



## SOAR Meeting

**Date:** July 18, 2018

**Time:** 11:00 AM

**Location:** George Washington Regional Commission

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Sam Shoukas (GWRC)
<b>TYPE OF MEETING</b>	Initial Meeting
<b>NOTE TAKER</b>	Sam Shoukas
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Lauren Dracoules (Micah Ministries) Evelyn Garcia (Child Support Enforcement) Bonnie Newcomb (Fredericksburg DSS) Samantha Stevens (Spotsylvania DSS) Alvin Gritz (DDS) Sam Shoukas (GWRC)
<b>ABSENT</b>	Georgi Fisher (DBHDS) Meghann Cotter (Micah Ministries) Felicia Taylor (Spotsylvania DSS) Hillary Wakefield (RACSB) Melissa Aylor (Stafford DSS) Jessica Martien (TBC) Rhonda Mial (FAHASS)

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	
<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p><b>SOAR Leadership Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The State SOAR lead has recently restructured the local SOAR leadership and asked the CoC leads to play an active role in coordinating SOAR in each community. The CoC will coordinate the meetings and assist with community relations while the local SOAR lead assists with SOAR process/function questions and the DDS rep helps with issues navigating DDS/SSA.</li> <li>• Meetings will be held on a monthly basis in order to provide connection in the</li> </ul>	

community and give SOAR workers an opportunity to face challenges together.

**Discussion**

- How are you using SOAR?
  - Most workers are making an attempt for employment with clients first. Many work with other employment programs to assist in that. If a client is not able to hold employment or has a serious issue where employment is not an option, than SOAR is considered as an option.
  - Referral sources include judges, child support, re-entry, shelters, direct referrals, CSB, and internal referrals.
- What issues or difficulties have you encountered?
  - Memory of clients
  - Getting in contact with clients
  - Getting clients to follow up with appointments and exams
  - Transportation
  - Communication with DDS/SSA
  - Time it takes to handhold with clients through the process
- How can regular SOAR meetings be most helpful to you?
  - Using the time to case conference through difficult cases or experiences
  - Monitoring the community for gaps in SOAR need
  - Policy Updates
  - Promoting SOAR program and expanding SOAR further in the community

**Set Standard Meeting Time**

- Standard meeting time was set for the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 11AM at GWRC.

CONCLUSION		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE