

Behavioral Health Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2022

Attendance:

Mental health:

Andrea Portovedo
Rakisha Scott

Mental health + substance use:

Debra Wentz
Suzanne Borys

Substance use:

Charlotte Sadashige
Christine Scalise
Donald Hallcom
Sreelekha Prakash

Tobacco use:

Kaitlyn Mazzilli
Uta Steinhauser

Moderator:

Maria Baron

Discussion:

- Subcommittee name: Behavioral Health
- Broader, updated goal: “Improve behavioral health”
- Behavioral health is the acceptable term for mental health + substance use/misuse
- Substance Use Disorder refers to those with a diagnosed disorder. Substance Use and/or Substance Misuse includes prevention.
- Drug overdose and suicide/self-harm should be included in this subcommittee, rather than in the Injury & Violence subcommittee. The members of this subcommittee cover prevention and early intervention in addition to treatment.
- Accessibility, affordability, and mistrust all need to be addressed. Need to listen to community voices.
- Andrea and Lekha might be willing to co-chair the committee
- **Meeting schedule still needs to be established**
- Lekha has a Zoom account and can host the meetings
- Between now and 5/20/22,
 - Review existing plans, strategies, and reports, including [SHIP 2020](#), to see what’s already being done in NJ, so we don’t reinvent the wheel or contradict other projects
 - Review HP2030 and other states’ work for ideas
 - Look at quantitative and qualitative data, including [Community Conversations](#)
 - Brainstorm ideas for how to improve behavioral health in NJ, always keeping [equity](#), [resilience](#), social determinants of health ([SDOH](#)), and root causes in mind
 - Prioritize those ideas and select the top ones to include in the action plan
 - Send plan drafts to the HNJ email account along the way for review by the Advisory Council

Resources:

- Data: [Healthy Living](#) and [Tools and Resources](#) pages on HNJ website
- Data: HL ACT 2022 Info.pdf in Teams
- All other files in the Teams account