

Behavioral Health Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes for August 17, 2018

Members Present: Julie Barron, Linda Burghardt, Karen Cashen, Elmer Cerano, Mary Chaliman, Norm DeLisle, Erin Emerson, Greg Johnson, Mark Maggio, Kevin McLaughlin, Malkia Newman, Jamie Pennell, Joshua Pipe for Cynthia Wright, Marcia Probst, Mark Reinstein, Ben Robinson, Kristie Schmiede, Larry Scott, Jane Shank, Patricia Smith, Sally Steiner, Jennifer Stentoumis, Jeff Van Treese, Brian Wellwood, Mark Witte

Members Absent: Ricardo Bowden, Sara Coates, Kevin Fischer, Deborah Garrett, Benjamin Jones, Arlene Kashata, Paula Nelson, Stephanie Oles, Neicey Pennell, Eva Petoskey, Sarah Williams

Others Present: Glenn Cornish, Lorianne Fall, Phil Kurdunowicz, Amanda Phillips, Jane Pilditch, Melissa Rai, Angie Smith-Butterwick, Brenda Stoneburner, Alisha Webster, Jeff Wieferich, Lynda Zeller

Welcome and Introductions: Mark Reinstein called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

Section 298 Update – Phil Kurdunowicz and Jane Pilditch

Two handouts were provided to the council. Phil stated that the 298 Leadership Group is continuing to move forward with implementing the pilots. There was a press release that went out earlier this week that outlines the financing structure that has been agreed upon for the pilots. The financing structure is a 3-tiered plan. There are several sub-work groups that are focusing on different aspects of the pilots. There is no announcement to make on the plan for the unenrolled population (those covered by the PIHP but not enrolled in a Medicaid Health Plan) at this time. There has been a lot of discussion and feedback on the proposed ideas to address this population, but no decisions have been made at this time. The pilot sites are working on transitioning into pilot operations and out of their previous PIHP arrangement.

Jane indicated that the evaluation plan is still being developed and work is continuing on the policy recommendations as well. Elmer asked if there was a pay increase for direct care staff included in the pilot financing plan. Phil indicated that there are statewide discussions regarding Person Centered Planning and direct-care staff wages and the pilots will be held to any standard that is established statewide. The pilots are hoping to save administrative dollars that can then be redirected to direct care but that is yet to be determined. Jeff W. indicated that the department is rolling out PCP trainings for all populations. Lynda indicated that the direct care wage issue is pervasive and bigger than 298. There was a direct care wage increase of .50 an hour a couple years ago, but that did not solve the problem. This is an ongoing issue that the department continues to work on. Jane S. indicated that the family-driven youth-guided guidelines should be included when discussing self-determination and PCP; Phil indicated that these

concepts have been included in 298 planning. Kevin M. asked if wage increases could be part of an intentional goal of the pilots, recognizing it is a large, statewide, problem. Lynda indicated that there is no reason creative solutions cannot be attempted in the pilots to hopefully inform statewide policy, however, it is very complicated because the direct care workers being discussed are not state employees, so the state cannot completely control wages. Phil indicated that the work of teasing out the administrative costs in the mental health system has been very informative and he is optimistic that in this work more money will be identified for direct services. Julie B. asked why there cannot be another ask for a wage increase from the legislature. Lynda indicated that the previous request came from community stakeholders through the budget process. Sally asked if the state knows how many people are actually covered by the pilots. Lynda indicated that the pilots will be trying to reach those that need services that are not yet in services, so the numbers based on those currently in services are hopefully an underestimate. Phil indicated that a very rough estimate is that there are about 195,000 Medicaid enrollees and 61,000 un-enrolled in pilot sites. Julie re-asked if the council could pursue a request to the legislature for a wage increase. Julie moved that the council should recommend a .50 per hour wage increase for direct care workers in the state to the Department, Governor and Legislature. Elmer seconded with an amendment to the motion that no specific amount be requested but rather they fund staff adequately to hire and keep them. The Council voted - 16 yes, 0 no, and 5 abstentions - for Mark to write a letter from the council regarding the issue.

MDHHS/BHDDA Update – Lynda Z. and Jeff W.

Lynda is leaving MDHHS/BHDDA and going to work for the Health Endowment Fund. She is hoping to influence some of the issues previously discussed here in her new role. Tom Renwick has also retired from BHDDA. The department is continuing to work on the MIPAD recommendations and the re-build of Caro Hospital. There is also a national model called “Crisis Now” that is coming on the scene from the federal level that may meet some of the MIPAD recommendations regarding crisis services. Lynda indicated that there have been no decisions about who will fill her and Tom’s jobs at this time, but the department is working feverishly on this.

Jeff reported that there has been some progress on the 1115 waiver. It is turning out differently than proposed, but all services will be included in either the 1115 or the existing C waivers. There will also be coverage for the B3 services in perhaps a 1915 I. These discussions with CMS will continue. They are hoping to have all relevant info into CMS by October 1st. Because the B3 services were included in the Home & Community based rules late, the date that agencies must be compliant with the B3s is further in the future. The HCBS website is very informative about this. Jeff can ask Belinda Hawks to speak to the council about HCBS as well.

A Time and Distance standards draft has been released to the PIHPs as a starting point for discussion. Once additional work with the PIHPs is completed a revised draft will be released for public comment and feedback.

SUD Administrative Medicaid rules are moving forward in the promulgation process. There will be opportunities for public comment and feedback.

Electronic Visit Verification - Alisha Webster and Amanda Phillips

A PowerPoint presentation was provided to the Council.

Review and Approval of Minutes

The Council reviewed the meeting minutes from June 15, 2018. Kristie moved to approve the minutes and Mark seconded, minutes approved unanimously.

Mark let the council know that Pat Babcock had passed away and gave some of the details of Pat's tenure leading various state departments. There was a moment of silence in Pat's honor.

FY19 MHBG and SABG Mini Application Update – Karen Cashen, Jennifer Stentoumis, and Larry Scott

In even years SAMHSA requires a large 2-year application for MH and SA block grants. In odd years, SAMHSA requires a mini application just to confirm plans for the second year of the 2-year application. The amount of the SA block grant has remained consistent over the years at about \$56 million and the MH block grant has been variable lately from \$15-20 million and back down again. Karen reviewed the required sections of the mini application. Larry indicated that older adults are being added as a priority population for prevention and treatment to the SA block grant using carry forward SA block grant dollars from FY18. Karen asked that Council members email their input regarding the Planning Council section, including input on technical assistance needs, of the mini application by Friday, August 24th. Karen asked that the council identify their top 3-5 technical assistance priorities to be included in the application. The Council discussed it and identified 1. Strategic Planning; 2. Behavioral Health Integration Expansion; 3. Council and Behavioral Health Authority Collaboration; and 4. Data Overview as their top 4 TA priorities. Sally moved, Linda seconded, for the Council to provide a letter of support for the mini application. The council unanimously approved this motion. Council letter will be provided.

November BHAC Officer Elections

BHAC Officer elections will take place at the next meeting. Jamie volunteered to run for vice chair. Karen reminded the group that the officers are expected to participate in the planning and operation of the BHAC. BHAC member terms are 2 years. Current member terms expire December 31, 2018. BHAC Member Applications are open to the public. There are federal requirements for membership and this is taken into consideration when members are selected.

Public Policy Report – Mark R.

There is a question regarding whether there will be any attempts to propose anything regarding 298 in the lame duck session. The House CARES Committee had several bills proposed in the House prior to recess and there are questions about where those bills will go in the Senate.

There are ongoing discussions at the state and federal level regarding the Medicaid work requirements states that have tried to implement programs have resulted in law suits. Work on this in Michigan is continuing. Elmer asked if Michigan is planning to do something similar to the states that now have law suits regarding the Medicaid work requirement. Mark indicated that there are some similarities, but the Michigan waiver has not yet been submitted.

There have been several instances of mental health consumers being harmed in facilities, hospitals, and by the police lately in the state. Advocate agencies are monitoring these cases and requesting assistance from the state.

Linda B. reported to the Council that the Area Agencies on Aging are going through a similar situation as 298 in the long term care arena and may be good allies.

Senate bill 823 – access to Medicaid medications, it is in committee currently. The legislature is requiring a Department work group to review psychotropic medication costs, but it has not met recently.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Announcements

Linda B. ran for Ingham County Commissioner and was the only candidate that included mental health concerns as part of her platform and received lots of feedback from constituents supporting that platform. She came in second.

Jane S. – ACMH Annual Conference is September 24, 2018 in Lansing. Visit ACMH-mi.org for more information.

Julie B. – CEI CMH is opening a new wing in their administrative building in the Fall. Also, September 30th is the Hawk Island Suicide Prevention Walk.

Kevin M. – National Recovery Month is September. Look for activities and events near you.

Pat S. – The CDC has awarded Michigan a one time \$5 Million grant to address the opioid epidemic via emergency funding to start September 1, 2018.

Malkia N. – NAMI walk is in September as well. Malkia wanted the council to be aware of the two proposals in the Pontiac primary elections regarding marijuana dispensary access. Pontiac was specifically targeted, and she is very concerned for her community. The proposals passed by 9 votes.

Mark adjourned the meeting.