



## **Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council**

### **Adult Quality, Access & Policy Committee**

Legislative Office Building Room 3000, Hartford, CT 06106  
(860) 240-0346 Info Line (860) 240-8329 FAX (860) 240-5306  
[www.cga.ct.gov/ph/BHPOC](http://www.cga.ct.gov/ph/BHPOC)

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*Co-Chairs: Heather Gates and Pat Rehmer*

#### **Meeting Summary**

**October 10, 2017**

**3:00 – 4:30 p.m.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor CCNA**

**35 Cold Springs Road Suite 522, Rocky Hill, CT**

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 @ 3:00 PM at CCNA,  
Rocky Hill**

*Attendees: Co-Chair Heather Gates, Co-Chair Pat Rehmer, Alyse Chin (DMHAS), Jaya Daptardar, Colleen Harrington, Dr. Charles Herrick, Sara Magistro, Mariette McCourt, Kim Nelson, Yashira Pepin, Ann Phelan (Beacon), Kelly Phenix, Sandrine Piraro (Beacon), Bert Plant (Beacon), Maureen Reault (DSS), and Erika Sharillo (Beacon), and Lori Szczygiel (Beacon)*

#### **Opening Remarks and Introductions**

Co-Chair Heather Gates convened the meeting at 3:01 PM, welcomed everyone and introductions were then made.

#### **DMHAS Budget Cuts**

Co-Chair Heather Gates commenced the discussion on the DMHAS cuts and said, "To date, the cut to the PNPs has been 5% plus targeted cuts to some programs. IOP funding was cut 90% on the assumption that there are other sources of payment for the services, i.e. Medicaid and commercial insurance."

Alyse Chin (DMHAS) said, "We do not have a budget so it is hard to know where the DMHAS funding to providers will land."

In the first Executive Order (EO) most of DMHAS budget line items were cut by 10%.

In order to mitigate impact on the people we serve, DMHAS did some targeted cuts to categories such as:

- Administrative Services, for example our Administrative Services Organizations, Beacon Health Options (Behavioral Health Homes) and Advance Behavioral Health (Administration and UM functions).
- Reimbursable Services such as PHP/IOP which were reduced by 90% grant funding
- Unused capacity
- Training Services – Women’s Consortium

To further implement the Governor’s EO, DMHAS requested and received 5% reduction plans from agencies with human services contracts. An exception to this is the Regional Action Councils & Regional Mental Health Boards, which will be funded up to December 2017. The RFP for rebidding of these services has been posted on the DMHAS website.

With the second EO, we are pausing at the 5% reduction and hoping that we will not have to make additional across the board cuts.

Heather said that the providers were grateful for being allowed to determine in which areas to cut or eliminate. The cuts are being collaboratively made and the impact will be tracked by the partnership.

## **Methadone Regulations and State Plan Amendment (SPA)**

**Status-** Maureen Reault (DSS)

Maureen Reault reported that the review of comments and feedback on the State Plan Amendment are currently being reviewed. Regulations have to be implemented and published before a SPA can be provided.

## **Data Presentation on the Prevalence of Opioid Use Disorder and High Dosage Opioid Prescribing in Medicaid –Bert Plant (Beacon)**



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Bert Plant (Beacon) gave the presentation which is based on 2015 data. There are a few portions that do have 2016 data. Pat Rehmer said that current federal funding for opioid treatment to Connecticut is based on 2012 data and not updated thus making Connecticut vastly underfunded. By the end of 2017, Connecticut will have over a 1000 deaths per year. The CDC lists nationwide; there are over 91 fatalities per day. Lori Szczygiel (Beacon) asked how does the BHPOC and the partnership come together and bring real change (outcomes) in services. Co-Chair Heather Gates asked if this report can be presented to the BHPOC. Bert said that it can be given in December 2017 with updated data from CY 2016. For further information, see the icon above.

## **New Business, Announcements, and Adjournment**

Co-Chair Heather Gates thanked Bert for his presentations and reports and asked for new business or announcements. Hearing nothing else, she announced the next meeting is Tuesday, November 12, 2017 at Alliance Office in Rocky Hill. She then adjourned the meeting at 4:26 PM.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 @ 3:00 PM at CCNA  
(formerly CCPA), Rocky Hill, CT**