**MINUTES**

**ASH Redesign History of ASH Work Group**
Wednesday, May 6, 2020 • 1:00-2:00pm • Conference Call

**Agenda**
1. Welcome
2. State research on sharing psychiatric history – presented by Mary and Bob
3. ASH Recommendations Google Doc
4. Close

**Attendees**
Sydney Harris, Elizabeth Stauber, Mary Kahle, Jenna Cooper, Bob Ward, Charlton Lewis, Francela Brazil Williams, Alison Barajas

**Minutes**

*Welcome*
Co-Chair welcomed the group and thanked them for gathering the resources being used by the group. She reviewed the agenda. Asked for feedback on the google doc format. The group agreed that it works for the time being. The group also discussed their individual ability to contribute outside of the meeting times. A member suggested adjusting the expectations of the members and utilize the group meeting in the most efficient and interactive way possible.

*State research on sharing psychiatric history*
A member reviewed the State-by-state Analysis of the Presence of Museums or Repurposing Initiatives document. Discussed the common use of historical buildings or artifacts as “haunted” tours or “haunted” houses, which has drawn criticism from national organizations like NAMI. There was no consistent presentation of historical facts, documents, or artifacts as it is highly dependent on funding. Some exhibits were based solely on volunteer services and donations. There were some online resources including descriptions and virtual tours. It will need to be considered how the history of ASH and its artifacts interact with local and statewide efforts for historical preservation. The document highlights specific states that have some kind of preservation efforts currently. A member will reach out to Indiana Medical History Museum to get additional information on their Voices from Central State project. The group would like to focus on projects that are connected to both their architecture and community history to get best practice ideas.

*ASH Recommendation Google Doc*
Co-Chair provided some information on how the document is currently organized. Co-Chair suggested combining Preservation and Collections Management together. The group agreed that specificity around funding for recommendations will increase the likelihood of being adopted. A member clarified that any cost estimates would need to be clearly explained that they were not bidding or officially being requested by HHSC, it would just be for informational purposes. A member confirmed that all buildings on the campus had preservation assessments completed. The only current building considered storage is 524 and 501 displays items. Two
members asked if there is confirmation that there are no other records or artifacts in any other buildings. Two members confirmed that any furniture not in storage is being actively utilized by HHSC staff. Co-Chair suggested including assessment of artifact conditions and moving of storage location. The group agreed.

Close
Co-Chair proposed identifying 1-2 group members to take responsibility for the Preservation portion of the recommendations prior to the next meeting. Three members volunteered.

Action Items
1) Three members will focus on the Preservation portion of the recommendations for the next meeting
2) The State-by-state spreadsheet will be updated
3) A member will contact the Indiana Medical History Museum for additional information on their Voices from Central State project