or notations will be incorporated into the minutes of that meeting.