

MENTAL HEALTH COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD (MHCAB)
VACT ERRERA COMMUNITY CARE CENTER
September 11, 2013

ATTENDANCE: Stephen Frank, Committee Chairperson

Darlene Houston	Ismene Petrakis
Christina Voonasis	Nicholas Montini
Abdul-Ali Muhammad	Bob Correll
Meaghan Leddy	Joyce Cohen
Howard Sak	Barry Braman
Nicolas Montini	

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Steve Frank at 2:05 PM at the Errera Community Care Center.

II. **DISCUSSION/INFORMATION:**

- a. Steve Frank opened the meeting. Dr. Petrakis & Meagan Leddy also mention the first annual VA Mental Health Summit that was going to be taking place the next day September 12, at the Savin Rock Convention center in West Haven, CT.
- b. Joyce Cohen was here from the Purple Heart Homes Organization, they provide homes to service connected veterans of at least 10%. Joyce spoke of several programs that want to form an alliance with Purple Heart Homes to support veterans.
- c. Currently the Purple Heart Homes organization is made up of volunteers and professionals from all walks of life that share a common belief and a common desire to give back to those who have given so much for their country.
- d. Purples Heart Homes is presently involved in 5 different projects involving homes here in Connecticut that they are working on. Purple Heart Homes is presently working with over 100 veterans.
- e. Meagan Leddy, the Local Recovery Coordinator spoke about the Family Night that is taking place here at the Errera Center later that day, Wednesday 9/11, 5:00-7:00 p.m. that includes a "Voices Heard" program put on by Vietnam Veterans. She also mentioned that the next Family Night will be on 11/6, 5:00-7:00 p.m. and that one is themed "Coping with the Holidays". She also told the group that the Family Nights will be held every month for now on at the Errera Center.
- f. The question was asked, "how do we advertise to help veterans who need the help". There are OEF & OIF meetings once a month at the main hospital, for veterans who are just coming back. The group discussed how there are meetings in Middletown, CT once a month at the Armed Forces Center, for veterans.

III. **ADJOURMENT: 3:10PM**

IV. **NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, October 9, 2013 at 2:00PM, Errera Community Care Center.**

Upon review of the Chairperson, respectfully submitted by the Recording Secretary,

DARLENE HOUSTON
Recorder