

Alliance Consumer and Family Advisory Committee

FY2018 Annual Report

Alliance
BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE

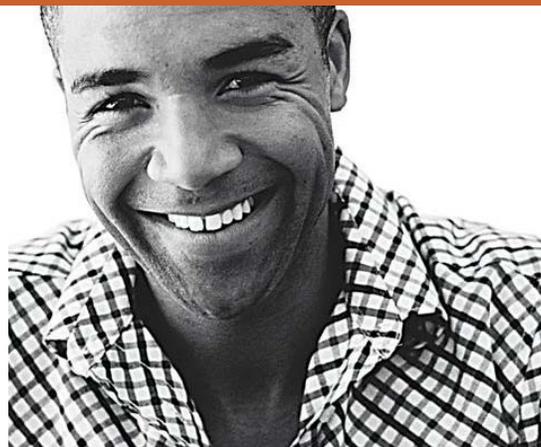


OUR VISION

The Alliance CFAC promotes a community-based support system that seeks to have each person reach his or her full potential.

This committee of consumers and family members gives voice by sharing quality input on the interests and opinions of persons with needs related to mental illness, intellectual/developmental disabilities, and substance use.

The Alliance CFAC embraces the dignity of all residents in our communities so that each person may achieve his or her highest level of engagement in the community.



MEMBERS

Dorothy Best
Jackie Blue
Jamille Blue
Dave Curro
Christopher Dale
LaDeana Dexter
Albert Dixon
Bobby Dixon
Lotta Fisher
Shirley Francis
Ellen Gibson
Leanna George
Tracey Glenn-Thomas

Faye Griffin
Cynthia Daniels-Hall
Eric Hall
Briana Harris
Sharon Harris
James Henry
Cassandra Williams-Herbert
Steve Hill
Carole Johnson
Dorothy Johnson
Tasha Jordan
Joe Kilsheimer
Israel Pattison

Tammy Shaw
Brenda Soloman
Kurtis Taylor
Tekeyyon Lloyd
Dr. Michael McGuire
Trula Miles
Carrie Morrissey
Israel Pattison
Jason Phipps
Rachel Reed
Kyle Reece
Georgory Schweizer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Israel Pattison, Alliance CFAC Chair

Medicaid transformation, along with the arrival of standard and tailored health plans, challenges us as consumers and family members to better understand the future of publicly-funded behavioral healthcare in North Carolina. During this past year we have listened attentively to presentations and discussions regarding the planned transformation and have reviewed documentation provided by Alliance and DHHS. Given all this information, we strive to know how these changes will impact North Carolinians who require services and supports.

We applaud the recent passage of House Bill 403, ensuring public management of tailored healthcare plans, supporting individuals and families with significant needs in our community. We will strive along with Alliance and the rest of the behavioral healthcare community to analyze and understand this groundbreaking piece of legislation.

Alliance CFAC members have also struggled with the seemingly never-ending news about State funding cuts for behavioral healthcare coming from our General Assembly, and it has been our privilege to share our concern and disappointment with Alliance, the State CFAC and even members of the General Assembly. We hope that by our efforts and lived experience we may affect positive change in the future.

Alliance CFAC is proud to have participated in this year's State CFAC Advocacy Day at the General Assembly. Members of our committee attended the event and shared their

stories with their legislators, adding a personal component to our message. We used this opportunity to grow our advocacy skills, making us ready and well prepared for the next round of this newly inaugurated annual event.

Membership in all of our county meetings continues to grow, adding new voices, fresh faces and great ideas. While they may not have the experience of our veteran members, we find their new perspectives to be both refreshing and good for our committee. We are excited about the prospects for the coming year fueled by the renewed energy.

CFAC continues to be blessed with an outstanding relationship with Alliance's Board of Directors. Our Chair presents monthly committee reports regarding our activities and concerns to the Board. Our ties to the Board grow even stronger as Dave Curro of Durham County, our newly-elected CFAC Chair, has recently been appointed to the Board. We know Dave well through his years of service to CFAC and we are confident that he will do well in both roles.

We thank Alliance and its Board of Directors for supporting individuals and family members as well as the communities in which we live. Though we are confronted by many challenges and changes affecting publicly-funded behavioral healthcare in our state, individuals and family members remain constant in our goal to ensure people are served both well and efficiently. We are your steadfast companions on this journey and look forward to continuing this important work together.





STATE STATUTE CHARGES CFAC WITH THE FOLLOWING RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Review, comment on and monitor the implementation of the local business plan
- Identify service gaps and underserved populations
- Make recommendations regarding the service array and monitor the development of additional services
- Review and comment on the Alliance budget
- Participate in all quality improvement measures and performance indicators
- Submit findings and recommendations to the State Consumer and Family Advisory Committee regarding ways to improve the delivery of mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities and substance use/addiction services

GOALS

- Participate in multiple community events in each Alliance county
- Enhance our efforts to educate our new members
- Advocate effectively
- Advise the Board of Directors respectfully, consistently, and well
- Listen better to our community members

CONCERNS

- Medicaid transformation
- State funding
- Unmet social needs
- Sustainability of Tailored Plans
- Stigma
- Integrated care
- Opioid crisis/substance use
- Staffing crisis for providers
- Transition services for youth
- Growing unserved populations
- School services

TRAINING RECEIVED

- Adult Mental Health First Aid
- Youth Mental Health First Aid
- Member Rights and Responsibilities
- Medicaid and Fraud Abuse
- Advanced Directives
- Mental Health Awareness
- Accessing Services
- I/DD and the Services Provided by Alliance
- Alcohol Awareness Orientation
- Recovery and Self-Determination
- Suicide Prevention
- Understanding Mental Health and Reducing Stigma



Scope of Influence

Several members of Alliance CFAC serve on other allied groups and organizations:

Alcohol Drug Council of NC

Alliance Board of Directors

Alliance Global Quality Management Committee

Alliance Human Rights Committee

American Legion

Americans with Disabilities Act

Autism Society of Durham

Certified Peer Support Specialist

Durham County Community Living Program

First in Families

Homeless Veteran's Council

Multiple Sclerosis Association

DURHAM COUNTY CFAC SUMMARY

Our Durham Subcommittee, chaired by Steve Hill, had a very memorable and eventful year. They continued to grow in membership and have welcomed three new members in Trulia Miles, Brenda Soloman and Chris Dale. They also welcomed several members of the community that weren't able to commit to serving but were interested in receiving information and having their voices heard.

This group has been very active this year. They worked hard on identifying needs and gaps within the community, and worked together to increase activities and their presence in the community.

They participated in and hosted tables at the Recovery Community of Durham Celebrates Recovery event and NAMI Walks. Tables were set up at each event and manned by CFAC members, giving information out about Alliance and CFAC and answering questions for individuals and families.

They also hosted a very successful recovery event which included a viewing of the movie *Generation Found*, which targets youth addiction recovery. Sherriff Andrews attended and was very interested in finding ways to give hope to many of the people he has to support in the jail. Wellness



City, our peer run drop-in center, collaborated with us and helped to engage the local community.

The group has also been actively involved in keeping their knowledge up-to-date on behavioral health topics. Tammy Shaw and Dave Curro attended the I2I conference in Pinehurst last December, and Dave Curro also attended the Spring Policy Conference in June.

Finally, Dave Curro and Trulia Miles spent some time down at the Legislative Building in Raleigh on State CFAC Advocacy Day, utilizing this opportunity to advocate for improved and expanded services under Medicaid transformation.



Dave Curro with Durham Sheriff Andrews at a screening of Generation Found

Scope of Influence

NAMI Durham

NAMI Harnett/
Cumberland/Lee

NAMI North Carolina

NC Council on
Developmental
Disabilities

NC Substance Abuse
Federation

Next Step Support Group

Oxford House

Peer Support Specialist

Recovery Communities
North Carolina

Special Olympics

State CFAC Chair

The Arc of the Triangle

TROSA

Veteran's Consumer
Council

Veterans of Foreign Wars



WAKE COUNTY CFAC SUMMARY

Wake County CFAC is a strong group of volunteer advocates who collaborate to improve the lives of our member's and citizens in the community. Wake CFAC makes a coordinated effort to strengthen the community through support and education which focuses on improving the lives of others.

Wake CFAC is dedicated to finding progressive ways to be an influential voice in the community while promoting healthy lifestyles.

Each CFAC meeting involves a training on topics they have requested or on widely-discussed trending topics. Next year's goal is to seek ways to identify gaps and how CFAC can help to close those gaps through education and promotion. In October, Wake CFAC members will host a community event showing the movie "Resilience" and will host a discussion afterward. Specific details are still in the planning phase.

The WAKE CFAC Subcommittee members were able to contribute

special functions to our newly-launched Wake Network of Care website. Wake CFAC members were asked to view WakeNetworkofCare.org to identify gaps or corrections. One suggestion that came from the meeting was to provide a large print icon for those with vision acuity complications. Another suggestion was to add an icon for "Ready for NC Disaster Preparedness" to keep community members informed during or after a disaster.

Wake CFAC members manned tables at resources fairs in Wake Forest, Cary and Raleigh, with the goal to educate the community about services and resources available and to hear concerns specific to intellectual and developmental disabilities, mental illness and substance use disorders.

The Wake CFAC welcomed several new members and is looking forward to a renewed energy. Carole Johnson was elected as the chairperson for this year.



"Medicaid transformation, along with the arrival of standard and tailored health plans, challenges us as consumers and family members to better understand the future of publicly-funded behavioral healthcare in North Carolina."

Israel Pattison, Alliance CFAC Chair



CUMBERLAND COUNTY CFAC SUMMARY

The Cumberland Subcommittee made significant efforts to be as impactful in the community as they can this year, spreading awareness in the outlying areas of Cumberland County as well as the metropolitan area.

Members have spoken about CFAC and Alliance to the volunteer fire departments as well as the local government officials in Godwin and Wade.

They also took part in educating the inner city of Fayetteville by being a part of the Homeless and Hunger Stand Down, passing out flyers, and speaking to the public at the Dogwood Festival and the Christmas parade. The committee has also participated in CIT training and took the opportunity to speak about CFAC. They never pass up an opportunity to have a face-to-face conversation about CFAC and Alliance.

The subcommittee welcomed three new members this year, Sharon Harris,

Briana Harris and Jamille Blue. The group challenged each other to bring at least one guest with them to each meeting to spread awareness, keep the momentum behind their membership, as well as getting the public to the meetings.

Needs and gaps continue to be a part of the discussion and the Subcommittee submitted their ideas and concerns. Members are always brainstorming ways to bridge the gap of needed information and resources for those in need.

Lotta Fisher, Michael McGuire, Jackie Blue and Jamille Blue, our chair, co-chair and members, attended the Pinehurst Fall Conference. Lotta Fisher and Michael McGuire attended NC Tide and the Alliance Budget Retreat.

The Subcommittee continues to express their concern for the impact state cuts and Medicaid transformation is and will have on their community.



Lotta Fisher

July 6, 1955 - June 17, 2018

This Annual Report is dedicated to the memory of Ms. Lotta Fisher, a longtime advocate and chair of the Cumberland County CFAC. Lotta was a friend to us all and will be deeply missed.

*Meeting Times
and Locations:*

Alliance CFAC
Steering Committee

First Monday in
February, April, June,
August, October and
December at 5:30pm

Alliance Home Office
4600 Emperor Boulevard
Durham

Alternate months by
teleconference

Alliance Durham CFAC
1820 James Street,
Durham

Second Monday of each
month at 5:30pm

Alliance Wake CFAC
Second Tuesday of each
month at 5:30pm
5000 Falls of Neuse
Road, Raleigh

Alliance Cumberland
CFAC

Fourth Thursday of each
month at 5:30pm
711 Executive Place,
Fayetteville.

Johnston County CFAC
Third Tuesday of each
month at 5:30pm

521 North Brightleaf
Boulevard, Smithfield

JOHNSTON COUNTY CFAC SUMMARY

Johnston County CFAC is led by Jason Phipps and Cassandra Williams-Herbert. Although Johnston County Area Authority has been operating in partnership with Alliance BHC, Johnston County CFAC has been fully embraced and welcomed by Alliance and Alliance CFAC. We welcomed back to our membership Dorothy Best, a longtime advocate of consumer rights in the community and across the state, and also welcomed new member LaDeana Dexter.

Our members continue to serve on various community collaborations, including but not limited to Recovery Collaborative (formerly Substance Abuse Collaborative), and the Child and Housing collaboratives.

One of our members, Leanna George, traveled to Washington, DC, to serve as the beneficiary representative on the Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission. This commission advises Congress and DHHS on payment and access issues pertaining to Medicaid and CHIP.

Throughout the year our members attended trainings and conferences, including the NC Tides Spring Conference, NC Councils of Community Programs Conference in Pinehurst, NAMI Conference and the Disability Rights Conference.



Our community outreach included participation in a Special Needs Resource Fair hosted by The Autism Society of North Carolina. We were invited by the Alliance team to help man a resource table at the Substance Awareness Event, hosted by the Johnston County Opioid Task Force and to participate in their Community Forum held at the Johnston County Agricultural Center in Smithfield to discuss the merger process between Alliance and Johnston County Mental Health.

Several of our members also attended the State CFAC Advocacy Day held at the State Legislature Building, where they had the opportunity to meet with our legislators and express our concerns for the future of behavioral healthcare funding and services.



*Jerry Dodson and Leanna George at the
Special Needs Resource Fair, Hosted by the
Autism Society of NC*