



Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council

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Co-Chairs: Rep. Mike Demicco, Sharon Langer & Beresford Wilson
Meeting Summary: June 14, 2016

1E LOB

Next Meeting is July 12, 2017 @ 2 PM in 1E LOB

Attendees: Sharon Langer (Co-Chair), Beresford Wilson (Co-Chair), Dr. Lois Berkowitz (DCF), David Borzellino, Dr. Eliot Brenner, Rick Calvert, Alyse Chin (DHMAS), Terri DiPietro, Dr. Andrew Feller, Dr. Alice Forrester, Dr. Frank Fortunati, Jr., Heather Gates, William Halsey (DSS), Dr. Charles Herrick, Susan Kelley, Mickey Kramer (OCA), Judith Meyers, Dr. Sabooh Mubbashar, Maureen O'Neill-Davis, Ann Phelan (Beacon), Kelly Phenix, Bert Plant (Beacon), Pat Rehmer, Julie Revaz (DOJ), Galo Rodriguez, and Janine Sullivan-Wiley

BHP OC Administration

Co-Chair Sharon Langer convened the meeting at 2:06 PM, asked members to sign the attendance sheet, and the Co-Chairs introduced themselves as did the members. Sharon informed members that the May summary was not ready yet and will be sent out to them soon for their review and voted upon at the July meeting.

Sharon told Members that Dr. Stephney Springer will be soon joining the Council as the new DCF Liaison and in the meanwhile, Dr. Lois Berkowitz has agreed to continue to come to Council meetings. Sharon thanked Lois for her continued support and active partnership with the Council. She also welcomed Alyse Chin who is officially replacing Colleen Harrington as the DMHAS Liaison. Not a new comer to the Council, Alyse has represented the department from time to time. In addition, Sharon announced that Council Member Deena Tampi is moving out of state with her family and has stepped down from the Council. She had been appointed by the Governor to fill a seat reserved for a "general hospital or specialty psychiatric hospital". She asked members to recommend names of people who would be able to fill that opening.

Finally, Sharon announced her own retirement from Connecticut Voices for Children at the end of August and said that her co-chairpersonship will need to be filled from within the Council. Nominations should be sent to Council Administrator David Kaplan by the next meeting date. She talked of the extraordinary honor of being Co-Chair of the Council and participating in the Council since its inception. She stated that it was a privilege to support the work of the members, the Council and more importantly, the work of the Partnership. She was concluded in a round of applause.

Action Items



BHPOC6-14-17Comm
itteeLeadershipProtoc

Co-Chair Sharon Langer re-introduced the attached revised proposal for a protocol to select Committee Co-Chairs. Terri DiPietro made a motion to accept the proposal and was seconded by Alice Forrester. Hearing no discussion, she called the question to accept the motion. All voted to accept with no abstentions and the motion was unanimously accepted.

Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership Agency Reports:

Since there is not final state budget, the agency liaisons (DSS, DMHAS, DCF, and Jud) could not report on the impact of the budget on funding and programs.

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services –Alyse Chin

The Project- ECHO (National Project) RFQ deadline is June 16, 2017 at 2:00 PM for responses. Bert Plant (Beacon) said that Beacon will qualify providers with the opportunity to participate in an education and consultation web-based audio video on how to give medication assisted treatment for opioid disorders. Bert said that they are trying to reach out to as many different types of providers that are out in the state.

Department of Social Services-Bill Halsey

Bill Halsey (DSS) said that Project-ECHO does not address the rate issue, as it is more for peer coaching with the treatment of suboxone and narkan. A discussion ensued on the differential reimbursement rates depending on the type of provider.

Department of Children and Families – Dr. Lois Berkowitz

There will be a Community Conversation for June 21, 2017 at Beacon for young adults with opioid problems followed by a Community Conversation with and for caregivers and families involved in opioid treatment. Contact Marcia Murray at Marcia.murray@ct.gov for more information.

Health Equity Roadmap: Bert Plant (Beacon)



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-17HEALTH EQUITY R

Bert Plant (Beacon) presented a strategy for improving health equity in the BHP by analyzing access to behavioral health clinic services.. For the full description of the “Roadmap”, see the

icon above. Co-Chair Sharon Langer introduced the presentation by describing that the BHP is using the health equity lens to improve access and outcomes in the behavioral health system. Bill Halsey (DSS) explained that the agencies started seeing reports that showed disturbing discrepancies in the extent to which different racial/ethnic populations were accessing services. So in 2015, DSS, DCF, and DMHAS directed Beacon to conduct a Health Equity Study. The study found evidence of disparate utilization of behavioral health services across various levels of care when comparing racial and ethnic groups. The goal of the BHP is to ensure that *all people have the right to equal access to care*.

Health Equity is defined as the realization of systems and conditions that provide all people with the opportunity to achieve good health through equitable access, quality, and outcomes of health care.

Health Disparities are differences in health care access, quality, or outcomes among distinct segments of the population that are systematic, avoidable, and unjust.

Committee Reports:

Coordination of Care: - Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Co-Chair, Kelly Phenix, Co-Chair, Benita Toussaint, Co-Chair

Janine Sullivan-Wiley told Council Members that at the last meeting they received an update on Pharmacy data questions and a report on Logisticare and Non- Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) RFP. Total Transit from Arizona won the right to negotiate a new NEMT contract with the state. Logisticare will maintain the contract until December 31, 2017. See the DSS Website for the procurement process. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 26, 2017 at 1:00 PM. (Editor's Note: This meeting was canceled.)

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

No report was given due to the absence of Steve Girelli, Co-Chair. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 21, 2107 at 2:00 PM in the Hartford Conference Room on the third (3rd) floor at Beacon Health Options in Rocky Hill, Connecticut.

Adult Quality, Access & Policy: -Heather Gates, and Pat Rehmer, Co-Chairs

Heather Gates said at the last meeting a report was given by Lindsay Betzendahl of Beacon on adult population statistics. The report can be viewed on-line on the BHPOC Website. All meetings are at 3:00 PM at the CT Non-Profit Alliance office, 35 Cold Spring Road, #522, Rocky Hill, CT.

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

Co-Chair Terri DiPietro said the committee discussed methadone rate changes and received an update on Autism Services. There are not enough autism services providers in the state. The next meeting on Friday, July 7, 2017 at 2:30 PM in the Hartford Conference Room (third floor)

at Beacon Health Options in Rocky Hill, CT will be focus on Behavioral health regulations review and will look at policy transmittals. (Editor's Note: The July meeting was canceled.)

BHP Consumer Family Advisory Council (CFAC) Update

Kelly Phenix gave the update from the Consumer Family Advisory Council (CFAC). She told Council members that many of the people on CFAC feel more connected to the work of the BHPOC. Kelly is the liaison for both Councils and reports back and forth between the two groups. The next annual i-CAN Conference will be held on September 28, 2017 at the Artist's Collective in Hartford from 8:00 AM to 2:30 PM. For more information see the Beacon Health Options Website.

New Business/Meeting Announcement/Adjournment

Co-Chair Sharon Langer thanked Bert for his presentation and the agencies and members for their participation in the Council meeting. Sharon then asked for new business. Hearing none, she announced the next meeting to July 12, 2017 at 2:00 PM in 1E LOB. Co-Chair Beresford Wilson thanked Sharon for Co-Chairing the Council, her leadership. Sharon then adjourned the meeting at 3:57 PM.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 @ 2:00 PM 1E LOB