



**Behavioral Health Partnership
Oversight Council
Coordination of Care Committee
Medical Assistance Program Oversight Council
Quality and Access Committee**

Legislative Office Building, Room 3000, Hartford CT 06106-1591
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www.cga.ct.gov/ph/BHPOC

Chairs: Representative Jonathan Steinberg, Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Kelly Phenix & Benita Toussaint

MAPOC & BHPOC Staff: Kayleigh Royston and David Kaplan

The Committee will work with the Departments of Social Services, Children and Families, and Mental Health and Addiction Services, and the administrative services organizations that administer medical, behavioral health, dental and non-emergency transportation, to identify and monitor key issues that may impact whether individuals and families in the HUSKY Health program and receive person-centered coordinated services. The Committee and its partners, along with parent and community input, will seek to ensure that participants in the HUSKY Health program receive behavioral health care that is coordinated with their medical (primary and specialty care), dental, pharmacy, and transportation services.

Meeting Summary: May 22, 2019

1:00 – 3:00 PM

1E LOB

Attendees: Chair Kelly Phenix, Chair Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Chair Benita Toussaint, Dr. Lois Berkowitz (DCF), Michelle Chase, Brenetta Henry, Michael Loneragan, Althea Mabayoje, Quiana Mayo, Sabra Mayo, Trevor Ramsey, Bonnie Roswig, Erika Sharillo (Beacon), Eunice Stellmacher, Jacquelyn Stupakevich (Beacon), Kimberly Sullivan, Rod Winstead (DSS), and Carleen Zambetti (DMHAS)

Introductions

Co-Chair Benita Toussaint convened the meeting at 1:10 PM, welcomed everyone, the attendance sheet was passed around, and introductions were made. She then inquired for any new announcements and hearing none, she asked Brenetta Henry to give the first report.

Due to technical problems, a number of people apparently did not receive notice of this meeting.

BHP Consumer/Family Advisory Council Update- Brenetta Henry and Michelle Chase

Brenetta Henry reported that DHP came to their meeting and did Data Collection CT that is a survey on service delivery and child health-early childhood disease for the Healthy CT 2020 Initiative. Brenetta also announced that CFAC members are planning the 5th Annual iCAN conference with a theme of “Sustaining Communities through True Partnership”. It will take place on September 26, 2019 at the Artist’s Collective on Albany Avenue in Hartford. They are looking for sponsorship and vendors.

Michelle Chase reported on the Legislative Breakfast that was held on April 11, 2019 in the Legislative Office Building (LOB) Legislative Dining Room. Members met with legislators and had conversations about their affairs and talked about Medicaid. It was a dual language meeting in both English and Spanish.

At the May meeting, Bill Halsey did a demonstration on Tele-medicine. He will be returning for the next meeting with a video on tele-health.

Discussion on the Process of Election of Co-Chairs –Current Co-Chairs

Co-Chair Janine Sullivan-Wiley reminded members that there was interest in rotating the non-appointed Co-Chairs. Both Janine and Lois Berkowitz (DCF) then gave the background of the history of appointments and of the elections of the Consumer Co-Chairs. The Co-Chairs met prior to this meeting to address the ongoing concerns: This committee is comprised of both MAPOC and BHPOC- each of which appointed a Co-Chair. There has not been a format established this far. The Coordination of Care Committee was a part of BHPOC and Consumer Access has been under MAPOC, both of which operated separately. It was recommended that the two subcommittees combine and historically, most of the chairs of the subcommittees have been nominated by the Executive Committee. Part of the rationale was to have stronger consumer and family voice. MAPOC has since renamed their Consumer Access Committee to Quality Access. There were some concerns about the change in focus this might represent.

This combined committee wanted a process for the elected co-chairs. Committee members came up with the following requirements for an individual to be nominated for a Consumer Co-Chair position:

- Any consumer Co-Chairs need to either be a current HUSKY (Grey CONNECT card) member, caregiver for or the immediate family member of a HUSKY member who share the same residence
- Ready, willing and able to provide leadership and be a mentor to new leaders
- Must study the issues and come prepared for discussion
- Must have been present at 80% of committee meetings
- Must be able to set the agenda, conduct meetings and work with the committee members
- Nominations would be limited to those who have attended council meetings for a period of no less than one (1) year at an attendance rate of 5 of the 6 meetings.
- Previous Co-Chair must sit out a 2 year term before running for another term

The position of consumer Co-Chair will have term limits: two (2), two (2) year terms, time served is retroactive. Nominations will take place in September, elections in November, and term begins in January of every other year.

Trevor Ramsey made a motion for the requirements above, seconded by Althea Mabayoje. Janine called for a vote, and all agreed by consensus with no nays or abstentions.

Update of Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT)-Rod Winstead (DSS)



CoordCareQualAccess
s5-22-19NEMT March

Rod Winstead (DSS) thanked members of CFAC for having him, Bill Halsey and another DSS employee to give the Council a demo on tele-health. They will follow-up next month with a tele-health video.

He passed out copies of the monthly reporting package (see above icon) and presented a summary of the report.

Rod explained to the committee about the on-going lawsuit and why Veyo was not present. Members were concerned that there was very little consumer voice in discussions with Veyo. Members reported ongoing issues with being stranded (no ride for long periods), the impact on both providers and consumers of being a no-show, and an interest in having this contract re-bid. Bonnie Roswig stated that First Transit had the highest points, but DSS chose Veyo because of their technology proficiency. Rod said that the State feels that it is in the best interests of continuing working with Veyo. He continued saying that “We’re not there yet and not it’s not perfect but we are trying to work with Veyo to excel”. The contract is a three (3) year contract that ends on December 31, 2020. The State is not saying that Veyo is providing the level of service they would like to see but that to request to start this process over, potentially with another vendor, would be more detrimental to the State.

There was a discussion about dialysis patients and how far they could go for treatment. Rod said for urban patients it was 10 miles and for suburban patients it was 20 miles and he had no knowledge that any dialysis patients were ever denied a ride for treatment. He was given contrary information that this was not correct. Members noted that in the data it was clear that in April there were 110 denials due to distance; in March 2019 that number had jumped to 382. This change has been a cause of considerable distress. Rod emphasized that during any dispute, the client still gets the services. There is still a medical necessity process for when people need to exceed the 10/20 limit. Beacon Health also asked that they be contacted if a client misses an appointment due to a ride issue. Members of the joint committee requested the State Auditors look at the Veyo response numbers and accuracy in how they are providing transportation services with a motion by Michelle, seconded by Althea and approved unanimously. .

Follow-up to the Discussion on the Spend-down Process:

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DSS/Brochures/Medical-Medicaid-Medicare/spndown.pdf>

Co-Chair Janine Sullivan-Wiley said that due to DSS not having an individual be available to come to this meeting, the follow-up discussion would be deferred to the July meeting.

Other Business and Adjournment:

Co-Chair Kelly Phenix said that if the Medicaid Savings Plan (MSP) asset limit is put in place, there will need to be a discussion on that. Also, Kelly is on MAPOC and can report back to the Coordination of Care/Quality Access Committee. Co-Chair Janine Sullivan-Wiley asked for new business. Hearing nothing else, she asked for a motion to adjourn. Brenetta Henry made the motion and it was seconded by Michelle Chase. She then announced the next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 24, 2019 at 1:00 PM in 1E, and adjourned the meeting at 3:11 PM.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 24, 2019 @ 1:00 PM in Room 1E LOB