

# Connecticut Medicaid Managed Care Council

## Meeting Summary: November 9, 2005

*Co-Chairs: Sen. Chris Murphy & Jeffrey Walter  
(Next meeting: December 14 @ 2 PM in LOB RM 1D)*

Present: Sen. Chris Murphy & Jeffrey Walter (Co-Chairs), Dep. Comm. Stacey Gerber, Karen Andersson & Scott McWilliams (DCF), Mark Schaefer (DSS), Thomas Deasy (Comptroller's Office), Dep. Comm. Pat Rehmer (DMHAS), Barbara Parks Wolf (OPM), Ellen Andrews, Paula Armbruster, RoseMarie Burton, Connie Catrone, Heather Gates, Dr. Davis Gammon, Sharon Langer, Judith Meyers, Patrick Monahan, Pat Naylor, Sherry Perlstein, Dana Marie Salvatore, Barbara Sheldon, Dr. Ramindra Walia, Susan Walkama, William Gedge, Beresford Wilson, John Volket, Janice Perkins (Health Net), Richard Sheola (VOI), M. McCourt (Council staff).

October meeting summary: a motion to accept the October BHP Council meeting summary was made by Judith Myers, seconded by Sherry Perlstein; the summary was accepted without changes.

Barbara Sheldon, a HUSKY parent representative to the Council, announced she has accepted a position as the VOI Peer specialist manager and will resign from the Council. Mr. Walter thanked her for her work with the council and subcommittees.

Richard Sheola (VOI) introduced Lori Szczygiel LMHC as the BHP Service Center Vice President. Ms. Szczygiel has had extensive management experience and work with states in service delivery transitions.

**Behavioral Health Partnership (DSS & DCF) Report** (*click on icons below to view meeting handouts*)



Report/discussion highlights:

- ✓ DSS expects CMS to approve the waiver amendment within the 90-day CMS timeframe. The BHP/ASO contract execution is pending.
- ✓ The Master Covered Services table (3<sup>rd</sup> icon above) and the service class grid are also on the BHP state web site: [www.ctbhp.state.ct.us](http://www.ctbhp.state.ct.us). The service class grid provides the range of billing codes within prior authorized services.
- ✓ ValueOptions web site for providers and consumers is being developed – [www.Ctbhp.com](http://www.Ctbhp.com)
- ✓ Informational forums & meetings:
  - **Registration for the Provider information forum can be done on line:**

**When: Thursday Dec. 1, 2005 8:45 AM at**  
**Where: Crowne Plaza, 100 Berlin Rd, Cromwell, CT**  
**Attendees: BH providers and non-BH providers**

- **5 Public meetings for consumers about the CT BHP Program from 5:30-7:30 PM**  
*When & Where:*

- **Nov. 28 @ Hill Regional Career HS, New Haven**
- **Nov. 29 @ Timexpo, Timex Museum in Waterbury**
- **Nov. 30 @ Village for Families & Children, Hartford**
- **Nov. 30 Bridgeport church of Nazarene, Bridgeport**

**Target audience: HUSKY A & B members receiving BH services & their families, advocates, family organizations, interested community members, providers. See information & meeting directions at [www.CTBHP.com](http://www.CTBHP.com)**  
**Contact FAVOR with questions 1-866-630-6055**

- ✓ The Coverage & Coordination of Medical and Behavioral services transition plan (5<sup>th</sup> icon) outlines ASO/MCO coordination responsibilities.

#### **BHP Clinical Management Committee**

The Committee review of several level of care (LOC) guidelines recommended by the BHP Council's Provider Advisory Subcommittee and approved by the BHP Council has been completed and the guidelines have been given to VOI to enter into their system. (View the BHP Committee approved guidelines documents as they are added to the state BHP website). The Committee met immediately after this Council meeting to review documents approved by the Council at this meeting (see guidelines under Subcommittee reports, Provider Advisory Subcommittee). Dr. Andersson commended Susan Walkama and the Provider Advisory Subcommittee for the tremendous work they have accomplished since April 2005.

Mr. Walter directed the Council's attention to the Provider Advisory Subcommittee recommendations regarding **Children's Intermediate Care** (that includes Partial Hospital (PHP) and Intensive Outpatient (IOP) guidelines. Susan Walkama stated that as the Subcommittee reviewed the adult PHP guidelines, they recognized that the guidelines under review were unclear in differentiating PHP and intensive outpatient (IOP) levels of care and admission criteria to PHP. (i.e. admission could be from the community as a diversion from inpatient care as well as step down level of care from inpatient). The Subcommittee recommended language changes in the Adult LOC guidelines that clarified these issues. This review led the Subcommittee to revisit the Child Intermediate guidelines and the recommendation that the Child Intermediate Care guideline criteria be similar to the adult guidelines for the following:

- Allow for direct referral to PHP/IOP from inpatient as a step down or as a diversion from inpatient care.

- Add clinical criteria that allows for “suicidal ideation or threats that may lead to suicidal gestures or attempts” rather than actual gestures or attempts.
- Change admission criteria language to “may” have failed in outpatient care rather than “must” have failed in that care setting.
- Allow IOP as a step down from either PHP or inpatient care.

There was a lengthy discussion of the recommendation that reflected the oversight role of the Council, the importance of and legislative expectation of having flexibility in the implementation of level of care guidelines as part of the system reform and the need to establish a review of the guidelines in the first quarter of 2006, which would be a “trial period” to evaluate the effective implementation of the guidelines.

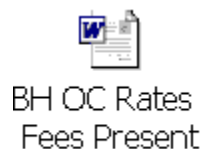
Dr. Schaefer (DSS) stated the BHP Clinical Management Committee would review this recommendation on 11/9, although the Child Intermediate guidelines have already been entered into the VOI system. Dr. Schaefer commented that such changes may be administratively costly, that children have access to more diverse community-based services than adults, VOI staff training could include the child intermediate care admission criteria issues and necessary changes could be made after the 1<sup>st</sup> 2006 quarter. See Child Guidelines submitted to the Clinical Management Committee below. Guidelines can be viewed on [www.CTBHP.state.ct.us](http://www.CTBHP.state.ct.us) as the BHP Committee finalizes them.



### *BHP Rates & Fee Schedule Updates*

The first two documents (page 1) include information on the provider specific rates for higher levels of care, methodology, HUSKY A enrollment by county by plan effective 7/1/05, IICAPS fee schedules, along with VOI updates. Discussion highlights:

- ✓ All MCOs but Anthem have provided the BHP agencies with BH rates in effect July 1, 2005. The BHP will establish interim rates based on these rates and Anthem rates in effect March 2004. Letters informing providers of the BHP interim provider specific rates will sent out the week of 11/21/05. (See table 1 in March 05 doc below for identification of “provider specific” services).



Sen. Murphy expressed concern that the BHP does not have all the July 1, 2005 rate data to calculate interim rates, given that the start date of the BHP program is Jan. 1, 2006.

- ✓ Outpatient rate fee schedules, which also include intensive home services other than IICAPS, will be put on the state BHP web site as they are calculated: [www.CTBHP.state.ct.us](http://www.CTBHP.state.ct.us).
- ✓ The CT Hospital Association will convene a meeting December 6 to review individual hospital rates.
- ✓ The enhanced care clinic (ECC) rates fee schedules will not yet be posted. ***Mr. Walter referred the ECC criteria to both the Provider Advisory and Quality Management Subcommittees for review and recommendations back to the BHP Oversight Council. BHP was requested to send the criteria to the Council Co-Chairs and both Subcommittee Chairs. The Council Executive Committee will also review them before the December 14 BHP Council meeting.*** The BHP would like to see the implementation of ECCs by **March 2006**.
- ✓ The BHP is committed to investing the budgeted MCO rate increase into the BHP program. **BHP will discuss rates and ECC rates at the December BHP Council meeting.**
- ✓ Sen. Murphy suggested that the BHP agencies evaluate the LOC guidelines and interim rates after the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2006.

### **Increasing Consumer/Family Participation in the BHP Council**

Jeffrey Walter addressed the importance of increasing Consumer/Family participation in the BHP Council's oversight processes. Comments and suggestions:

- ✓ Establish a separated Consumer Subcommittee: Mr. Walter was concerned that the consumer/family voice may then be missing in the deliberations of the other 4 subcommittees.
- ✓ Develop a consumer/family committee within the existing Quality Management & Access SC.
- ✓ FAVOR, a family advocacy organization, is advising the BHP and VOI in the development of BHP program brochures, public forums and member service training issues. The VOI Peer Specialists will seek advice from local advocacy groups. BHP and local advocacy are working on details of the member communication plan and will consider the role of HUSKY Infoline in this process.
- ✓ Continue/increase communication between the Children's BH Advisory Council (CBHAC) and the BHP Council. Mr. Walter requested an invitation to CBHAC to explore ways to collaborate and communicate.
- ✓ Mr. Wilson will recruit a family representative to fill Ms. Sheldon's seat.
- ✓ Child Health & Development Institute of CT (CHDI) completed a family survey for CBHAC and can share the results with the BHP Council/subcommittees.

### **BHP Council Subcommittee Reports**

#### *Provider Advisory: Chair Susan Walkama*

Click on the icon below to access level of care (LOC) guidelines previously approved by the Council in September /October and the 13 LOC recommendations reviewed at this Council meeting (these had been sent to the Council members when they became available prior to the November meeting).



BHP OC  
for SC LOC upx

**Council Action:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the Provider Advisory Subcommittee 13 LOC recommendations presented. The BHP Council voting members unanimously approved the recommendations that will now be sent to the BHP Clinical Management Committee for final approval and adoption into the VOI system.

The next Subcommittee meeting TBA pending receipt of the Enhance Care Clinic proposed criteria.

Transition Subcommittee: Co-Chairs Steve Larcen for Steve Fahey & Susan Zimmerman

Click on the icons below for the October subcommittee summary and outline of key consumer and provider transition issues.



BHP OC  
Transition SC 10-05



BHOC TRANS  
ISSUES.doc

The Subcommittee will meet Tuesday Nov. 29 at 11 AM in LOB RM 1A. A Council member's question about the BH vendor claims payment process beyond 12/31/05 was not responded to at the Council meeting; further discussion will take place at the Subcommittee meeting. Please see a matrix of the claims/appeal timelines at the end of the Transition Oct. summary (icon #1).

DCF Advisory Subcommittee: Chair Heather Gates



BHP OC DCF  
Advisory SC 10-05

Please click on icon above to view the DCF Advisory SC meeting summary. Heather Gates stated the Subcommittee is seeking to engage more families in the SC work. The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 30 at 9:30 –11 AM at Riverview Hospital administration building conference room.

Quality Management & Access Chaired by Dr. Davis Gammon, Vice-Chairs Paula Armbruster, Sheila Amdur

Click on icon below to view the Oct meeting summary.



BHP OC  
lity SC 10-05.

Dr. Gammon discussed a recommendation from the September Subcommittee meeting for BHP interagency review of current provider data collection and consideration of uniform data collection to avoid duplication and reduce provider administrative tasks where possible. The Subcommittee will review this at the December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting and report recommendations back to the Council. Ms. Salvatore noted that the Children's BH Advisory Council has developed standards for data collection that can be shared with the Subcommittee.

#### **Other**

The Council Chairs will send a letter inviting a representative from the State Department of Education to participate regularly in the BHP Council since BHP issues involve education.

#### **The next two BHP Oversight Council meeting dates:**

- **Wednesday December 14, 2005 at 2 PM in LOB RM 1D**
- **Wednesday January 18, 2006 at 2 PM in LOB RM 1D**