

**Massachusetts Association for Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (MAADAC)
Meeting (Virtual)**

Thursday, May 6, 2024

Present: Ronda Jones Tobey (President), Linda Mullis (Treasurer), , John Finneran (VP), Tom Peltz, Nancy Reis (1st VP), Mark Rebello, Ian Bain, Felice DeRuggerio, Sue O'Connor

Agenda & Minutes

President Ronda opened the meeting at 10:30 am. Introductions were made for invited guest Ian Bain from the BSAS Licensing Unit of DPH.

Ian presented the process of updating the regulations for the LADC-I.

Step 1: included the Survey that was sent out and they are just going through them now for feedback on what would be of interest to have changed.

A. Treatment of Dual Diagnosis COD language in the regs. They will be meeting with the Allied Mental Health and Mass. Social Worker Boards to gain support for the inclusion

B. Paneling – will not be a part of updates, but BSAS will be working with the insurance commission to meet parity. Possible that Maryanne would know more on how the Insurance Commission might think.

C. Including various testing entities for reciprocity toward LADC's such as NAADAC's examination, IC&RC etc. (at this time the IC&RC test can be cost prohibitive)

D. Continuing Education for Re-licensing needs to be updated making specific requirements in areas such as COD and Mental Health, boundaries and ethics, etc.

Step 2: Regulations are already in place and need to be updated.

A. Public Comment period will be open for a specific amount of time with a draft of the new regulation updates

B. Once the Comment period ends, the Regulations will be finalized and sent to the Secretary of State for Approval

Ian has indicated that the Licensing Unit would like to see a conclusion around the end of the year but can't be held to that date. MAADAC will do whatever is needed to support the LADC-I updates whenever it is needed. We will be notified before or as the Public Comment period is opening so that we can be prepared. Thank you Ian for your input – very helpful. Maryanne Frangules will also support MAADAC in its' efforts to inform and update legislators .

Discussion also ensued regarding a cooperation between the Allied Mental Health – LMHC's and Mass. Social Work Groups to increase efforts of cooperation between the three groups (LMHC/LICSW's/LADC/MAADAC) Our first effort will be to contact the President of each group. Felice will contact SW; Tom will communicate with LMHC Board. Points will be Inclusion of Addiction, Parity, etc.

Discussed that one step that can be taken would be to include CE hours for LICSW and LMHC at our Annual Meeting in January 2025, (either the 24 or 25th of January) Invite SW & LMHC.

Discussed training and David Mee Lee MD was suggested by Tom and John. Tom is going to communicate with David on availability and cost for our 2 hour training. Topic could be issues of "*Aging Out of the Field*" and perhaps include a history of the clinician's professional career and life with the developments in the field he has witnessed. Also, suggested the Outstanding Service Award for David Mee-Lee.

DDS – Ronda is sending me the final draft of MAADAC letter to DDS and inclusion of LADC-I's. Linda will send out to Board for final approval

Next Meeting June 13th at 10:30 Virtual

Respectfully submitted by Linda Mullis

For Christine Kelly