

**Psychotropic Medications
Workgroup for Child and Adolescent Mental Health**

Notes from January 5, 2009

Present:

Charlie Biss, Kim Aakre, Melissa Bailey, Sandy Bartley, Patricia Berry, Richard Boltax, Cath Burns, Barbara Carroll, Ann Culkin, Anne Donahue, Nick Emlen, David Fassler, Russell Frank, Jeanne Greenblatt, Michael Hartman, Kathy Holsopple, Monica Hutt, Kay Martilla, Alice Maynard, Bill McMains, Chuck Myers, Doug Norford, Walter Ochs, Laurel Omland, David O'Vitt, John Pandiani, Marion Paris, Deb Quackenbush, David Rettew, Amy Roth, Judy Shaw, Theodore Tighe, Ellen Vaut

Charlie Biss welcomed participants to the second meeting of the workgroup and explained the context and purpose of the group. The spirit of inquiry is the driver for the group's work. Specifically, what questions should we be asking and trying to answer about the use of psychotropic medications with Vermont's children and adolescents?

For this meeting, John Pandiani and his staff prepared data to address seven of the twenty-five questions from the first meeting. More questions are expected to emerge as we begin looking at currently available data.

See presentation: *Data for January 5, 2009* on DMH website:
<http://healthvermont.gov/mh/boards/MedicationsWorkgroup>.

At same website, see questions generated at the meetings.

Commissioner Michael Hartman emphasized that we need to base our discussion on actual data. This group is especially valuable because of the participants' depth and breadth of knowledge and experience. With this knowledge and experience, we can formulate key questions, determine what existing data do and do not tell us, and pursue additional sources of reliable data. The process may engender debate about several important topics; such discussion can be helpful in establishing the foundations for future policy decisions. In the end, we want to be able to determine if Vermont's children are being well served.

Charlie closed the meeting with appreciation for everyone's participation and the following list of meeting dates for 2009. All meetings will be from 12:00 – 2:00, and held in the Skylight conference room, Waterbury complex.

March 9
May 4
July 6
September 14
November 2

