In a recovery-oriented everyday life people can and do work to recover from the symptoms of mental illness and will find hope.

Committee purpose:

Principles of Everyday Lives and Recovery:

Quality of Life Questions
People with dual diagnoses will:

**have** opportunities to pursue a full and meaningful life which foster recovery from mental illness and which provide adequate supports for their developmental or intellectual disabilities.

**be** supported and provided with adequate knowledge and information to achieve optimum health physical, mental, spiritual, other and to take responsibility for their own behavior and for management of their mental health symptoms.

**be** supported so that they may understand options and outcomes open to them and understand the choices open to them so that they may participate fully in all decision-making related to their services, supports, and personal life.

**be** supported to find ways to communicate and express themselves such that any actions related to their disabilities are not treated as "behavioral" or "non-compliant." Service and support providers will remember that "behavior has meaning...."

**be** supported to develop meaningful relationships in their communities and to have service and support options in the most integrated settings possible.

**have** meaningful opportunities to give back to their communities through education, employment and/or volunteer activities.

**have** services and support options that are based upon their own (each individual's self determined) hopes, dreams, capabilities and talents.

**be** provided support system(s) that make a clear commitment to continuous improvement and re-examination of the attitudes, policies, and practices they employ to ensure consistency with the guiding principles of Everyday Lives and Recovery.

**be** provided support system(s) that make use of professionals who have documented and specific competence in the areas of mental illness and intellectual disabilities.

*Revised 03/24/10*