



DCF Region 6 Central Citizens' Review Panel- Regional Advisory Council RAC

June 6, 2019
Minutes

Meeting called to order by Marie Mormile-Mehler, RAC Tri-Chair, opened the meeting at 5:37 pm.

Minutes reviewed, correction noted, updated and accepted.

Welcomed newcomer Shirley Bloeth and Doreen Rodriguez

Presentation CT Data Collaborative

Website: <http://ctdata.org/>

Who? A non-profit organization funded thru philanthropy, grants and CONNECT.

What? Created to "liberate data" by providing public *access and user friendly* to State and Federal data, offering ongoing learning opportunities thru the CT Data Academy and technical assistance.

How? Thru Conferences, open data calls, CT Data Academy, partnering with organizations, develop online visualizations and data storytelling for the public and data "helpline."

Projects? Designated Census Liaison (holding census workshops)

Presenter utilized the website to review data specific to Region 6 and demonstrate the ease of access. **Highlights:**

- New Britain, Meriden and Bristol have the highest teen birthrate
- Black infants are 3 times as likely to die
- 22% of the population are youth under 20.
- 29% poverty is highest amongst Latinx
- 24% are single parents; 44% in New Britain
- Approximately 70,000 children enrolled in school
- Substance Use is primarily 41% heroin, 36% alcohol and 11% marijuana (does not count prescription drugs)

A robust discussion followed. Some suggested the current programming offered or under development are ineffective because *the development table does not include folks with firsthand (former users) experience* with substance use. Further, programs do not consider the impact on the family.

Ms. Rodriguez presented information on a bill (in development) with Representative Nolan giving the medical community authority to issue a physician emergency certificate (PEC) that involuntarily detains patient for a specified number of days to provide treatment. The thought is that a user reasoning is impaired, unable to make decisions and allow for the administration of Vivatrol "a non-addictive, once-monthly treatment proven to prevent relapse in opioid dependent patients when used with counseling following detoxification."

Suggested that agencies should **capture veteran status** to consider in need and service assessment.

Statewide Advisory Council (SAC) Update

Scheduled for all day June 20th in Westbrook. The focus is to outline the department's progress on the organizational assessment and restructuring and current focus.

CAPTA Update

Site: <https://portal.ct.gov/DCF/CAPTA/HOME>

The department is collaborating with DMHAS on an awareness campaign (Plan of Safe Care) geared towards hospitals. Beacon to send a document for all to update or correct information.

Next Meeting: NO MEETING in JULY. August 1, 2019

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.