

NEW JERSEY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL
Minutes
October 13, 2021, 10:00 am

This meeting was conducted exclusively through MS Teams video teleconference & conference call

Participants:

Phil Lubitz (Chair)	Darlema Bey (ViceChair)	Patricia Matthews	Julia Barugel
Diane Riley	Connie Greene	Joe Gutstein	John Tkacz
Suzanne Smith	Damian Petino	Robin Weiss	Laura Richter
Heather Simms	Francis Walker	Barb Johnston	Suzanne Borys
Michele Madiou			

DMHAS, CSOC, DDD, DMAHS & DoH Staff:

Yunqing Li	Mark Kruszczynski	Donna Migliorino	Jennifer Langer-Jacobs
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Guests:

Rachel Morgan	Wendy Rodgers	Kurt Baker
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Minutes

I. Administrative Issues/Correspondence Review of Previous Meeting Minutes, Phil Lubitz

- A. Notices of the meeting were sent to the Asbury Park Press, The Times (Trenton), Bergen Record, The Press (Pleasantville), and the Courier-Post (Cherry Hill).
- B. Attendance. Quorum reached, 17/39 = 44% attendance
- C. Minutes of September 2021 meeting approved.
- D. Reminder for all voting members of CAB/BHPC to submit their signed State Ethics Office “Outside Questionnaire” form.

II. SFY 21 Block Grant Implementation Report Update, Donna Migliorino, Suzanne Borys, Yunqing Li, Mark Kruszczynski

- A. Overview of Block Grant Implementation Report (Donna Migliorino)
 1. URS Data Tables and State Performance Indicators are key pieces of the Annual Block Grant Implementation Report
 2. WebBGAs credentials will be sent to members of the Council. However, URS data tables are not included in WebBGAs.
 3. New federal contractor (Hendall) is replacing NASMHPD/NRI in expediting and collecting URS data from states and territories.
 4. Priority Areas in MH
 - a. Housing Services in community support services
 - b. Maintaining housing stability in CSS, measured by housing occupancy rate
 - c. First Episode Psychosis, medication management in FEP population, # served by CSC.
 - d. Cultural competency plans established among providers.
 - i. Target not met (50% of providers to have cultural competency

plan in place)

- B. SABG Implementation Report Update
 - 1. the Report has been created on WebBGAS, and DMHAS staff have been given their assignments to complete.
 - 2. Priority areas: a. Pregnant women/women with dependent children, b. persons c. who inject drugs, heroin/opioid users
 - 3. Will be reported in November meeting
 - 4. Prevention Indicators: a. tobacco, b. alcohol, c. marijuana, d. prescription drugs, e. .heroin
- C. Children System of Care (Nick)
 - 1. Priority areas: a. EBPs, b. increase capacity to services youth ages 0-3, c. increase EBPs delivered to children ages 0-3

III. DD Eligibility and Services through the CSOC, Nick Pecht, NJ CSOC/DCF

- A. See PowerPoint given by N. Pecht
- B. Q&A
 - 1. Q: Is there a plan to extend crisis stabilization service (CCIS) programs. A: Oversight of CCIS is shared among various entities.
Q: One of the biggest challenges for kids with DD/SMI, who need a hospitalization, who end up with wait times for weeks, waiting for an available bed. Trinitas is often the only available qualified bed. It would be great to see some of these issues prioritized as we are seeing an increase in kids in crisis. A: A: (DMM) additional funding for technical assistance going to educate screening centers and CCIS's in terms of providing better understandings to what existing resources are.
Q: Respite, "75 hours in a 30-day period", where does that number come from?
A: CSOC and Medicaid studied uses and trends years ago. Funding was determined based on utilization rates and to make services equitable for everyone.

IV. Medicaid 1115 Waiver Update, Jennifer Langer, NJ DMAHS

- A. Background; Working in Medicaid for 15+ years, driven by the desire to make a large, complex system work better for people. Lots of federal rules apply, before one gets to state Medicaid.
- B. State Medicaid Waiver lets NJ handle federal regulations so that NJ can do its job more effectively.
- C. See PowerPoint Presentation
https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmhas/information/provider/Provider_Meetings/021/1115%20NJ%20Family%20Care%20Comprehensive%20Demonstration%20Renewal%20Presentation.pdf
- D. https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmabs/home/1115_demo.html
- E. Desire is to integrate mental health care with primary health care.
- F. Q&A
 - 1. Q: What are exact requests to be made in the waiver application?
A: (See Slide 10: middle and right hand box of slide with three rectangles).
Everything is on the table.

- G. Public Hearing from 9/27:
https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmajs/home/1115_demo.html
- H. Point is for better care, by holding Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) accountable.

V. State Partners Involvement, Phil Lubitz

- A. Dept. of Education (D. Petino)
 - 1. New laws to provide support/Grants for schools to use screening tools. Screening must be private and confidential and allows for real time evaluation for timely intervention.
 - a. Concern is a student has a screening, but the school doesn't know what to do with that information. DoE wants to put something more robust than just sending kids to screening or private psychiatrists to obtain medical clearance to return to school.
 - b. Goal is to enhance wraparound supports that go beyond follow-up /collaboration between schools and behavioral health providers.
 - 2. Phil requests presentation on DoE initiatives to help prevent kids from going to emergency screening services.
 - 3. <https://www.nj.gov/education/esser/arp/index.shtml>

VI. Subcommittee Reports, Chairs of Subcommittees

- A. Block Grant Subcommittee met today, 10/13/21 at 9:00 am and reviewed progress by DMHAS and CSOC on the Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment Block Grant, and the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Implementation report applications.

VII. Open Public Comment and Announcements, Phil Lubitz

- A. Announcements
 - 1. 76th National Disability Employment Awareness Month (DEAM)
Event: "America's Recovery: Powered by Inclusion" hosted by DVRS and JEVS HireAbility.
 - a. To participate in the NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and the JEVS hireAbility 76th Annual National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) Event and Job Fair, for more information see <https://www.jevshumanservices.org/hireability-hosts-deam-celebration/>
 - b. This event will take place on October 28th from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. You can anticipate the first hour (1p.m. - 2 p.m.) to include an NDEAM celebration featuring client success stories, messages from the NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Director Karen Carroll, the NJ Dept. of Labor Dept. of Diversity Equity & Inclusion Officer, Braheim Knight, and the NJ Department of Labor Commissioner, Robert Asaro-Angelo.

- c. The second part of the event (2 p.m. – 3 p.m.) will feature a job fair. The job fair format will include three rounds of 15-minutes where each employer will have their own virtual room. Employers will have the opportunity to speak about their company and the positions they are hiring for.
- c. 76th National Disability Employment Awareness Month (DEAM) Event America's Recovery: Powered by Inclusion. Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/disability-employment-awareness-month-event-tickets-178825962267>

2. NAMI Coffeehouse, will be returning online. www.NAMINJ.org (See Expressive Arts Network), a monthly event

VIII. Adjournment, Phil Lubitz

- A. The next meeting of the NJ Behavioral Health Planning Council is scheduled for Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 10:00 am.