

Meeting Summary for BHP Operations Committee Zoom Meeting

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Quick recap

The Operations Committee of the Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council convened to discuss updates on the CCBHC planning grant, Medicaid rate increases, and potential federal impacts on Medicaid. The committee received updates on the CCBHC planning grant's progress, including the finalization of contracts with contractors and the formation of steering committees and work groups. The meeting also covered proposed Medicaid rate increases for upcoming fiscal years and the need for contingency planning in case of potential changes to Medicaid funding.

Next steps

Fatmata Williams (DSS) to continue working on finalizing contracts with the four contractors for the CCBHC planning grant.

Fatmata and team to develop an RFA process for the CCBHC planning grant.

Stephanie Springer (DCF) and team to continue sending out information and recruiting members for the CCBHC steering committees and work groups.

Fatmata and team to continue efforts to constitute the CCBHC steering committee as soon as possible.

DSS team to continue analyzing different scenarios for potential Medicaid changes, including impacts on the expansion population and federal matching rates.

DSS team to monitor discussions at MAPOC meeting next week for any updates on Medicaid scenarios.

DSS team to continue monitoring potential impacts on the Medicare Savings Program as part of Medicaid change scenarios.

Summary

CCBHC Grant Updates and Work Committees

The Operations Committee from the Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council, chaired by Heather Gates, convened on a Friday afternoon. The meeting focused on updates regarding the CCBHC planning grant next steps, any information on Medicaid rate increases, and potential federal impacts on Medicaid. Fatmata provided an update on the CCBHC planning grant, noting that the grant was no longer conditional, and a disparity impact statement had been submitted. The team is currently finalizing contracts with four contractors to help advance the grant work. Stephanie emphasized the importance of capturing diverse groups for the steering committees and work groups and that they are working hard to constitute the steering committee as soon as possible.

Medicaid Rate Increases and Contingency Planning

Heather and Fatmata discussed the proposed Medicaid rate increases for fiscal years 26, 27, and 28, totaling 10.4 million and 25 million respectively. Fatmata clarified that these figures were from the Governor's proposed budget and not yet finalized. They also discussed the potential for equalizing rate increases between adult and child codes, but no specific area was targeted yet. Fatmata mentioned that they were preparing for different scenarios, including a potential reduction in the federal match for the expansion population under the ACA, and a block grant system. Kelly Phenix raised concerns about the Medicare Savings program, which Fatmata confirmed was being considered. The conversation ended with Heather expressing the need for contingency planning in case of Medicaid changes.