



Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council

Legislative Office Building Room 3000, Hartford CT 06106
(860) 240-0346 Info Line (860) 240-8329 FAX (860) 240-5306

www.cga.ct.gov/ph/BHPOC

Co-Chairs: Rep. Mike Demicco, Pat Rehmer & Beresford Wilson

Meeting Summary: December 13, 2017

1E LOB

Next Meeting is January 10, 2018 @ 2 PM in 1E LOB

Attendees: Representative Mike Demicco (Co-Chair), Pat Rehmer (Co-Chair), Beresford Wilson (Co-Chair), Paul Acker, Eliot Brenner, Rick Calvert, Alyse Chin (DMHAS), Terri DiPietro, Ted Doolittle (OHA), Judith Dowd (OPM), Dr. Andrew Feller, Dr. Alice Forrester, Heather Gates, William Halsey (DSS), Dr. Charles Herrick, Jill Holmes-Brown, Judith Meyers, Steve Moore, Dr. Sabooh Mubbashar, Maureen O'Neill-Davis, Kelly Phenix, Bert Plant (Beacon), Dr. Stephney Springer (DCF), Representative Jonathan Steinberg, Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Lori Szczygiel (Beacon), Cindy Theran (Jud), Meryl Tom (DPH), Susan Walkama, and Dr. Ben Zigun

BHP OC Administration

Co-Chair Pat Rehmer convened the meeting at 2:03 PM, and introductions were made. Pat then asked members if they had reviewed the November summary and if there were any changes. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to accept the November BHPOC summary. Kelly Phenix made the motion and it was seconded by Judith Meyers. All voted to accept the November summary as written with no nays or abstentions. Next, Pat introduced a new part of the Council meeting by announcing that at the beginning of every Council meeting under Administration; there will be allotted five (5) minutes for public comment from the audience. Depending on the number of people wishing to speak, time will be limited for each individual comment. This will begin at the January 2018 Council meeting.

Action Items

None

Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership Agency Reports:

Department of Social Services-Bill Halsey

Bill Halsey announced that as of January 1, 2018, a new Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) Administrative Service Organization (ASO), Veyo, Total Transit, Inc. will be replacing Logisticare. Janine Sullivan-Wiley asked if the new contract had oversight and penalties for failure for service or on-time service. Bill said that this contract is more flexible and gives Veyo more leverage in working with transportation sub-contractors. DSS is very hopeful that there will be fewer issues with Veyo. Alice Forrester (Clifford-Beers) said that they

practically employ a full-time person to keep track of transportation and said that they would provide a quarterly report to DSS on NEMT. Bill said that the department would welcome such input. Bill also announced that the change in the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) was postponed until March 1, 2018. By that time, the department is hoping that there will be new legislation to lessen the impact upon consumers. Rick Calvert asked about the Children's Behavioral Health Plan and rehabilitation option. Bill responded that the Department answered CMS questions regarding this and they are waiting for approval and then they can discuss the rehab funding. They are still waiting for approval on the clinic regulations for methadone maintenance and clean-up language but these regulations can go into effect immediately. Co-Chair Pat Rehmer asked Bill if the Department had anything to report on the Governor's Mitigation Plan that had just been released prior to the Council meeting. Bill replied that he had not seen the plan yet and knew no details.

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services –Alyse Chin

Alyse Chin indicated that she too, had no details on the Governor's Mitigation Plan and nothing more to report.

Department of Children and Families – Dr. Stephney Springer

Dr. Stephney Springer said that the Department is still going through the budget and the Department is working with the Judicial Department on the transition of certain juvenile services to the judicial branch. Co-Chair Beresford Wilson said that Public Act 17-02 had language that would transfer CCSD services to the Judicial Department. He asked how to continue this process and by what means did the Department continue to engage consumer representation in the process. Dr. Springer said that she did bring Beresford's concerns to the Department but it is still a part of the conversations with Judicial. Nothing is definitive at this time.

(From last month's DCF Council report) With respect to some of the budget implications for DCF's juvenile justice mandate, included in those reductions is over 12M that currently funds a range of programs that serve both our juvenile justice and child protection populations. While our investments in community based services have focused on diverting youth from the juvenile justice system, with this budget we must now shift some of our focus to working with the Judicial Branch and OPM to determine next steps to ensure a seamless transition of these services that minimizes disruptions to these children and families. In addition, effective 1/1/18, there will be no new admissions to CJTS to provide DCF time to effectively plan and support the facility's closure for 7/1/18.

Judicial Branch – Cynthia Theran

Cynthia Theran confirmed that the branch is working collaboratively with DCF on the transition process of certain youth services and she can provide further feedback at future Council meetings.

Committee Reports:

Coordination of Care: - *Rep. Jonathan Steinberg, Co-Chair, Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Co-Chair, Kelly Phenix, Co-Chair, Benita Toussaint, Co-Chair*

Janine Sullivan Wiley reported on the new transfer of NEMT services to Veyo. She said that consumer members are pessimistically hopeful that this company will run NEMT better than the last ASO. She gave out the new contact telephone number to be used for NEMT appointments as of January 1, 2018: **1-855-478-7350**. She said that she hopes that Veyo will provide a higher level of service. She complimented Rod Winstead (DSS) for his consistent accessibility and support for consumers and their questions and issues pertaining to NEMT. Janine announced that it was with great pleasure to have Representative Jonathan Steinberg represent MAPOC and the Consumer Access Committee as the Co-Chair of the joint committee. This should help avoid duplication of reports between MAPOC and BHPOC. Rep. Steinberg has already met with a Veyo representative and he is more positive that there will be real time transactions to meet the needs of the consumers using NEMT and real opportunity for success. Janine also reported that the committee members were happy with the postponement of the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) changes until the first of March 2018. The next meeting will be January 24, 2018 at 1:00 PM in 1E LOB.

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

The November 2017 had a report on the Future of Evidence-Based Practices in Connecticut (EBPs) by Dr. Jason Lang, Ph.D. of the Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI) and Dr. Eliot Brenner, Ph.D. of the Child Guidance Center of Southern Connecticut (CGCSC). Please go on the BHPOC Website for the full report. The December meeting is canceled.

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

Co-Chair Heather Gates reported that the December meeting was canceled and the next meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2018 at 3:00 PM at the CT Community 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 that there was no meeting this month but some committee members are working with Lois Berkowitz (DCF) on the Level of Care (LOC) guidelines. The next meeting will be on Friday, January 5, 2018 at 2:30 PM in the Hartford Conference Room (third floor) at Beacon Health Options in Rocky Hill, CT.

BHP Consumer Family Advisory Council (CFAC) Update- Kelly Phenix

Kelly Phenix gave the report for the December meeting. She thanked Steve Girelli for coming to the last meeting and presenting a summary of how the BHPOC and its committees function. They have formed an Adult sub-committee that will reach out for more adult involvement and will inform and educate members on issues such as HUSKY A, how to give testimony, and feel

comfortable talking to large groups, etc. This month CFAC will celebrate its first year in partnership with the BHP. On January 11, 2018, there will be a field trip to the LOB to familiarize members with the legislature. They are meeting in 1D from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. All are welcome and are encouraged to attend to address the CFAC members.

Presentation- OPIOID USE in Medicaid- Bert Plant (Beacon)



BHPOC12-13-17OPI
OID DASHBOARD (20

Bert Plant (Beacon) presented the report on Opioid Use Disorder Diagnosis and High Dosage Opioid Use in Connecticut 2015-2016, (see above icon). The report focuses on the population in Connecticut who is being prescribed high dosages of opioids and is thus being addicted. After a lengthy discussion on the data from certain slides, Co-Chair Beresford Wilson thanked Bert and Beacon Health Options for the Opioid presentation. CTN covered this meeting and can be seen on-line.

New Business/Meeting Announcement/Adjournment

Co-Chair Pat Rehmer asked for any announcements or new business. Hearing nothing else, she announced the next meeting will be on January 10, 2018 at 2:00 PM in 1E LOB and asked for a motion to adjourn and then wished everyone happy holidays. Pat then adjourned the meeting at 3:56 PM.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 10, 2018 @ 2:00 PM 1E LOB