

OCEACT Advisory Committee Meeting

4/14/2022



9:30am-11:30am

Attendees:

Ben, Asia, Liz, Cathy, Heidi, Alyssa, Christina - OCEACT
Blanca Fernandez & Ben Teese – OHA
Kathy Bootes – Laurel Hill
Jen Chun – Marion Co
Garrett Gird
Kevin Brooks – Yamhill
Lis Ovando – Jackson Co
Nicholas
Virginia Bock – Options for SO
Thomas L
Jack Haciaik –consultant
Rick Treleaven
Lisa
Christine Dowd - Tillamook

Notes:

- Introductions to Blanca Fernandez and Ben Teese, the new interim ACT service coordinators at OHA. Brenda has transitioned out of ACT service coordination and OHA is looking to hire a permanent coordinator.
 - **Blanca Fernandez, MSW**
Co-Occurring Treatment Services Specialist
Blanca.Fernandez@dhsosha.state.or.us
 - **Ben Teese**
Forensic Program Coordinator
Benjamin.Teese@dhsosha.state.or.us
- Oregon's first cohort of certified personal medicine coaches has wrapped up. Eleven IPS and ACT team staff completed a three month curriculum that included coaching calls, independent practice, weekly quizzes, documentation of practice, and a final exam. This effort is meant to bolster recovery-based services in Oregon and provide a framework for staff to utilize in order to assist participants to discover practices that aid in both getting well and staying well. The training relies on the recovery movement, the participant as their own expert in recovery, and the coaches meeting people where they are at and walking alongside them. The practice further

assists participants to look at their own practices and resiliency, rather than relying on external supports and professionals to provide all the answers.

- Spring Cohort Waitlist! Registration for Oregon Cohort #2 will begin in spring, hopefully in May. There is a \$60 fee, weekly coaching calls, weekly quizzes, and a final exam all conducted by a pair of OCEACT/OSECE training staff. Those who successfully complete the course will be granted certification as a Personal Medicine Coach by Pat Deegan and Associates. Want to know more about the CPMC training or get added to the Cohort #2 waitlist? Please reach out to anyone from [OCEACT](#) or [OSECE](#).
- TA Calls
 - OCEACT has been working to develop the core competencies of the ACT nurse. We are working with Paula Gubrud who is currently a nurse educator consultant. She is working with us to develop assessments and trainings for ACT Nurses. This is to provide nurses with the skills, knowledge and assessment skills to serve ACT individuals. We facilitated a DACUM (developing a curriculum) which outlines all the duties and tasks ACT nurses identified. In the most recent TA call, we invited other ACT nurses from around Oregon and started the validation process. We intend to send surveys to more nurses to make sure that we have really captured the role of the ACT nurse. We will develop trainings for ACT nurses so that we can have a library of trainings for new ACT nurses.
 - The May TA call, Liz Middleton, OCEACT's newest statewide trainer, will be providing an opportunity for folks to come together and discuss serving individuals with justice involvement. We will be discussing the principles of serving individuals with justice involvement and talking about how things are going around the state. We hope to identify areas where providers might need some additional training around serving individuals who are involved in the criminal justice system.
- 2022 Annual OCEACT Statewide Conference Updates
 - It will be virtual, but we do have an incredible line up
 - Keynote speakers:
 - Laura van Dernoot Lipsky – Trauma Stewardship Institute will be talking about the Age of Overwhelm
 - Andrea Redeau - Educator, presenter and Licensed Professional Counselor, as well as a clinical supervisor in Portland, Oregon – She will be presenting on the impact of systemic racism on client care
 - Peggy Swarbrick –Associate Director of the Center of Alcohol & Substance Use Studies and a Research Professor in the Applied Department of Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology at Rutgers. Peggy will present on her latest initiative: Financial Wellness
 - Julia Rogers – Lecturer at UC San Diego and author of “The Weight of Medical Authority: The Making and Unmaking of Knowledge in the Obesity Epidemic”. Julia will be presenting on “Health at Every Size”
 - Registration will be open in the next week. Please register ASAP so that we can make sure to get your name on the list to send conference swag and materials from our speakers.
- Peer Calls

- April's TA Call topic was Identity First Language. Christina Lindsey, OCEACT and Joan Keenen, OSECE, talked about people first language like "I am a person with a mental health condition" rather than saying "I am a depressed individual". They also looked at identity first language. They looked at how the individuals want to identify themselves. They may want to identify as a disabled person. They may want to identify as a blind person, or depressed person. They offered the view where the individuals can determine for themselves what is most comfortable. It is most important to ask and listen to individuals and respond to feedback from the individual. Joan Keenen, and OSECE trainer who collaborates with OCEACT on the peer calls, will be presenting this at a national conference as well.
- OSECE nominated some individuals from Oregon to receive awards at the IPS conference. All three Oregon Candidates won! They will be receiving the awards at the conference in May in Detroit. Jeff Krolick, recently retired, will be receiving the leadership award for all his 20 years dedicated to implementing IPS in Oregon. Joan Keenan will be receiving an award for peer advocacy. Malheur County IPS team is receiving an award for most improved program. Their IPS employment rates have exceeded 50% during COVID. We will be celebrating all their successes in Detroit in May.
- ACT outcomes statistic summary for Quarter 4 2021: https://oceact.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Q4-2021-OAD-Report-for-OCEACT-advisory_FINAL.pdf
- The city of Portland/Multnomah County Joint Office of Homeless Services and Multnomah County's Behavioral Health Division are working with ACT Teams and the local housing authority (Home Forward) to launch a long-term rent assistance program for ACT participants experiencing homelessness.
 - Tiffany Kingery from Multnomah County shared on the Long Term rent assistance vouchers being offered through the Joint Office of Homelessness. These vouchers are provided through the metro bond funding. They work in the same way as section 8 vouchers but they have lower barriers so ACT participants can access them easier. They can choose where they want to live with the voucher. ACT teams in the Portland area have access to these vouchers. They have got 29 referrals for the vouchers. The majority have come from Central City Concern, but NARA, Telecare, Outside In, and Cascadia have all made referrals. 14 placements have been made into permanent housing. They work with Home Forward. The process of getting people into housing is the relationship between Home Forward, the provider, and the consortium at the county level. They meet with the ACT providers, they do case consultation on finding housing. The Home Forward and Joint Office are all included in those meetings with the ACT providers. All the data is getting tracked in a data system. They will be able to look at not just individual data but also system data. They are looking at demographic information as well. The dataset is not complete yet, it is getting phased in. They will give vouchers to the intensive case management teams as well. They are hoping to get more vouchers in the future.
 - At the person level, the eligible ACT providers can fill out a referral packet that gets sent to Home Forward. Once the participant is approved, then the housing search process starts. There are very few exclusion criteria's. Things like history of sex offender and arson are two of the big things they may be denied for. It is also still up to the landlord too when it comes to receiving housing. Landlords have to be willing to rent to

individuals with the voucher. Sometimes Home Forward and providers have to be more creative when assisting individuals in finding housing like offering a higher deposit.

- The housing voucher is permanent but currently the funding is for 10 years. It can transfer to different counties in the metro area.
- Tiffany Kingery's email if there are questions: tiffany.v.kingery@multco.us