



Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council

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Co-Chairs: Rep. Phil Miller, Hal Gibber & Jeffrey Walter
Meeting Summary: June 12, 2013

Next meeting: **July 10, 2013 @ 2 PM in LOB 1E**

Attendees: Representative Phil Miller (Co-Chair), Jeff Walter (Co-Chair), Dr. Karen Andersson (DCF), Rick Calvert, Terri DiPietro, Judith Dowd, Sharon Dexler, Dr. Ronald Fleming, Heather Gates, Dr. Steven Girelli, Peggy Hardy, Dr. Charles Herrick, Jennifer Hutchinson (DMHAS), Thomas King, Sharon Langer, Steve Larcen, Stephen Merz, Judith Meyers, Michael Michaud, Steve Moore (CTBHP/VO), Sherry Perlstein, Kelly Phenix, Galo Rodriguez, Mark Schaefer, Dr. Jeffrey Shelton, Maureen Smith, Vicki Veltri, Susan Walkama, and Janine Sullivan Wiley

BHP OC Administration



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Co-Chair Representative Phil Miller convened the meeting at 2:06 PM and members introduced themselves. He then spoke about recently passed legislation, specifically HB 6706 otherwise known as the implementer to the budget concerning General Government and how it affects the Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council (see above). The mechanism how the Council would enforce its' Legislative Authority has been eliminated but departments still must make every effort to incorporate recommendations of the Council when setting rates. In addition, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, the BHPOC in consultation with DCF, DSS and DMHAS shall identify a savings of one million dollars. Judith Dowd (OPM) said this can be achieved through rate parity of Medicaid and Medicare and restructuring of methadone rates through rate changes that would make sense. Also, the implementation of sections of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) which is set to take effect on January 1, 2014 will also identify some savings. Janine Sullivan Wiley is worried this will eliminate access. She says there is a need for BH services to expand and not to cut. Phil also talked about how Newtown related legislation incorporates changes in the Mental Health system that also includes numerous task forces, one of which is a Mental Health Task Force that Council member, Kelly Phenix was appointed to and she will act

as the liaison between the Council and the MH Task Force. Co-chair Jeff Walter reviewed with Council members of the meetings that the Executive Committee held in the spring with members from OPM, the Governor's Office and agency commissioners and encouraged Council members to go and talk with their appointers to remind them about the work of the Council and what it does. He said that this was a good opportunity to get feedback and educate appointers about how the Council does different work than other parts of government and how their lack of understanding and support can lead to less transparency in government. Co-chair Phil Miller asked for a motion to accept the May summary. Kelly Phenix made the motion and Peggy Hardy seconded. All voted in favor to accept the summary as written.

Action Items

No Action Items this month.

Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership Agency Reports **Department of Social Services (DSS)**

Bill Halsey is out of the office this week and will report to the Council next month.

Department of Children and Families (DCF)

<http://www.ct.gov/dcf/cwp/view.asp?a=4159&Q=488020&PM=1>

Karen Andersson said the above link will bring readers to the DCF Continuum of Care website where all reports, presentations and meeting notes can be obtained. Karen referred to legislation PA13-3 and that it would positively impact children in the state. The law contains a number of task forces, one of which Council member Kelly Phenix will be a member. DCF will receive \$10 million from this new law and part of the funds will go to MCPAP type of enhanced psychiatric services for children in Connecticut. It will also expand Trauma Focus Cognitive Behavior Therapy and will support foster and best model kinship guardianship for families and IICAPS in Connecticut will be expanded as well. The budget also includes money for Solnit and the Behavioral Health Home initiative. Maureen Smith said that she is delighted to see that IICAPS will be offered to non-HUSKY children. She wanted to know if commercial insurers have agreed to provide this level of care. Karen replied that she could not answer that yet. This may be too soon but the BHP is going to do an exhaustive study on the outcomes of this model and how it can be effective for children. In response to a question, Karen referred to SB 972, an act concerning the mental, emotional, and behavioral health of youths. This new law will conduct a study to evaluate the current behavioral health support system available to children in the state. It requires developing a comprehensive plan to meet everyone's mental health in the state. Steve Larcen asked if there will be regional access programs for IICAPS and if DCF will come back with plans to the Council before they are implemented. Karen replied that they are still in the process to identify the roll-out, re: expansion of IICAPS and mental health programs. She said that she would bring back his suggestion as a recommendation to the department and would get back to the Council. Susan Walkama said this looks as if it would have a tight timeline and stated that this may be an issue the Child/Adolescent Quality, Access & Policy Committee could get as an update at its next meeting.

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS)

Jennifer Hutchinson gave a brief budget update and said the department is still reviewing legislation that affects DMHAS as a whole. The budget restored proposed cuts to Connecticut Mental Health centers. She added that the Medicaid LIA (HUSKY D) population would henceforth be called MCLIP (Medicaid Coverage for Low Income Program).

Committee Reports

Coordination of Care: - Sharon Langer, Maureen Smith, Co-Chairs

Co-chair Sharon Langer reported that the committee met jointly with MAPOC's Consumer Access Committee on May 22, 2013. Susan Lane (Director of Grants) of Planned Parenthood of Southern New England gave a presentation on Family Planning Limited Benefit. Also, Judi Jordan (DSS) gave an update on Non-Medical Emergency Transportation (NEMT). DSS does not feel comfortable about releasing the new transportation regulations before they are implemented and the committee would like the department to share them before-hand. She said the co-chairs of the committee will write a letter to Commissioner Bremby requesting to see the regulations before they are proposed in the CT Law Journal and implemented. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 19, 2013. Topics will include an audiology and pharmacy presentations as well as transportation (NEMT) issues and other updates. The September meeting will include a report on Mental Health and screening. Regarding family planning, Janine Sullivan Wiley said that her agency is seeing that more young adults are choosing to get pregnant. She is also concerned that curb-to-curb transportation limits mobility for some clients. Steve Merz said that the low number of transportation complaints is suspect. Co-chair Maureen Smith weighed in and said she thought that many complaints would be resolved when the system went to one ASO but so far, the results are disappointing. Consumers can call Logisticare at 1-888-248-9895; HUSKY Health at 1-800-859-9889 for accessing health services, coordination of care, and to file a NEMT complaint.

Child/Adolescent Quality, Access & Policy: – Sherry Perlstein, Hal Gibber, and Robert Franks, Co-Chairs

Sherry Perlstein reported that committee will meet on Friday, June 21, 2013. Presenter Martha Stone of the Center for Children's Advocacy will give a report on Disproportionate Minority Contacts of Children in the Juvenile Justice System and Karen Andersson (DSS) will give a clarification between the Second Plan Amendment (Behavioral Health Homes) and the Innovation Grant. Steve Larcen asked about ED for more than 24 hours and asked if the committee was following this. Steve Moore (VO) said that Value Options is tracking this information (only for HUSKY clients) and that for April-May there was a high volume of "stuck" kids in the EDs. Steve Merz backs up that fact. Steve Larcen replied that the committee should receive this data and report the trends back to the Council to review.

Adult Quality, Access & Policy: - Howard Drescher, Heather Gates, and Alicia Woodsby, Co-Chairs

Heather Gates reported the sub-group continues to work on the Health Home design with DMHAS for provider requirements and other directives. There is a good chance that the committee will suspend all remaining meeting dates until the work on Behavioral Health Homes is completed.

Operations: – Susan Walkama and Terri DiPietro, Co-Chairs

Susan Walkama explained that the CPT Code Changes were reviewed with providers and DSS about the transitions to the billing codes. Most questions by providers were answered. She said that ECC model and rate methodology would be looked at with the anticipated concern of expected increases in health reform. To be discussed at the next meeting; is the current ECC model meeting the needs of the system. The committee is looking to establish a sub-committee work-group to look at models in other parts of the country. Terri DiPietro said the committee received updates on home health services. She also reported that there was no movement in Janine Sullivan Wiley's questions related to smoking cessation. In Bill Halsey's (DSS) absence, the Council will have to wait until next month for an update.

Presentation and Discussion

State Innovation Model- Vicki Veltri (Health Care Advocate), Michael Michaud (DMHAS) Region 4 Manager& Project Manager, and Mark Schaefer (DSS & UCONN)- Associate Project Director, SIM Initiative



BHPOC6-12-13 SIM
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See above report. The State Innovation Plan is a limited project that began On April 1, 2013 and will end on September 30, 2013. It will examine changes in the healthcare system and recommend improvements in care delivery and to the system as a whole. According to Mark Schaefer, this is a federally funded program and essentially all who apply for funding, will receive it. Co-chair Jeff Walter asked if the Council could have an update on the SIM initiative after it is finished in the fall and he thanked the presenters for coming and explaining and taking questions on the project.

Adjournment

Co-Chair Jeff Walter asked for further comments, questions, or other business. Hearing nothing, he adjourned the Council meeting at 4:24 PM.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 10, 2013 @ 2:00 PM 1E LOB