

Minutes
Public Service and Trust Commission
Advisory Committee on Cultural Competency

The Advisory Committee on Cultural Competency met at 225 Spring Street, Wethersfield, Room 204 on October 18, 2013.

Those in attendance were:

The Hon. Richard A. Robinson, Chair; Paul Bourdoulous, Esther Harris, Precious Hyland, Cristina Johnson, Stephen Ment, Ines Nieves, Daisy Ortiz, Phil Strambler, Ewa Wojewodzki, Shawna Woodard, Alison Zawadski.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Judge Robinson.

1. The minutes from the September 20, 2013 meeting were unanimously approved.
2. The status of CSSD's *Foundation in Cultural Responsiveness (FCR) 100* was updated: an additional session will run 10/22 and 10/29, with contracted providers among the attendees. The *Train the Trainer* curriculum for *FCR100* is on schedule to be completed by the end of 2013.
3. Updating of other programs in the Branch:
 - ADA has sponsored ongoing presentations of the courses: *Successful Interaction with People with Hidden Disabilities* and *Hearing Voices that are Distressing*. Both are very well received.
 - Support Enforcement Services is continuing to hold sessions of *Culture of Poverty*, including presenting within the DMHS Cohort. Additional training on Cultural Competency is offered within SES.
 - CSSD's Hispanic Heritage Month program was a huge success. CSSD is currently exploring a program for Black History Month in February.
 - Court Operations is exploring presenting a program in conjunction with Women's History Month in March.
4. Short term goals were listed:
 - Implement FCR 100
 - Update and expand website
 - Presentations from community groups
 - Diversity Day
 - Public Service Standards
 - Research and develop performance measures

Long and short term goals are to be kept as a continuing item on the ACCC agenda.

5. Committee members participated in a detailed description and discussion of the history of Diversity Day and the details of the most recent conferences. The cancellation of Diversity Day was attributed to the budget issues and threats of layoffs. Committee members discussed ways in which to hold a Diversity Day without being dependent on the Branch providing a budget. Resources for ideas and

advice include CSSD's Hispanic Heritage Month programs as well as Court Operations Employee Enrichment Program. It was decided to explore creating a work group to further the goal of presenting a Diversity Day program. Those who are interested in working in this group are asked to email Shawna Woodard; the group then constituted will structure itself, including designating a chairperson.

6. The next meeting will be November 15, 2013. ACCC meeting dates and room reservations for 2014 have been completed; the meetings will be the third Friday of each month.
7. The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.