

Mental Health Advisory Committee

Minutes – January 3, 2019

Members Present	Members Absent	Ex-Officio and Staff Present	Ex-Officio and Staff Absent	Guests
Jeannette Bjorklund	Scott Davis	Raymond Crowel	Scott Greene	Sami Sapkota
Michelle Grigsby-Hackett	Daphne Klein	Meredith Peace	Debbie Phillips	Viviana Azar
Jennifer Jones	Tami Mark			Jessica Kronstadt
Garrett Mannchen	David Myles			Regina Morales
Libby Nealis	Jasmine Pearson			
Elizabeth Rathbone				
Celia Serkin				
Karishma Sheth				
Susan Smith				
Amy Sutter				

I. Introductions by Jeannette Bjorklund

II. Introduction of our speaker-

Dan Martin- Public Policy for MHA MD

Maryland Behavioral Health Coalition 50 active organizational members, over 100 affiliated organizations to bring BH policies to the state.

-Children's Behavioral Health Coalition

A. Last year's bills passed:

-12m over the next 3 years for crisis response system expansion

-3m starting July 2019

- Expand telehealth
 - Target youth service gap training
 - Services in PCP
- Fully Fund "Keep the Door Open" Hope Act- reimbursement rate increases for a series of services
- Restore cuts to funding
- 3.5% rate increase reduced to 2% but reduction was rejected
 - Possibly no BURFA cut this year

B. Kirwin Commission

- Recommendations were made by the MBHC. The recommendations were:
- Increased screening
- Community partnerships
- Increased training
- Scaling of services in schools across the state
- The above items have been unofficially adopted by the commission.
- 200mil in first year
- Possibly 325mil in first year
- Legislation put in for a blueprint
- Federal money for school health- how will that be used?

C. Safe to Learn Act

- School resource officers
- mental health coordinators in every jurisdiction
- Role of Mental Health Coordinators
- Program development
- Assist with crisis response issues with students/parents/staff
- Can advocate for more school mental health professionals
- MBHC continue to guide the conversations in Annapolis
- Sue Klebeu- speaking at the general assembly
- How can MHAC help/what we can do to initiate action for increase in school mental health professionals?
- See what happens with the Kirwin Act
- Dan will send out the recommendations
- Review the report when it comes out

C. CBHC looking at the transition aged youth regarding increase in services

- The coalition is expanding the integration of substance use advocates,
- MAT
- Looking to advocate for expanding MAT services
- Modeling a program after Rhode Island of MAT services in correction systems
 - Screening, access, and treatment in correctional facilities
- How would it be funded: state level or Medicaid?
 - Goal and initial ask would be state level funding
- Initiative would be focused on opiates- advisory committee encouraged the service be expanded from opioid treatment to "addictions" treatment

D. Divert patients from ERs and General Hospitals

- ER usage has increased for MH patients and decreased for every other types of needs.
- More legislation to adhere to Parity Law
- Working on bills with Parity 10
 - Balance billing
 - expansion of outpatient civil pilot program in Baltimore

- extend to other jurisdictions to do above
- MHAC to support the civil commitment legislation

E. Bills will be coming out shortly after the session starts

- Free care rule- care to be reimbursed for services in schools
- Schools can bill Medicaid for services to eligible students- what is the status of the state making the change in the state Medicaid plan to expand behavioral health services and reimbursement for BH services in schools.

F. Maryland Medicaid Advisory Group

- Follow up with them to inquire about the status above
- Send letter to Strater and copy Vickie Walters
- IMD Access
- Exception to IMD for SUD with a secondary of MH

III. Announcements

A. Spring Forum

- May 2nd
- Working with AODAC on the forum
- Sign-up sheets being passed around
- Located at Bora Park
- Need to figure out the program and who will speak

B. Signup sheet will be up front for speaking at the end of the meeting

C. Special Social Work intern-Katherine Zimmerman. She will sit in on AOT committee and write a paper regarding a paper different decisions to present to the committee.

D. Need ideas for speaker or topics to be addressed- send Diane an email to present to the committee.

IV. Medicaid Waiver letter

-CMS sent a letter to invite letters to apply for a waiver to get Medicaid to cover IMD services that were not paid by Medicaid previously.

1115 waiver

Letter to Director requesting him to apply for the Medicaid waiver

Vote yes- Letter was unanimously voted to be submitted to the Medicaid director.

-CC house, senate, Dan, governor

V. BHCS-Raymond Crowel

- In budget cycle FY20
- Expect tightening for HHS
- Letters of awards coming soon
- Federal shut down
 - Not much impact on county programs
 - State not sure what the impact is of the shut down on the federal parts of the block grant
- Short supply of psychiatrists and NPs
 - Some providers have stopped intakes due to psychiatrist shortages
 - County has a "transition" psychiatric services which are not full but will likely will be
 - Some alternatives
 - Hire 2 part time psychiatrists as opposed to 1 full time

- County is recruiting and turning over staff. Slowly trying to staff back up. In summer, approval was given to hire therapists
- Residential crisis services still closed for ADA renovations
 - As of last week (informal data) - At or below number of people from 2017 to 2018 in overdose deaths. Decrease in number of fire and rescue calls for overdoses
- Suicides in county are still high
 - Especially students
 - 1st homicide
- The county executive is searching for a new Director for Health and Human Services- March or April
- Red flag
 - Takes away existing guns and prohibiting them from getting them or getting them back. This is initiated by law enforcement but MH crisis services helps with that
 - Can providers participate in red flag process for clients that may be at risk for dangerous behavior?
 - Have someone from county attorney's office discuss how red flag is being implemented.

IV. Springfield Hospital- no updates

V. Announcements- from the public

A. Susan Smith

- Pulling people for new housing voucher program
- Next Wednesday on the 9th
- Susan will meet with RRP providers to update their clients
- NOFA supposed to be available the last week of January- other funding for housing
- Awarded FUP vouchers (15 vouchers)- kids getting out of foster care who have children
 - Have to be 18
 - Will be committee based- Child Welfare Program is in charge of this process

B. Families first Prevention Act

- Getting welfare systems to work with other behavioral health systems

C. -Handout for LEAP training

VI. Meeting Adjourned 8:23pm

- Sub committees met until 8:55pm