

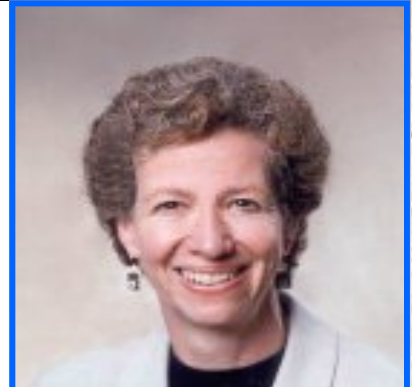
Persons Points of View

**The First
Detroit-Wayne
County
Empowerment
Day Is
March 3, 2006
At The
Samaritan Center
5555 Conner
Detroit, MI 48213
8:30 am to 2:40 pm
Limited Seating!!!
R.S.V.P by Feb 28, 2006
Call:313-833-2463**

Consumers Power Up Empowerment Day

Led by Consumer Advocate Gerald Butler, Visions, a Consumer-run initiative, has organized Detroit-Wayne County's first Empowerment Day. Members contacted clubhouses, service providers, state, and the public to put together a program for March 3, 2006. Eight clubhouses volunteered to set up displays and make presentations. A service provider arranged for the site, the Samaritan Center, 5555 Connor, Detroit, and a continental breakfast for participants as they register. State officials and Agency staff volunteered their time. Marianne Udow,

Executive Director of Human Services for the State of Michigan expects to meet with Consumers individually. The Empowerment Day Program will feature a "Question and Answer" period regarding the D-WCCMHA Plan with Dr. Visingardi, Transitional Executive Director of the Agency. Ethel Patmon, Intake Worker, Substance Abuse, will address "How To Get the Most Out of Your Treatment Plan." Colleen Jasper, Director, Consumer Relations, Michigan Department of Community Health will speak on "Recovery." Pam Werner, Specialist, Michigan Department of



Marianne Udow, Executive Director of Human Services intends to be in the audience on Empowerment Day. She wishes to meet with Consumers individually.

Community Health will talk about "Person Centered Planning and Self-Determination." D-WCCMHA Medical Director Michele Reid accompanied by Customer Services and Recipient Rights personnel will listen to Consumer questions in an adjacent room during the program.

**Volume 4 Issue 2
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**Editor: Ted Chipps
Customer Services**

**Next Monthly
Consumer
Meeting**

March 23, 2006

11:00 am

6th Floor Auditorium

D-WCCMHA

640 Temple

Detroit, MI 48201

Did You Know That?

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 1-800-273-TALK (1-888-628-9454 for Spanish-speaking callers) is the only federally funded hotline for suicide prevention and intervention. People who are in emotional distress or suicidal crisis can call the Lifeline at any time, from anywhere in the Nation, to talk in English or Spanish with a trained crisis worker who will listen to and assist callers in getting the help they need. For more information about the Lifeline, visit their Web site at www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

**A Consumer-Driven Publication from the
Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency
640 Temple, Detroit, MI 48201 Telephone: (313) 833-2500**

Board Member Speaks Out At Recent Consumer Meeting



Board Member Dorothy Doyley enthusiastically steps up to the microphone to tell Consumers some of the Agency's efforts to help empower them.

Dorothy Doyley, Board Member of the Detroit-Wayne County Mental Health Agency, paid a welcome visit at the January 19, 2006 Monthly Consumer Meeting. During a PowerPoint presentation on Empowerment, Ms. Doyley told the audience that the Board is working diligently to help Consumers in their recovery and to offer them more meaningful choices. Already, Consumers are participating more fully in the decision-making processes on various committees at the Agency and throughout the provider network. She encouraged

Consumers to become more active and more involved in activities open to them. She commended those involved in the Peer Support programs. Her comments were met with applause and enthusiasm. The January meeting also focused on recovery/self-determination and empowerment. While recovery is unique to each and every one, empowerment and self-determination are seen by many as cornerstones to success. Consumers want to expand their options by taking responsibility for their individual treatment plans. With help dreams can come true.

Peer-To-Peer Program Praised At January Meeting

More than a dozen Consumers voiced their hearty endorsements of the new Peer-to-Peer Program initiated by the Agency in cooperation with Michigan Department of Mental Health. Director of Customer Services Michele Vasconcellos announced that 15 Consumers from Detroit-Wayne County had completed classes at Higgins Lake and were on their way to becoming Peer Specialists. Final

certification for these Peer Support Specialist Candidates is scheduled for April. Peer-to-Peer Support is a new initiative in Wayne County where Consumers receive special training to help other Consumers on the road to recovery and self-determination. The program is based on the principle that recovery and self-determination are possible. The role of Peer-to-

Gerald Butler (far left), Gabriel Williams, Shirley Cockrell, Joe Hodges, and Joel Berman (far right) express their feelings about what the Peer-to-Peer training has personally meant to them. Each believes the program is of value in helping others to recover.



Peer Support Specialists is to educate Consumers about recovery and self-determination. They expect to assist Consumers with

their Wellness Recovery Action Plan and with crisis situations and conflicts. The Peer-to-Peer Support Specialists will also work with Consumers to learn self-advocacy skills and help them face fears and eliminate negative self talk.

March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

Customer Service Consumer Corner

“Keeping You In The Know”

This page of the Person Points of View Customer Service Consumer Corner “Keeping You In The Know” is a new section that you can look forward to seeing each month. You can expect to see Customer Service Consumer related information highlighted here. This Information will keep you informed of your entitled rights, benefits, services and upcoming events. You will also be given tips that will empower you to take a more active role in your path to recovery and self-determination.

Did you know that?

As a Consumer you should try to be engaged in meaningful activity. This means that you should spell out in your Person Centered Plan activities you want that will help you achieve your personal goals.

You have the right to disagree with your doctor’s decision to deny your hospital admission for mental health treatment. You can ask for another examination by another qualified physician.

You should make sure that both your physical and mental health doctors talk to each other. You should always inform each doctor about the treatment you are receiving.

You should know that you have the right to express your dissatisfaction if you disagree with actions or activities that occurs which are related to your treatment programs.

You are encouraged to invite family members, friends and advocates to participate in your preplanning meeting to work together toward achieving your dreams, goals and desires. The goal is to create a person-centered plan that will maximize your independence and community connections.

Your provider should assist you in identifying your health and safety needs and risks. You are entitled to be provided services in a safe environment.

You have gifts and contributions to offer the community. You have the ability to choose how your Individual Plan of Services and person-centered plan will help you to utilize your talent and improve your status in the community.

You should be given the opportunity to develop your person-centered plan that creates meaningful community connections and should include directions toward reaching your dreams, goals and desires.

Your providers should have a process in place to determine whether you are satisfied with the progress made from your plan of service and you should have the opportunities to make changes when necessary.

Before you start taking medication the doctor has prescribed, you or your guardian must sign a written medication consent form. On the consent form it must also say: you are free to withdraw your consent and to stop participation at any time.

If your services have been suspended, reduced, terminated or denied by your Doctor you must be notified in writing on the day of the action. No advance notice is needed. This is called Adequate Notice.

Your provider should provide you with a copy of your Individual Plan of Service (IPOS) within fifteen business days after the planning meeting.

You can review your Individual Plan of Service (IPOS) upon request and should be reviewed annually.

If you have any questions please feel free to call Customer Services at 313-833-2500.