



Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council

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www.cga.ct.gov/ph/BHPOC

Co-Chairs: *Rep. Mike Demicco, Pat Rehmer & Beresford Wilson*
Meeting Summary: December 11, 2019

1E LOB

Next Meeting is Wednesday, January 8, 2020 @ 2 PM in 1E LOB

Attendees: Pat Rehmer (Co-Chair), Paul Acker, Dr. Lois Berkowitz (DCF), David Borzellino, Alyse Chin (DMHAS), Rebecca Colasanto, Sandra Czunas (OOC), Terri DiPietro, Judith Dowd (OPM), Heather Gates, Bill Halsey (DSS), Kimberly Haugabook (Beacon), Dr. Charles Herrick, Jill Holmes-Brown, Barbara Lanza (Jud), Gloria Merritt, Dr. Sabooh Mubbashar, Laura Nesta, Maureen O'Neill-Davis, Katie Rock-Burns (DDS), Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Lori Szczygiel (Beacon), Dr. Jeff Vanderploeg, Rod Winstead (DSS), Valerie Wyzkowski (OHA), and Steve Zuckerman

BHP OC Administration

Co-Chair Pat Rehmer convened the meeting at 2:01 PM. She announced that it was Alyse Chin's (DMHAS) last Council meeting as she is officially retiring at the end of the month. She and everyone congratulated Alice and thanked her for her support and work over the years. Pat then asked for public comments. Hearing none, Pat asked Council Members if they read the November 2019 summary and asked for a motion to accept it. There was one change made on the first page under *DCF Report*, the word "multiple" was struck out and replaced with "CT BHP". Rebecca Colasanto made the motion and it was seconded by Jeff Vanderploeg. All voted to accept the summary with no nays or abstentions.

Action Items

None

Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership Agency Reports: Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services –Alyse Chin

Alyse Chin (DMHAS) reported that there was no report or update.

Department of Social Services-Bill Halsey (DSS) and Rod Winstead (DSS)



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oNEMT.pptx

Bill Halsey (DSS) talked about the State Plan Amendment on Telehealth. The department is waiting for the fiscal note to come back from CMS. He sees no problems with the walk-through design. Rod Winstead (DSS) announced that Mike Gilbert (former CFO of DSS) has been named the new Deputy Commissioner of DSS. He then told Council Members, that he gave the latest **Non- Emergency Medical Transportation services (NEMT)** report (sent out) to the Coordination of Care/Quality Access Committee meeting the previous week. It has been published on the BHPOC Website and can be found in the icon above. DSS has convened a date for a workgroup to change the monthly reporting design for the most useful information for the public.

Department of Children and Families – Dr. Lois Berkowitz (DCF)

In the absence Dr. Stephney Springer, Dr. Lois Berkowitz announced that there was no report or update.

Judicial Branch – Barbara Lanza (Jud)



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D12-17-19Mtg.pdf

Barbara Lanza (CSSD) announced that CSSD is holding an informational session on the procurement process for residential secure Juvenile Justice Facilities (programs) in Connecticut. A panel made up of Judicial Branch leadership from the Court Support Services and Administrative Services Divisions will lead discussions in an attempt to identify available resources. By listening to input from the provider community, this session is intended to foster the development of creative solutions to meet this challenge. This will be an outreach effort to collaboratively address the requirement of the Judicial Branch's Court Support Services Division to provide appropriate secured facilities for youth aged 14-18 ordered to receive treatment by the Superior Court for Juvenile Matters in a secured facility. The informational session will on December 17, 2019 at 1:00 - 3:00 pm. It will be held at the CSSD Training Academy/ITBD, Room 313, 185 Main Street, New Britain, CT. (Editor's Note: Due to inclement weather, the informational forum was postponed to Monday, January 6, 2020 at The Learning Center, Rm. 707, 99 East River Dr., East Hartford, CT, 1-3 PM.)

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

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

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

Katie Rock-Burns had no update to her report in the previous month.

DSS Presentation on CMS Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Planning Grant –Bill Halsey (DSS) and Kimberly Haugabook (Beacon)



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PlanningGrant.pptx

On behalf of his colleagues in DCF and DMHAS, Bill Halsey (DSS) and Kim Haugabook (Beacon) presented the plan for the newly obtained CMS Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Planning Grant. Bill said the grant was awarded at the end of September 2019 and was a collaborative effort with the agencies of the CT BHP. The grant will continue to March 31, 2021. For full details of this report, see above icon.

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 announced that at the last meeting on November 26, 2019, a new Consumer Co-Chair was elected. Starting at the next meeting on January 22, 2020 at 1:00 PM in 1E LOB in Hartford, Sabra Mayo will take her place at the front of the table. Also, the meeting agenda included an update on NEMT by Rod Winstead (DSS). From the latest data, substantial improvement is seen.

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

Jeff Vanderploeg said the next meeting will be on December 18, 2019 at 2:00 PM in the Hartford Conference Room, third (3rd) floor at Beacon Health Options. Judicial Branch Update on Behavioral Health Services will be discussed. Below are the six recommendations to the Council from the last committee meeting in November.

CAQAP Generating Solutions and Recommendations

1. Initiate a policy and process that ensures a child with a BHED visit receives various follow-ups (e.g., texts, hand-written cards), and trauma-informed assessment and linkage to intervention.
2. Targeted outreach, pressure, and incentives for schools that are not using Mobile Crisis and have high rates of BHED referrals.
3. Make it more difficult for providers to end treatment based on missed appointments (given that missed appointments are often related to transportation barriers).
4. Provide education to schools, and enhance school-based health services, to raise their capacity to prevent and address crises.
5. There is a need to develop an acuity measure to be used in EDs to inform referral decision-making and response to treatment. A parallel measure could be developed for schools and community settings. Members recommended ensuring these tools are designed to protect against implicit racial/ethnic bias and monitored for bias as they are rolled out.
6. Work with inpatient providers to do better discharge planning at the initiation of treatment.

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

Co-Chair Paul Acker announced that the next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 in the Hartford Conference Room on the third (3rd) floor at Beacon Health Options in Rocky Hill, CT.

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

Heather Gates reported at the December meeting, there was a review of the work on the Housing State Plan Amendment (SPA) and review of rates and a follow-up on methadone quality indicators, and the Substance Use Services Planning Grant-Process for involving Providers. The next meeting will be on Friday, January 3, 2020 at 2:30 PM in the Hartford Conference Room on the third (3rd) floor at Beacon Health Options in Rocky Hill, CT.

Consumer and Family Advisory Council (CFAC) Update –Kelly Phenix

No update was given due to the absence of Kelly Phenix.

New Business/Meeting Announcement/Adjournment

Co-Chair Pat Rehmer thanked Bill Halsey for the presentation. She announced the next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 2:00 PM in **1E LOB**. Next, she wished everyone safe and Happy Holidays and asked for any other announcements or new business. Hearing none, Pat asked for a motion to adjourn. Paul Acker made the motion and was seconded by Jill Holmes-Brown. Pat then adjourned the meeting at 3:07 PM.

**The next meeting date is: Wednesday, January 8, 2020 @ 2:00 PM
1E LOB.**