



## **Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council**

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[www.cga.ct.gov/ph/BHPOC](http://www.cga.ct.gov/ph/BHPOC)

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

Meeting Summary: December 12, 2018

### **1E LOB**

**\*NOTE: Next Meeting is Tuesday, January 8, 2019 @ 2 PM in 1E LOB**

*Attendees:* Representative Mike Demicco (Co-Chair), Pat Rehmer (Co-Chair), Beresford Wilson (Co-Chair), Paul Acker, Dr. Eliot Brenner, Alyse Chin (DMHAS), Michele Copes-Stewart, Terri DiPietro, Dr. Frank Fortunati, Jr., Heather Gates, Dr. Steven Girelli, Dr. Charles Herrick, Jill Holmes-Brown, Susan Kelley, Mickey Kramer (OCA), Barbara Lanza (Jud), Tim Marshall (DCF), Dr. Sabooh Mubbashar, Kathryn Rock-Burns (DDS), Galo Rodriguez, Dr. Stephney Springer (DCF), Rep. Jonathan Steinberg, Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Lori Szczygiel (Beacon), Sabrina Trocchi, Rod Winstead (DSS), and Dr. Benjamin Zigun

### ***BHP OC Administration***

Co-Chair Pat Rehmer convened the meeting at 2:02 PM, and welcomed everyone. She then asked for public comments. Hearing none, she asked Council Members for a motion to accept the November 2018 summary. Janine Sullivan-Wiley made the motion and was seconded by Paul Acker. All voted to accept the November summary.

Next, Pat talked about the structure of the BHPOC. She said that only around 20% of Council members actually belong to and attend the Committee meetings. She wants to make sure that the Council Members are contributing to the dialog in the Committee work which is where the bulk of Council's work gets done. Dr. Steve Girelli reported that he will convene a meeting soon with the Co-Chairs of the Adult Quality, Access & Policy and the Child/Adolescent Quality, Access & Policy Committees along with Heather Gates to talk about the possibility of combining these two committees into one. They hope to come up with a recommendation(s) to the Council but not an Action Item. Dr. Frank Fortunati, Jr. asked about other concerns of consolidation and Steve said that he would like all recommendations that Council Members might have sent to him for the Co-Chair meeting.

### ***Action Items***

None

### ***Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership Agency Reports:***

#### **Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services –Alyse Chin**

No report was given.

## **Department of Social Services-Rod Winstead**

In absence of Bill Halsey, Rod Winstead gave the report and said the department was in status quo for the budget and waiting for the transition of the new gubernatorial administration. Susan Kelley asked if Rod could comment on the update on Medicaid waivers for IMD for residential care for adults. Rod said that he will get back to the Council on this. Rod also said that he did not have an update on the IICAPS program and an update will be given at the next meeting.

Rod also gave a brief update on **Non- Emergency Medical Transportation services (NEMT)**. He discussed the NEMT report that Veyo sends to DSS on the 20<sup>th</sup> of every month. The latest report was 57 pages. All call center data meets the standard levels. To date: \$21,000 has been collected in sanctions and all but \$3500 has been received but Veyo has a right to appeal the remainder of these sanctions to check and see if they are valid claims. Co-Chair (Public Health and Coordination of Care/Quality Access Committees) Representative Jonathan Steinberg asked where the collected sanction money goes. Rod replied that it goes back to the general fund of DSS. Per the current contract, Veyo is paid on a basis of per member per month for each Medicaid member in Connecticut. Rep. Steinberg said that there ought to be legislation to compensate people in their loss. Rod also reported that going forward; representatives will attend all of the Coordination of Care Committee meetings. Co-Chair Beresford Wilson asked about sensitivity training for drivers and understanding the role of transporting Medicaid members with special medical needs. Drivers need to be trained in cultural competency and cultural responsiveness. Rod said that all transportation companies have their drivers take special sensitivity training classes.

## **Department of Children and Families – Dr. Stephney Springer**

- Dr. Springer said they are still in the process of modifications to the physical space at Solnit. So they will be down 8 beds in the Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTF).
- Renovations will be taking place for the in-patient unit as well and some beds are off line in anticipation of that. DCF recognizes that it will create some stress on the system for acute inpatient units. As a Department, they will be working closely with the inpatient units on youth who are clinically ready for discharge to effectuate time discharges. In collaboration with Beacon Health Options, DCF will also be working with the EDs to support timely connection to services.

## **Judicial Branch – Barbara Lanza (Jud)**

Barbara Lanza report that the Court Support Services Division (CSSD) has changed locations and is now located on 455 Winding Brook Drive in Glastonbury. The offices are currently moving and the new telephone number is 860-368-3800. There will be many RFPs coming out in the coming year to be released in early 2019. People can go to the Judiciary Website to receive notices for a release of competitive bids.

## **Department of Developmental Services - Kathryn Rock-Burns (DDS)**

Katie Rock-Burns had no agency report, however, she did say that she will have an update or relative report on what is of concern after the first of the year.

**State Department of Education- Charlene Russell-Tucker (SDE)**

Due to the absence of Charlene Russell-Tucker, no report was given.

**Committee Reports:**

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

Co-Chair Janine Sullivan Wiley reported that the next meeting that will be on January 23, 2019 at 1:00 PM in 1E LOB. There will be an update on NEMT by DSS and Veyo.

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

Co-Chair Dr. Steven Girelli announced the next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 19, 2018 at 2:00 PM at Beacon Health Options. There will be a follow-up discussion on the presentation of CHDI's report on child and adolescent emergency department utilization and a discussion of the findings from the member survey that the Co-Chairs had conducted. Then the committee will discuss function and process of the CAQAP that will include historical perspective, review of the mission, and planning for future work of the committee and the possibility of combining with the Adult Quality, Access & Policy Committee.

**Adult Quality, Access & Policy: -Paul Acker and Dr. Frank Fortunati, Jr. Co-Chairs**

Co-Chair Dr. Frank Fortunati, Jr. reported that there was no meeting in November. The meetings take place the second Tuesday, every other month at 3:00 PM at the CT Community Non-Profit Alliance office, 35 Cold Spring Road, #522, Rocky Hill, CT.

**Operations: – Terri DiPietro and Heather Gates, Co-Chairs**

Co-Chair Terri DiPietro reported the next meeting will be on January 4, 2019 at 2:30 PM in the Hartford Conference Room (third floor) at Beacon Health Options in Rocky Hill, CT. The agenda will include a discussion on the process of Policy Transmittals issued, specifically, a follow-up on LMSW and the new Hospital/ED intake billing that went into effect 12/1/2018. Also, there will be a follow-up discussion on telemedicine. In addition, there will be a discussion and update on any additional waivers being contemplated.

**Consumer and Family Advisory Council (CFAC) Update -Lori Szczygiel (Beacon)**

Lori Szczygiel reported that CFAC members did not meet in December but they are having an end of the year holiday celebration for a successful year and they are planning their agenda for the coming new year.

## **Presentation on Optimal Health for All People- Marie Spivey and Michele Stewart-Copes (System for Education Equity & Transition)**



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Co-Chair Beresford Wilson introduced the topic of health equity in the behavioral health system. For a full report, see above icon. He said that due to illness; Dr. Marie Spivey was unable to attend the Council meeting and introduced Michele Stewart-Copes who presented the report. Tim Marshall (DCF) asked for the BHPOC support in trying to adopt the goals and objectives of the health equity report. Beresford said that it will be a challenge to for the committees to bring a health equity lens in all of their work but we will feel better about the work that is being done. The more we have health equity in our system, the better off we will all be. He then thanked Michele and Marie in her absence for coming to the Council and presenting.

## **New Business/Meeting Announcement/Adjournment**

Co-Chair Pat Rehmer thanked all guests and members for their participation in the discussions. She asked Council Members to let the Executive Committee know if they had any concerns or ideas for future agenda items. She then asked for any other announcements or new business. Hearing none, she reminded members that the next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 2:00 PM in 1E LOB - this is a one date/day change. Pat then adjourned the meeting at 3:41 PM and wished everyone a happy holiday season.

**\*NOTE: The January 2019 Mtg. date is changed to TUESDAY, January 8, 2019 @ 2:00 PM 1E LOB. This is a one-time change of day/date.**