



Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council

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Co-Chairs: Rep. Phil Miller, Hal Gibber & Jeffrey Walter
Meeting Summary: April 9, 2014

Next meeting: **May 14, 2014 @ 2 PM in 1E LOB**

Attendees: Hal Gibber (Co-Chair), Jeff Walter, (Co-Chair), Dr. Karen Andersson (DCF), Rick Calvert, Sharon Dexler, Terri DiPietro, Howard Drescher, Catherine Foley-Geib, Heather Gates, Dr. Steven Girelli, Bill Halsey (DSS), Peggy Hardy, Colleen Harrington (DMHAS), Dr. Charles Herrick, Sharon Langer, Stephen Larcen, Stephen Merz, Judith Meyers, Nancy Navarretta, Lois Nesci, Kimberly Nystrom, Sherry Perlstein, Kelly Phenix, Dr. Bert Plant (VO), Galo Rodriguez, Maureen Smith, and Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Dennis Torres, and Dr. Joseph Woolston

BHP OC Administration

Co-chair Jeff Walter announced that due to over-crowded parking, the meeting would convene shortly. He then convened the meeting at 2:19 PM by welcoming everyone and asking the members to introduce themselves. He welcomed Dennis Torres to the Council who took the place of Jesse White-Frese, representing school-based health centers. Next he asked Council Members to approve the March 2014 summary. A motion was made to accept, seconded, and approved unanimously in favor to accept the summary as written. Co-chair Hal Gibber spoke on the May Council meeting that will serve as a Forum for family members and advocates who work in support of and in partnership with behavioral health issues and services. The forum will be open to all advocates for, and consumers of, behavioral health services for children in Connecticut and will focus on quality and access to services.

Action Items

No Action Items.

Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership Agency Reports

Department of Social Services (DSS)

Bill Halsey said the federal government has delayed ICD-10 (International Classification of Diseases), which providers use to submit claims for payment, and DSS would not implement it on October 1, 2014, as originally planned. ICD-9 will continue to be accepted.

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS)

Colleen Harrington gave an update on the Behavioral Health Homes plan, which has been submitted to CMS for approval. The department is still waiting to negotiate the fiscal model with CMS. They are also looking to award an Administrative Service Organization (ASO) to run

BHHs. Most likely the implementation date will be pushed back to sometime next year. Co-chair Jeff Walter asked if providers have been notified as to who the enrollees are for the BHHs. Colleen replied that discussions have begun with non-profit providers and email contacts have been established. There was discussion around the breakdown of the \$10 million allocated for Behavioral Health Homes. The BHH is a care coordination model that includes physical healthcare expertise. Steve Larcen asked how the \$10 million will be spent. Grant dollars go for a primary care consultant/physician, nurses, and care coordinators. Heather Gates asked if it allows designated providers the capacity to purchase adequate care access already existing in the healthcare system. Funding is not to be spent on direct services (which will continue to be reimbursed under Medicaid and through existing DMHAS grants). Colleen also explained that there will be a two-tiered rollout, first to the private, non-profit Local Mental Health Authorities (LMHAs) and then to the DMHAS (public) LMHAs.

Department of Children and Families (DCF)

Karen Andersson said that the only announcement is that Christina Stevens was replacing Bob McKeagney as the new Director of the Division of Clinical Consultation and Support.

IICAPS Presentation and Update-Dr. Bert Plant (VO) and Dr. Joseph Woolston, Albert J. Solnit Professor of Pediatrics and Child Psychiatry, Medical Director, IICAPS Services



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Dr. Bert Plant (VO) introduced the presentation and the next presenter, Dr. Joseph Woolston. He said IICAPS services have evolved over the last calendar year and it is composed of a partnership of Value Options, Yale and the State Agencies (see above presentations for details).

Discussion

Kelly Phenix's suggestion to invite IICAPS families to participate in the May forum was widely seconded. She hopes to hear directly from families if people are getting better and what the percentages are. Janine Sullivan Wiley commented the return on investment may be little savings now but later on, years from now, people's lives will have both meaning and good content. Maureen Smith echoed her words, saying it is a matter of quality of life versus dollars. Steve Merz asked if any part of the IICAPS program could be less expensive. Dr. Plant replied that provider flexibility and different code authorizations did not predict outcome findings. Dr. Steve Girelli commented that grants versus fees for service could be looked into to find savings. Cathy Foley-Geib asked if race and ethnicity played a part in treatment matching and engagement. She said that this needs to be looked at to make sure minorities are not getting labeled into a dysfunctional system. Dr. Plant said that race and ethnicity is not a predictor of outcomes in IICAPS. Dr. Steve Larcen said that this was a terrific report, one of the best the Council has ever had. Co-chair Jeff Walter agreed and thanked Dr. Plant and Dr. Woolston for their presentation.

Committee Reports

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



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Co-chair Sharon Langer made the announcement of a special meeting on April 23, 2014 for her committee. It will be a discussion stemming from legislation PA-13-178 (see invitation/agenda above). It is open and the public is urged to attend with suggestions, comments and issues. Co-chair Maureen Smith said that the May 28, 2014 committee meeting would focus on NEMT Transportation issues.

*From previously: Consumers who are still experiencing difficulty with transportation appointments 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

To report next month.

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

To report next month.

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

To report next month.

Other Business/Adjournment

Co-Chair Jeff Walter thanked everyone for coming and reminded Council Members that there will be a Consumer/Youth/Family public forum at the May 14, 2014 Council meeting and asked for a full attendance for the forum meeting. The Executive Committee has a sub-committee that will work on the process and invitations. He urged Council Members to contact Hal Gibber and/or Howard Drescher with any suggestions for the May Forum. After that, he asked for further comments, questions, or other business. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 4:06 PM.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 @ 2:00 PM 1E LOB