

Meeting Summary for BHP Child/Adolescent Quality, Access & Policy Committee Zoom Meeting

Mar 19, 2025 01:56 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) ID: 941 8866 2994

Quick recap

Co-Chair Melissa Green led the meeting, with Co-Chair Steve Girelli absent, and discussed the need for better connections between emergency room providers and patients for adequate care. Jeana Bracey and Jamie LoCurto from the Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI) presented on the comprehensive school mental health initiatives they are working on, emphasizing the importance of a multi-tiered approach to mental health support. The conversation ended with Neva Caldwell providing an update on the Consumer and Family Advisory Council (CFAC) and Brenetta Henry announcing plans for the 10th Annual iCAN Conference.

Next steps

Carelon will distribute information about the 2025 schedule of Husky Health program benefits and services community meetings to the network.

CFAC Leadership team to implement family advisory councils statewide throughout the year.

CFAC to recruit Husky Health covered members to ensure statewide representation.

Brenetta Henry to send out information regarding the 10th Annual iCAN Conference, including theme, location, and sponsorship opportunities.

Melanie Wilde-Lane to put the link to the school-based health center mapping tool in the chat.

Neva Caldwell to follow up on the discussion about improving care coordination for patients frequently using emergency services.

Melanie Wilde-Lane MelanieWilde-Lane@CtSchoolHealth.org

<https://ctschoolealth.org/school-based-health-center/>

This is the link to our mapping tool

Summary

Improving ER Connections and School Health

Melissa Green led the meeting. The CDHI team discussed the need for better connections between emergency room providers and patients for adequate care. Melissa agreed to follow up on this issue. The meeting then transitioned to a presentation on school-based behavioral health, with Jeana Bracey and Jamie LoCurto from CHDI leading the discussion. They planned to cover the topic in two parts, with Gent Daniels and Melanie Wilde-Lane from to discuss school-based health centers. The team agreed to hold questions until the end of the presentation.

Comprehensive School Mental Health Initiatives

Jeana and Jamie from the Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI) discussed the comprehensive school mental health initiatives they are working on. They highlighted the importance of a multi-tiered approach to mental health support, including universal supports for all students, targeted supports for some, and indicated supports for a few. They also emphasized the need for a healthy school workforce and positive school-family-community connections. They touched on various initiatives, including crisis response, trauma treatment,

diversion of arrests, and connecting to care. Jamie discussed the Connecting to Care grant, which aims to strengthen the integration between schools and community-based behavioral health, increase staff and family knowledge of resources, increase capacity to access and utilize resources, and focus on internal school mechanisms. They also mentioned the Shape system, which is a free online needs assessment tool for schools. The team concluded by discussing the need for comprehensive school mental health expansion, sustainable funding for infrastructure, data integration, crisis support integration, family and youth engagement, and a forthcoming landscape analysis report.

Jeana Bracey jbracey@chdi.org and **Jamie LoCurto** jlocurto@chdi.org

Here is a Resource and Support Guide from CONNECT IV that you might also find helpful <https://www.chdi.org/resource-library/tools-and-guides/connecting-schools-to-care-iv-students> and also info on Trauma ScreenTIME to support schools in screening and identification of students with behavioral health and trauma needs <https://www.chdi.org/our-work/evidence-based-practices/screening/trauma-screentime-training>

School-Based Health Centers in Connecticut

Melanie and Gent discussed the role of school-based health centers in Connecticut, emphasizing their commitment to providing comprehensive services to students regardless of insurance or income status. They highlighted the importance of confidentiality and the need for parental consent for mental health services. Jen explained that school-based health centers cannot service IEPs and 504 plans but can diagnose students and provide psychoeducation to families. Melanie presented data showing an increase in mental health visits and services provided, with a focus on serving students with Medicaid insurance or who are uninsured or underinsured. The discussion also touched on the challenges of transitioning students from facilities back to the community and the need for more resources to support students with mental health needs.

Consumer Advisory Council Update

The meeting concludes with Neva Caldwell providing an update on the Consumer and Family Advisory Council (CFAC). She announced the implementation of statewide tours led by CFAC leadership to raise awareness about consumer and family voices in behavioral health care. Neva also mentioned upcoming community meetings about HUSKY Health program benefits and services. Brenetta announced plans for the 10th Annual iCAN Conference, seeking a new venue and sponsors. Melissa closes the meeting, announcing the next meeting date as Wednesday, April 16, 2025.