

# Behavioral Health Advisory Council

## Meeting Minutes for May 15, 2020

**Members Present:** Julie Barron, Mary Chaliman, Karen Cashen, Elmer Cerano, Janelle Murray, Norm Delisle, Kevin Fischer, Ben Jones, Arlene Kashata, Mark Maggio, Mark Reinstein, Malkia Newman, Paula Nelson, Stephanie Oles, Jamie Pennell, Eva Petoskey, Kristie Schmiede, Michelle Roberts, Larry Scott, Jane Shank, Sally Steiner, ShaRon Crandell, Algeria Wilson (For Maxine Thome), Katherine O'Hare ( For Jeff Van Treese), Brian Wellwood, Michael Leathhead, Pat Smith ( For Lindsey DeCamp)

**Members Absent:** Linda Burghardt, Erin Emerson, Greg Johnson, Kevin McLaughlin

**Others Present:** Allen Jansen, Belinda Hawks, Brenda Stoneburner, Dave Schneider, Wendi Middleton, Melissa Rai, Rachel Rosendale, Justin Tate, Paul Yaeger

**Welcome and Introductions:** Kristie called the meeting to order and introductions took place.

### **Review & Approval of the February 21, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Michelle Roberts moved, Arlene Kashata seconded, minutes approved as written.

### **MDHHS/BHDDA Update – Allen Jansen**

Gave the council a brief introduction about his previous work experience and family life.

System Redesign – His hope is that he can:

- 1) Impact the lives of the people receiving care.
- 2) Not create an unfair advantage, should be accessible.
- 3) Help develop a system that:
  - a. demonstrates parity.
  - b. delivers great outcomes.
  - c. is flexible and nimble and adjust to whatever needs we have.
- 5) Maximize service dollars, be regularly involved with providers and advocates and be a system that addresses the needs of the whole person.
- 6) Create and sustain a trusting relationship.
- 7) Have discussion with Legislature to see what they are thinking, mutual interest dialogue sessions.

The department is working on many other items, including trying to stabilize the provider network and delivery systems. The department has been working on a number of waivers. The increasing anxiety has led to the need to create structures to communicate with people in the field. In response to the Covid-19 crisis, the state has incorporated teleservice lines, text lines to create access points to improve communication and help the community so they have a place to go to get help and guidance. The food shortage was also addressed quickly. The department has also been in discussions with other states to discuss possible solutions to the issues derived from the Covid-19 pandemic.

The department has also been working with Senator Stabenow on new behavioral health sites. Dr. Pinals, who has been giving her psychological and clinical knowledge, and has been a part of the discussion and decision making within the department as well. Mark R. asked a question regarding the new law for mediation of CMH consumer complaints, about the planning and implementation of services, what is the department doing? Allen indicated that the department is close to putting out a Request for Proposals to get this rolling. Allen will send out an update to the group once he has more information. Malkia N. asked what ways the department can include the council in making decisions. Allen indicated the need for dialogue before important decisions are made. Mark also asked about the advocacy community needing an opinion from Allen on SB 826 and HB 5615-5620. Mark asked that he respond to the council after gathering information. Malkia asked another question regarding Telemedicine, are there plans at the CMS and department level to continue with that? Allen indicated that the team has been discussing this and they would like to see it continue as one of the options for consumers.

### **Behavioral Health System Transformation Presentation – Rachel Zuckerman**

Statement from MDHHS read by Karen Cashen

Discussion took place with the council and Kristie suggested that the committee would come forward with our vision to report to the department. Mark R. announced the Governor vetoed over 3 million dollars for Behavioral Health transformation efforts, he doesn't know what it means but is just stating the information. Mark also asked for guidance as to what the new BHAC committee was going to be used for. Malkia commented that she was glad the money was vetoed, because so many people we serve are impacted on a higher level than the general population due to the pandemic. Would like to see the council be deliberate in their response and to identify their strengths and weaknesses and come up with a plan on how to address the department regarding what the system redesign should look like. Kevin F. commented that he fully supports the council proposing our vision of what the system redesign should look like, should be inclusive. Mark R. suggested the subcommittee work on this and report back to the full council. Jane S. agreed to be on the subcommittee to represent the voice from families, children, and youth. Ben J. will also join the subcommittee to represent SUD. The new subcommittee will consist of Norm, Malkia, Eva, Paula, Jamie, Kristie, Jane, Ben, and Mark R.

### **Public Policy Report – Mark Reinstein**

SB 826 – Would allow physician assistants and 2 types of nurses to do hospital certifications exams and authorizations related to seclusion and restraint.

HB 5615 – Would move the psychiatric hospitals from Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Department and place them in MDHHS for purposes of licensing.

HB 5616 – Establish that when CMH pre-admissions screening is trying to determine if someone needs a court order for treatment, that they use the same criteria that the courts are required to use under law in determining if a person is in need of treatment.

HB 5617 – 5620 - The last 4 bills are all about monitoring and reporting state compliance with federal parity law. It will be up to the states to enforce it.

Jamie P. asked Mark his opinion was on all of these bills? His group is very supportive of the 6 house bills. SB 826 is harder to give an answer at this point. When a similar bill came forward a couple years ago, his advocacy group opposed it. He is waiting for his board or executive committee to determine if they are still opposed, neutral, or supportive.

### **Public Comment**

**Elmer C.** – Talked to groups in Louisiana, they had no indication as to how many people have died related to Covid-19 that had mental illness or developmental disabilities. Jamie P. agrees numbers will not be accurate. Mark R. commented that we may be able to obtain information from the psychiatric hospitals but as far as anyone receiving community services, would not be able to get those numbers.

### **Announcements**

**Norm D.** –. Announced that Theresa Metzmaker is taking over as the new MDRC Director as of June 1, 2020.

**Karen C.** – August and November BHAC Meetings will not be in person due to the State's decision to have no face to face meetings for the rest of the calendar year. More information on these meetings is forth coming.

**Julie B.** - The Walk a Mile will be held on September 29, 2020; it will be a virtual event this year and details are still being worked out.

**Stephanie O.** – Wanted to discuss how the Covid-19 pandemic is affecting the homeless. This population depended on businesses nearby for water, restrooms, etc., some communities have set up additional resources, but it did not happen quickly. Shelters have been set up in hotels and motels to address the social distancing issue and well as the chronic health conditions that many people in this population have.

**Jane S.** – The Association for Children's Mental Health will be holding a special virtual event May 3 – 8<sup>th</sup> called the #hashtag event. The event is to bring awareness to children's mental health and is asking that you share your story on social media with the hashtag #Creativeconversations.

**Brian W.** – The Peer Warmline has been established to assist Michigan residents living with mental health conditions. The warmline has assisted over 3000 callers, most of the calls are dealing with isolation and needing to talk to someone. Other calls were interested in obtaining resources to help them with the issues that they were dealing with. The number is 888-733-7753. The line will connect individuals with certified peer support specialist that have lived experience of behavioral health issues, trauma, or personal crisis and are trained to support and empower the callers.

**Kristie adjourned the meeting.**