



Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council

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www.cga.ct.gov/ph/BHPOC

Co-Chairs: *Rep. Mike Demicco, Hal Gibber & Sharon Langer*
Meeting Summary: June 8, 2016
1E LOB

Next meeting: **July 13, 2016 @ 2 PM in 1E LOB**

Attendees: Representative Mike Demicco (Co-Chair), Sharon Langer (Co-Chair), Karen Andersson (DCF), Marijo Brinker, David Borzellino, Dr. Elliot Brenner, Rick Calvert, Terri DiPietro, Dr. Andrew Feller, Cathy Foley Geib (Judicial), Heather Gates, William Halsey (DSS), Colleen Harrington (DMHAS), Carolann Kapur, Tom King, Judith Meyers, Steve Moore, Marie Mormille-Mehler, Dr. Sabooh Mubbashar, Kim Nystrom, Kelly Phenix, Pat Rehmer, Knute Rotto (Beacon), Joseph Sullivan, Janine, Sullivan-Wiley, Meryl Tom (DPH), Susan Walkama, Beresford Wilson, Rod Winstead (DSS), and Valerie Wyzykowski (OHA)

BHP OC Administration

Co-Chair Sharon Langer convened the meeting at 2:02 PM, and announced to the Council that the meeting was being recorded by CTN and asked members if they would explain the acronyms that they use. This will better aid the public in understanding the discussion. Introductions were then made and Sharon reminded everyone to sign the attendance sheet. She also told Council Members that the presentation by Susan Walkama (Wheeler Clinic) set later in the meeting on Health Equity will be postponed due to technical difficulty. It will be presented at a future meeting. Sharon then welcomed new Council member, Marijo Brinker, DMHAS consumer appointee to the Council. Next, Sharon asked for a motion to accept the May meeting summary. Beresford Wilson made the motion and it was seconded by Pat Rehmer. There was no discussion. All members voted to approve the summary as written, no one opposed nor were there any abstentions.

Action Items

None

Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership Agency Reports:

Department of Children and Families – Karen Andersson

Status of FY 17 Budget

Karen Andersson reported that DCF has a \$38 million budget reduction and is going to lay-off 169 staff people, primarily from the Connecticut Juvenile Training School and from the Central Office. There are no details on community services reduction yet. She said that during the following week, there will be a more definitive analysis.

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services –Colleen

Harrington

FY2017 Budget Implementation Highlights

Approximately \$55m in DMHAS budget changed from original FY17 budget

- Reductions accomplished through strategic reorganization of services.

Community level (PNP):

- **\$4.5 million SA and MH grant reductions to Medicaid eligible services**

An example is FQHC outpatient services

4.2% across the board change for the following services (\$1.2m)

Intensive outpatient programs

Partial Hospitalization

Outpatient

Residential detox

Council Co-Chair Sharon Langer asked Colleen where specifically reductions in services will be made. Colleen replied that there are 76 layoffs and vacancies were eliminated. In addition, already identified programs scheduled for elimination are state staff for military support and the Valley View Café (where employment training takes place) at Connecticut Valley Hospital (CVH). Sharon then asked how much money this will save. Colleen replied that that she did not know but she will find out. Janine Sullivan-Wiley asked if these reductions will affect education and training program (for DMHAS and DMHAS funded-providers). Colleen replied that there are changes in terms of staffing (reductions). Janine also asked about the on-line training. Colleen said that she will follow-up and find out more for the next meeting. Colleen also had follow-up answers from questions asked to her from Council Members at the May meeting.

Follow up on the 1-800 opioid abuse hotline:

- The 1-800 line is 24 hours/day but the providers/programs/services the caller is referred to may not be available 24/7
- Although the line was set up specifically for opioid/prescription drugs, they will respond as best as possible to the substance use problem the caller is presenting
- Each agency runs their program/agency access differently
- The 1 800 line calls are being tracked for location of the caller, specific requests made, instructions the caller is given, results of follow up calls;
 - Data should be available late summer/early fall
- The line is being staffed by ABH during “routine” hours and by Wheeler, via a subcontract, after hours, evenings, nights and on weekends

How often do pharmacists prescribe naloxone? How often is it being used?

- The Department of Consumer Protection Drug Control Division reports it has no way of knowing how often anyone prescribes (including pharmacists) naloxone or any non-controlled substance.
- Usage of naloxone would be even more difficult to identify.
- At this point, about 600 pharmacists have been trained and there are approximately 150 pharmacies with a pharmacist that can prescribe naloxone.

Department of Social Services-Bill Halsey



BHPOC6-8-16MAPOC INVITATION June 16
6-10-16 DSS Issue Br LOB Public Forum Beh

Bill Halsey reported that there are two immediate cuts for DSS. There is a 5% reduction to providers for dental services for children (issued in a 6/1/16 policy transmittal) and a rate reduction for homecare services (see above report). DSS is working with the Homecare Industry to reduce costs on homecare medication administration services. DSS hopes to gain a net savings of \$20 million by reducing the number of daily visits RN's have to make to prompt clients to take their medications. The 15% reduction in reimbursement was cited in the Law Journal on May 31, 2016 and announced in a policy transmittal on June 1, 2016. Kim Nystrom said that there will be a public forum on the 15% Funding Cut to CT Psychiatric Community-Based Services on Thursday, June 16, 2016 at 10:00 AM in 1D LOB (see invitation above).

Rod Winstead (DSS) gave an update on Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT). He said that DSS issued a request for information (RFI) in March and six replies came in and did presentations. The department is in the process of issuing a request for proposal (RFP) by the fall of 2016. The department is taking into consideration all information identified by consumers, advocates, and the Legislature. See Coordination of Care Committee Report below.

Carolann Kapur (DSS) talked about how HUSKY A parents (17,888) are losing Medicaid coverage effective August 1, 2016 and what providers and consumers need to know. There are

efforts underway to help low-income parents stay insured when they are slated to lose HUSKY A (Medicaid) coverage on July 31st. These are low-income parents who are affected by the 2015 rollback in eligibility last August from 201% FPL to 155% FPL. At that time they were notified that they remained eligible for HUSKY A for another year because they qualified for "transitional medical assistance" (TMA) under Medicaid. Now the one year of TMA coverage is ending. There is an intensive outreach campaign to reach these parents by enrollment fairs, postcards, social networking, etc. A 60-day notice was sent out and a 30-day notice will go out at the end of the month. Co-Chair Sharon Langer encourages anyone who is going to lose their medical coverage should make appointments now for medical, dental, and behavioral health visits. For more information go to <http://learn.accesshealthct.com/husky-move/>

Court Support Services Division-(Judicial-CSSD)

Cathy Foley Geib, Assistant Director of Juvenile Family Services at the Court Support Services Division, gave an update on how the cuts and rescissions are affecting the Judicial Branch. There is an overall \$77 million cut from the budget. \$40 million of that money is from personal services and that translate into a cut of 300 people from the department, effective on June 23, 2016. \$7 million comes from the consolidation of juvenile court houses and a \$30 million cut in programs from services. There is also an across the board cut of 6.9% in contracts with vendors of services. Beresford Wilson asked what positions were being cut. Cathy said they come from juvenile marshals, judicial security officers, clerk staff, detention officers, layoffs in adult probation services and juvenile probation services, family relations counselors, reductions in clinical coordinator staff, and case management specialists. In terms of level of care residential facilities, a girl's detention center in Hartford is closing on July 1, 2016, and an alternative center for boys will be closed too. Cathy said that she will be in a better position to report more next month. Susan Walkama said the Council needs to focus on the individuals affected by these cuts.

Health Equity Presentation- Susan Walkama, President and CEO, Wheeler Clinic

The presentation was postponed to a future meeting.

Committee Reports:

Coordination of Care: - *Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Co-Chair, Brenetta Henry, Co-Chair*
Co-Chair Janine Wiley Sullivan reported that at the May meeting there was a report from DSS and Logisticare on Non-Medical Emergency Transportation (NEMT) and a discussion of RFP legislation (H.B. 5437) which recently passed the General Assembly (Editor's note: This legislation was vetoed by the Governor on June 3, 2016 and overturned and re-passed by the Legislature at Special Veto Session on June 20, 2016. The bill becomes law on July 1, 2016.



NEMTVeto Message
SA 16-8 HB 5437.pdf

http://cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&which_year=2016&bill_num=5437).

The next meeting will be on July 27, 2016 at 1:00 PM in 1E LOB.

Child/Adolescent Quality, Access & Policy: – *Steve Girelli, Hal Gibber, and Jeff Vanderploeg, Co-Chairs*

Terri DiPietro gave the report due to the absence of both Co-Chairs of the committee. The committee met last month and had a presentation of the quarterly review on Child/Adolescent Utilization Trends across Levels of Care given by Knute Rotto, Lindsay Betzendahl, and Heidi Pugliese (Beacon Health Options). There was also a discussion led by Karen Andersson (DCF) on increased family consumer involvement on the committee. Both the Utilization presentation and committee meeting summary can be found on-line on the BHPOC Website:

www.cga.ct.gov/ph/BHPOC . The next meeting will be on July 20, 2016 at 2:00 PM at Beacon (formerly Value Options), third floor, Hartford Conference Room, 500 Enterprise Drive, in Rocky Hill, Connecticut.

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

Co-Chair Heather Gates reported that the committee met on Friday, May 20, 2016. Agenda items included a presentation by Beacon Health Options on the Follow-up on ED Trend Data given by Dr. Laurie Vander Heide (Beacon). This will be reported every quarter to track trends. There was also an update on Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs). Colleen Harrington (DMHAS) gave an excellent overview on Access to Opiate Dependent Treatment and Support and there was supposed to be a discussion with the state agencies on the Impact of State Budget on Adult BH Services and Access but the state budget was not yet passed. Heather hopes to have that discussion at the June 17th meeting. The main presentation will be Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) Review. The July 15th and August 19th meeting dates are **canceled**. **A new regular meeting date of the second Tuesday of the month was established with a new meeting time of 3:00 PM.** As a result the next meeting will be Tuesday, September 9th. These new dates were distributed and published on-line on the BHPOC Website. Meetings are held at the Connecticut Community Non-profit Alliance (CCNA) office, formerly Connecticut Community Provider Association- CCPA: Suite 522, 35 Cold Springs Road, Rocky Hill, CT.

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

Co-Chair Terri DiPietro reported that at the June committee meeting there was a discussion on the APC Implementation for hospitals and the impact on BH access. This new payment structure will go into effect on July 1, 2016. There was an update on Enhanced Care Clinic (ECC) expansion. They will be in Torrington, Stamford, Norwalk, Bridgeport, and Waterbury. However, even with these new locations, there will still be access across the state. Beacon also provided a good presentation on medication assisted therapy and the need for after care. Terri reported that MCAA received a grant for vivitrol. This committee also had a discussion on State Agency Assessment and the impact of budget reductions on service access. Autism Services are being transferred from DDS to DSS. Bill Halsey (DSS) said that this should not have an effect on consumers. Terri also reported that dental service providers are subject to a 5% reduction in reimbursements effective July 1, 2016. The July 1st meeting is **canceled** and the next meeting

will be on August 5, 2016 at 2:30 PM in the Hartford Conference Room (third floor) at Beacon Health Options in Rocky Hill, CT.

New Business/Meeting Announcement/Adjournment

Co-Chair Sharon Langer thanked the agencies and members for their participation. She then asked for further comments, questions, and/or other business. Beresford Wilson asked if two new members could be opened up for consumer youths or young adults from ages 18 to 26. Sharon said that the Executive Committee can take that up for consideration and bring it back to the Council for a robust discussion. Hearing nothing else, she asked Council Members if the August meeting should be canceled due to family vacations. All agreed that it should be **canceled**. She then reminded members the next Council meeting will be July 13, 2016 at 2:00 PM in 1E LOB and asked for a motion to adjourn. Beresford Wilson made the motion, seconded by Janine Sullivan-Wiley and the meeting was adjourned at 3:52 PM.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 13, 2016 @ 2:00 PM 1E LOB