



CLMHD News

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NYS Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors - *An Affiliate of the NYS Association of Counties*
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Thomas MacGilvray Retires from Suffolk County

Thomas MacGilvray, Director of Community Mental Hygiene Services in Suffolk County, retired on February 26. Tom served as the DCS since 1996. He was appointed by then commissioner of health, Dr. Mary Hibbard, upon the recommendation of a search committee consisting of consumers, family members, agency executive directors, and executive representation from the Long Island Developmental Disabilities Services Office and the Long Island Office of Mental Health Field Office.

During Mr. MacGilvray's tenure, the Division grew into the largest county mental hygiene authority in New York State with a net budget nearing \$60 million. Further, the percentage of statewide funding for Suffolk County increased during this period from 5.5% to 7.5% for mental health services and from 9% to 17% for services to developmentally disabled individuals and their families. These increases, which were the result of collaborative advocacy efforts on the part of local government, agency providers, self and family advocates, resulted in millions of additional grant dollars for the provision of mental hygiene services in Suffolk County.

Mr. MacGilvray is a New York State licensed social worker and a credentialed alcohol and substance abuse counselor with 38 years experience in behavioral health and developmental disabilities. He has taught as an adjunct professor at the University of New York at Stony Brook and among other honors, served on the New York State Mental Health Services Council. Tom also served for several years as the Chairperson of the Mental Health Committee for the New York State Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors and sat on numerous other statewide and local planning and policy development boards and committees.

Tom MacGilvray served in the Marine Corps and currently resides with his wife in Setauket, N.Y. He has a son who graduated from Lehigh University, a daughter who graduated from Georgetown, and four grandchildren.

Art Flescher, Acting Suffolk County DCS recently stated, "We wish Tom well in his much deserved retirement, but his absence will create a void in leadership which will be difficult to fill. Among his numerous accomplishments was his willingness to fully embrace the rehabilitation and recovery philosophy of PROS in the face of multiple challenges and risks associated with being the largest early adopter county. Suffolk County has come out the other side with a creative and vibrant system of PROS services and Tom can be justifiably proud."

From the Desk of the Executive Director

By Kelly A. Hansen

Dear CLMHD Members,

I want to extend a sincere "Thank you" to all of you travelled to Albany this week for the Conference's Legislative Day. We recognize the effort and difficulties of taking a day out of the office, especially to join in the chaos of Albany during the legislative session, and we sincerely appreciate your participation.

Since we last saw each other on Tuesday, there has been a change in leadership of the Assembly Mental Health and Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Committees. Assemblyman Peter Rivera (Bronx) was promoted from Chairman of the Mental Health Committee to an Assembly leadership post as Speaker Pro Tempore. Assemblyman Felix Ortiz (Brooklyn) was named Chairman of the Assembly Mental Health Committee creating an opening for Assemblywoman Amy Paulin (Westchester County) to be named Chairperson of the Assembly Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Committee.

To ensure that our message is heard over the din of a chaotic budget season, we must pursue additional opportunities and forums for you to meet with Senators and Assembly members in their districts. We look forward to working with you throughout the year to plan those meetings.

Sincerely,
Kelly

Legislative Day Photo Gallery



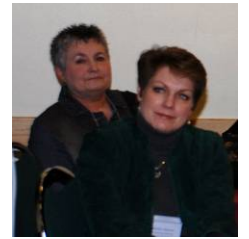
Phil Endress, CLMHD Chair



Michael Seereiter, Executive Chamber



Assemblyman Peter Rivera



Sherrie Gillette, Kelly Hansen



Art Johnson, Katherine Maciol



Lou Raffaele, DOB



Assemblyman Felix Ortiz



Jennifer Earl



Michael O'Leary, Megan Bly, Tammy Carlile



Bob DeLuca, Michael Damiano



Jeremy Darman, Jed Wolkenbreit

DAI vs. Paterson...Round 2

By Jed Wolkenbreit

Events in the case of Disability Advocates vs. Paterson continue their way through the court system. On Monday, Judge Nicholas Garaufis of Federal District Court in Brooklyn issued his order in the case. Last November he had determined that 4300 individuals with a mental illness diagnosis who are residents of large adult homes in NYC were being denied their civil rights and were not being offered "the opportunity to receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs." The court gave the State the opportunity to come up with a solution on its own consistent with the findings that the court made in its original decision. The state submitted a plan, which is included in this year's budget submission, to create an additional 1000 supported housing opportunities over the next five years at the rate of 200 per year.

In his decision on Monday the judge indicated that this solution "scarcely begins to address the violations identified by the court." He said he was "disappointed and, frankly incredulous" that the State "sincerely believed this proposal would suffice." He called it "egregiously deficient." The court dismissed the State's assertion that it couldn't afford to do more stating that the court essentially has the right to order the legislature to approve the funding.

Since the court found the state's plan to be inadequate, it said that it had the right to devise a court ordered solution. It therefore ordered the State to develop 4500 supported living units at the rate of 1500 units a year for the next three years. The court also ordered that a monitor be appointed to coordinate the efforts of the office of Mental Health, the Department of Health, the Governor's office and the providers in implementing the order. One informal estimate of the cost of this proposal is in the neighborhood of \$120 million.

On Wednesday the State filed its appeal to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. It will likely be several months at least before this matter will be heard by that court. We will continue to keep you advised.

The Conference Remembers Anthony Bart DeLuca

The NYS Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors mourns the loss of Anthony Bart DeLuca who passed away on February 28. Bart was one of the original members of the Conference.

DeLuca became Commissioner of Mental Health Services for Tompkins County in 1977 and served in that capacity for 27 years. He led the County's mental health programs through the era of multiple closings of state institutions, worked extensively on sex offender treatment initiatives, and was instrumental in securing State funding for the construction of the Tompkins County Mental Health building.

According to a resolution from the Tompkins County Legislature honoring him upon his retirement, Bart DeLuca was described as a quiet, low-key person with a hands-off style of management. He knew the bureaucratic ins and outs of a complicated system of services and reimbursements that allowed for the provision of excellent mental health services in Tompkins County.

He will be missed, but his lifetime of contributions to Tompkins County will be realized long into the future.

Assembly Speaker Announces New Leadership Posts

By Jeremy Darman

Speaker Sheldon Silver announced several new leadership posts and committee chairs for the Assembly this week, including changes for both the Assembly Committee on Mental Health and the Assembly Committee on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse. All the changes are below. The Conference welcomes and congratulates these Members of the Assembly for their new committee and leadership assignments!

Leadership

- Speaker Pro Tempore: Peter M. Rivera
- Secretary, Majority Conference: Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes
- Vice Chair, Majority Steering: Barbara S. Lifton

Standing Committees

- Chair, Alcoholism & Drug Abuse: Amy Paulin
- Chair, Ethics & Guidance: Daniel O'Donnell
- Chair, Libraries & Education Technology: Jonathan L. Bing
- Chair, Mental Health: Felix Ortiz
- Chair, Oversight, Analysis & Investigation: Michele Titus
- Chair, Small Business: Adriano Espaillat
- Chair, Veterans Affairs: William B. Magnarelli

Taskforces

- Chair, Taskforce on People with Disabilities: Michael J. Cusick

Efforts on Behalf of Veterans

Local: On Monday, March 8th, *Understanding and Treating Key Postdeployment Problems and Reintegration Stress* is a free training opportunity for clinicians from 2:00-3:15 p.m. through the Wiley Mental Health Professional Webinar Series. The training offers clinicians an opportunity to learn about the most common post-deployment mental health issues – how to identify them and how to help clients face and address them. Expert panelists, Drs. Lorie DeCarvalho and Bret Moore will review the symptoms, discuss interventions, and provide a forum for clinicians to ask questions specific to treating those who have returned from war. To register go to: <http://www.wileymentalhealth.com/mentalhealthregister>.

State: Roger Ambrose, chair of the NYSCLMHD Veterans Affairs Committee traveled to Canandaigua to attend a Veterans Affairs Healthcare Network Upstate Behavioral Healthcare Leadership Meeting on February 18th. Roger presented information to statewide VA officials to update them on county level efforts to meet the needs of returning veterans. Roger highlighted the work of the CLMHD committee, focusing on the creation of guidelines for communities seeking to promote veteran specific presentations, efforts to connect local Veteran Service Coordinators and mental hygiene directors, and the opportunity to use local SPOAs to connect veterans to services.

Veterans continued on page 5

Veterans continued from page 4

Sean Tuckey MA, CASAC and Adult SPOA/AOT Coordinator in the Schenectady County Office of Community Services testified at the **NYS Assembly Hearing on Mental Health and Substance Use Services for Veterans** on February 22, 2010. His testimony focused on the need for services for veterans who are coping with mental health and substance use conditions at the same time. He spoke of the existing challenges and opportunities for closing service gaps for the estimated 90,000 veterans returning to New York State from Iraq and Afghanistan. The hearing was held jointly by the Assembly Standing Committees on Mental Health; Alcoholism and Drug Abuse; and Veterans' Affairs. To read Sean's testimony, go to: http://www.clmhd.org/UploadedFiles/Resources/Veterans%20Testimony_Tuckey_version%20%200_%20022210_129123001981663820.pdf.

National: U.S. Senator Daniel K. Akaka (D-Hawaii), Chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, held an oversight hearing Wednesday, March 3, on veteran suicide and mental health issues. Akaka, who has championed a number of veterans' mental health and suicide-prevention bills which are now law, sought to hear from veterans and VA leadership on the implementation of these measures. "Just as we must provide our troops with the equipment and tools they need when they are sent to battle, we must do more to help veterans battle the enemy of mental illness," said Akaka. "VA has made important improvements in recent years, but we must continue to work until what now seems impossible becomes a reality: that no veteran who returns from service is lost to suicide."

The Chairman's opening statement is available here:

http://veterans.senate.gov/hearings.cfm?action=release.display&release_id=53faee6f-2870-4cfb-ba16-5fcab337259f.

Overview of Fetal Alcohol Disorders Video-Conference

On Thursday, March 11th, there is a free video-conference training "Overview of Fetal Alcohol Disorders" designed for individuals who may be involved in the lives of those affected by FASD, including but not limited to: healthcare professionals, direct care staff, clinicians, day habilitation providers, residential staff, and social workers. To register go to:

http://www.omr.state.ny.us/wp/wp_catalogg1426.jsp. You MUST register by March 10th to participate. There are still openings at the 10 DDSO sites statewide.

Through the [2010 OMRDD Catalogue of Training and Talent Development Programs](#), there are opportunities for free training on numerous topics from March 2010 to August 2010. To view the catalogue in its entirety, visit: http://www.omr.state.ny.us/wp/wp_introduction.jsp

Spring Full Membership Meeting Registration

The CLMHD Spring Full Membership Meeting is to be held April 19 - 20, 2010 at the Gideon Putnam Resort in Saratoga Springs. **Registration materials will be sent to the full membership next week by email. Please watch for the message.** All members are urged to return the registration form by fax to 518-465-2695 by the deadline of March 26. The registration materials include an agenda with details on the topics and presenters. During the Tuesday business meeting there will be voting for the Election of Officers and Bylaws Amendment. We look forward to seeing all members in Saratoga!

News

- The NYS Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities is sponsoring free regional trainings. There are three separate trainings being offered on different dates across the state. The trainings are: *Close Encounters with THOSE People: A Different Perspective on Diversity & Disability*; *Start to Finish: Steps to Successful Special Education Services*; *The Next Step: Transition Services*. For further information contact Jo Fenton at Training@cqcapd.state.ny.us or call 518-388-0690.
- Expanding Medicaid: Coverage for Low-Income Adults Under Health Reform was published by the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured in February 2010. It examines the characteristics of those who would become eligible for Medicaid under proposals to extend coverage to all individuals at or below 133 percent of the federal poverty line, including income and health status, and considers policy implications. For further information go to: <http://www.kff.org/healthreform/upload/8052.pdf>.
- The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Mental Health Services is accepting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2010 Mental Health Transformation Grants (MHTG). The purpose of this program is to foster adoption and implementation of permanent transformative changes in how public mental health services are organized, managed and delivered so that they are consumer-driven, recovery-oriented and supported through evidence-based and best practices. Funding will support States and local governments to create and/or expand treatment capacity within SAMHSA's strategic initiatives. To view the entire request for applications, to go: <http://www.samhsa.gov/Grants/2010/SM-10-010.aspx>.
- The interim final rules for the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 were published in the Federal Register on February 2, 2010. To view the rules go to: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-2167.pdf>. Comments are due on or before May 3, 2010. The interim final regulations apply to group health plans and group health insurance issuers for plan years beginning on or after July 1, 2010.

The Mental Health Committee meeting that had been scheduled for March 22, 2010 has been cancelled. The meeting has been rescheduled for March 30 as a conference call only from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

NYS Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors Staff

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Executive Assistant/Office Manager

Jed Wolkenbreit Email: jbw@clmhd.org
Counsel

Meeting Calendar

Multiple Disabilities Conference Call-3/5/10
9:15 - 10:30 a.m.

Mental Hygiene Planning-3/11/10
11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., 41 State St., Suite 505

Officers & Chairs Conference Call-3/17/10
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Mental Health Committee-3/22/10-Cancelled

Veterans' Affairs 3/22/10
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., 41 State St., Suite 505

Children and Families Committee-3/23/10
8:45 - 10:15 a.m., 41 State St., Suite 505

Executive Committee-3/23/10
10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., 41 State St., Suite 505

Mental Health Committee-3/30/10
3:00 - 4:30 p.m., Conference Call

Officers & Chairs Conference Call-4/7/10
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Mental Hygiene Planning-4/8/10
11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., 41 State St., Suite 505