

**ALLEGHENY COUNTY COALITION FOR RECOVERY**  
**Steering Committee**  
**MINUTES**

**October 30, 2009**

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**Chairs:** Craig Dorin, Verna Johnson

**Note Taker:** Charlotte (Chari) Frederick

**Members Present:** Sharon Alberts, William Boyce, Craig Dorin, (Monica R. Fisher), Charlotte (Chari) Frederick, Sarah Goldstein, Mike Gruber, Dennis Hughes, Verna Johnson, James Kindler, Melissa Medice, Sherry Shaffer, Wesley Sowers, Chris Weis, Denise Weis

**Guests:** Monica R. Fisher, Kathleen Papaleo

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**Welcome & Introductions:** The meeting was opened by Co-Chair, Craig Dorin.

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**Agenda Item 1: November/December 2009 Meeting**

**Committee Goal Being Addressed: Change of November/December**

**Meeting Date**

**Discussion:**

- Members were asked to check their calendars for available dates for November/December meetings. Three dates were chosen as possibilities: November 20, 2009; December 2, 2009; or December 18, 2009. It was agreed upon that a larger consensus was needed for an actual date to be set. It was determined that the sub-steering committee would work on setting a date and then inform everyone of the next meeting.
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**Agenda Item 2: Gift Basket Update**

**Committee Goal Being Addressed: When to Distribute the Baskets**

**Discussion:**

- It was decided to distribute the baskets after the keynote speaker and during the lunch break.
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**Agenda Item 3: ACCR Food Plan Status**

**Committee Goal Being Addressed: Whether to Change the Lunch**

**Arrangement**

**Discussion:**

- It was discussed whether it is more economical to change the present lunch arrangement or to keep the sandwich, salad, fruit and beverage arrangement that is presently available. There was a consensus taken and a 10+ member vote done. It was agreed upon to keep the present lunch arrangement.
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**Agenda Item 4: Committee Activities Endorsement and Collaboration**

**Committee Goal Being Addressed: ACCR Draft Goals by Committee Discussion:**

- **Bill Boyce** headed this discussion
    1. Increase ACCR communication and collaboration between ACCR committees. Will be accomplished by meeting regularly and exchanging ideas.
    2. Increase ACCR diversity (membership?) Will be accomplished not only by inclusion of those of other races, disabilities, mental health issues, drugs and alcohol, BUT, also those folks who are gay, lesbian, Muslim, Hindu, etc. where they could see that they, or those they know or love, are not alone—that others also share their differences! Where diversity is not only accepted and respected, but encouraged.
    3. ACCR will create opportunities for members to participate after they are employed. This is very necessary for family members and county people. This could be accomplished by having a quarterly "MEET and GREET" where you could bring an interested friend to enjoy an informal evening of fun, entertainment, food, and education while "mingling" in an unstigmatized environment! Perhaps this could be done at #1 Smithfield Street or United Cerebral Palsy (UCP).
    4. ACCR will increase collaboration and strengthen alliances. This can be accomplished by recruitment and orientation of what ACCR is all about. Making people feel comfortable about our Mission and our goals will help our numbers swell increasing our collaborations and strengthening our alliances.
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The Steering Committee discussed how to get committees collaborating more. It was decided all the committee co-chairs and the Steering Committee Co-chairs should meet to discuss concrete activities that can be done collaboratively. A meeting will be scheduled for December to tackle this.

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**Agenda Item 5: Membership updates** - Elise Barr and Chari Frederick were unanimously elected to be the new co-chairs

**Agenda Item 6: Committee Updates**

**Committee Goal Being Addressed: Coherency to ACCR Mission and Goals**

**Discussion:**

- **Child and Family:** Rather broad goals; attempt to tweak some; present goal is to educate and train as to increase awareness of recovery and resilience; working on tool kits for this purpose to be distributed to providers of child and family services.
- **Consumer/Provider Collaborative:** Working on communication through dialogues - several in the works.
- **Education:** Dennis discussed objectives 3 and 4 of the ACCR goals and ways to educate folks about recovery and resilience. The Committee discussed taking responsibility for Objective 2.2, creating a report about respectful communication, which can serve as the foundation for other ACCR committee activities.
- **Public Awareness:** This committee is experiencing some membership and attendance challenges. They have not met for two months. To address these challenges, it was suggested that Public Awareness and Education committee merger. It was decided that for now they would remain separate. Chris reminded the Steering Committee about the Willard Suitcases coming to Pittsburgh. They have been moved back to September instead of March! Chris also requested for folks to come on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 1:30 at #1 Smithfield in the Rachael Carson room for the Public Awareness Committee.
- **Quality Improvement:** There was some discussion about Single Point of Accountability (SPA).

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**Agenda Item 7: New Business****Committee Goal Being Addressed: Pertinent Issues****Discussion:**

- **NAMI Walk:** The walk went very well. The goal was to raise \$130,000 and to date the total is upwards of \$125,000. What a way to go---everyone involved should be very proud of a job well done!!
- **Steering Committee:** The SC is in need of a new note taker.

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**Next Meeting****Date:12/2/09****Location: Life's Work on Forbes Avenue****Time: 12:30 to 2:15**