

Department of Mental Health

Deaf Advisory Committee Structure and Function

Purpose:

The Deaf Advisory Committee is a group of honored guests who are committed to the delivery of effective and appropriate mental health services to people who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind, and hard of hearing within the state of Missouri. It is a collaborative initiative between the Missouri Department of Mental Health, the Deaf community and professionals who serve in the field of mental health and Deafness.

Function:

The Deaf Advisory Committee will identify and participate in tangible actions and tools that result in improved care and delivery of service for Deaf Missourians who are suffering with mental illness. This may include, but is not limited to policy, legislative budget initiatives, professional and grass roots networking and communication, education and awareness, and mechanisms for the provision of culturally sensitive and culturally affirmative care.

Structure:

Members of the DAC will meet in person quarterly.

Email discussion threads will be conducted through an established email list group.

Members:

Approximately 8-12 members will constitute an advisory committee with the following priorities for representation:

- The Deaf and hard of hearing community with respect to geographic diversity
- Mental health professionals (Deaf and hearing) who serve Deaf people with mental illnesses
- Experts in the field of Deafness and/or mental health
- Deaf mental health consumer(s)
- This group will be moderated by the Director for Deaf and Multicultural Services.
- A representative from DMH will participate as a resource and liaison.
- Members are invited to serve one year terms which begin in January of each year.

DMH Responsibilities:

DMH will actively pursue and carefully consider the values, concerns and recommendations of this group as an expert panel.

DMH will provide an appropriate meeting space on a quarterly basis.

DMH will provide reasonable accommodations for participants with disabilities.

This may be in the form of interpreters, assistive listening devices or other tools based on the needs of the individual, but must be requested and approved in advance.

DMH will provide support mechanisms such as copies and presentation equipment.

DMH will reimburse participants for mileage traveled to and from the meeting site.

DMH will provide a meal for meeting participants on the day of DAC meetings.

DMH will provide a platform for interim group communications such as email list group.

ALL DAC Members Responsibilities:

DAC members will make a good faith effort to participate in DAC meetings, discussions and events, as agreed upon by the group. A designated representative of an invited organization is acceptable although consistency in representation is strongly preferred.

DAC members maintain an environment of collaboration and respect in all interactions.

DAC members function with positive regard and dignity for other members of the group, consumers and professionals within the field.

DAC members will function in integrity and honesty regarding their presentation of the views of the groups they represent to DMH.

DAC members will function in honesty and integrity regarding the role, activities and services of DMH as they represent DMH to the groups and individuals they serve.

DAC members will be truthful in their representations of and to the communities they represent.

DAC Membership for 2009

Organization	Representative	Geography
MO DMH Serving as DAC chair	Stephanie Winslow, Director for Deaf and Multicultural Services	Services Statewide
MO DMH	Lynn Carter Liaison from DMH executive leadership	Statewide
MSD Missouri School for the Deaf	Barbara Garrison Superintendent	Mid-Missouri Serving statewide K-12
Truman Behavioral Health Center	Elijah Bucholz, LPC Direct care provider	Western Missouri- KC area
LEAD Institute	Stephanie Logan, PhD.	Mid-Missouri and statewide
Deaf Services Programs Coordinator (formerly)	Cindy Lear Interpreter with mental health background	Springfield
Deaf ISL Programs	Tammy Lindley	Fulton
ADARA American Deafness and Rehabilitation Association	Suzanne Dennis	KC chapter of National ADARA
Missouri Association of the Deaf	Ella Eakins, President of MOAD	Statewide chapter of National NAD
The Whole Person	JJ Jones Deaf services coordinator and advocate	Kansas City
Paraquad	Jeff Prail Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advocacy Specialist	St. Louis and statewide
MCDHH Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	Barry Critchfield	Advocacy Statewide
Deaf Consumer of DMH Services	Angie E.	Deaf Consumer Perspective
MO DMH Deaf Services Support	Heather Eisterhold Administrative support for Deaf Services and DAC	Statewide
Division of Comprehensive Psychiatric Services	Rita McElhany	CPS Division Statewide
Division of Alcohol and Drug Addictions	Jodi Haupt	ADA Division Statewide
Division of Developmental Disabilities	Tec Chapman	DD Division Statewide