

NEW JERSEY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL

Minutes

March 8, 2023, 10:00 am

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

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).

Participants:

Darlema Bey (Chair)	Winifred Chain	Krista Connelly	Debra Wentz
Robin Weiss	Joe Gutstein	Amanda Kolacy	Connie Greene
Jennifer Rutberg	John Tkacz	Suzanne Smith	Maurice Ingram
Julia Barugel	Rachel Morgan	Donna Migliorino	Michael Ippoliti
Filomena DiNuzzo			

DMHAS, CSOC, DDD, DMAHS & DoH Staff:

Morris Friedman	Nicholas Pecht	Mark Kruszczyński	Jonathan Sabin
Yunqing Li	Suzanne Borys	Nadina Cryan	

Guests:

Nina Smuklawsky	Bernadette Moore	Matt Camarda (NAMI)	Bernadette Moore
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Minutes:

I. Administrative Issues/Correspondence (Phil Lubitz)

- Review of Previous Meeting Minutes
- A. Attendance, 17/35, 48% attendance, quorum reached
- B. Minutes of February 2023 meeting approved

II. SFY 2024 State Budget (Morris Friedman, DMHAS)

- A. See PowerPoint sent to the Council on 030823 1054.
- B. As always, the Divisions SFY24 budget is subject to change, prior to its finalization in the annual Appropriation Act that is expected to be signed before July 1, 2023.
- C. Questions and Answers
 - 1. Q: Drawdown, \$23M in SFY23 and \$10M in SFY24.
A: The rates will be the rates, and there will be ways to manage any issues.
 - 2. Q: Please provide more details on the \$13 million growth for State Aid."
 - 3. Q: FMRs? Are we using the Small (HUD) level or county level FMRs? A: We always follow the HUD FMRs. For certain counties, that means that small area (zip-code based) rates are used while for others, the higher level county FMR's are used.

4. Q: Will there be an increased funding to compensate for the increased FMR? A: While maintaining housing capacity and keeping up with FMR's is a policy priority, that will be determined as the Division analyzes its spending plan during SFY24 and available resources.
5. Q: (NAMI NJ): Will there be any changes to 988 funding?
A: Response: No – there are no anticipated changes to 988 Funding. The Governor's proposed Budget for SFY24 reflects a continuation of the \$12.8 million for 988 and \$16 million for Mobile Response, for a total of \$28M SFY24. Both line items are expected to be combined into one overall appropriation. In SFY23, the \$12.8 million for 988 was included in the Division's Community Care appropriation.

III. System Partner Updates

- A. Children Systems of Care (Nick Pecht)
 1. The Data Hub was developed collaboratively by the New Jersey Department of Children and Families and the Institute for Families at Rutgers University School of Social Work. Built upon the principles of transparency and accountability, the Data Hub seeks to improve the lives of children and families by making New Jersey child welfare and well-being data available to the public.
 2. The following reports are now in the Data Portal section of the Data Hub:
 - a. Youth Open with CSOC in the Year
 - b. Youth Receiving Mobile Response Stabilization in the Year
 - c. Youth Receiving Intensive In-Community/Behavioral Assistance Services in the Year
 - d. Youth Served by Family Support Organizations in the Year
 3. See: <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/childdata/protection/hub/>
- B. Department of Education (Damian Petino): No presentations
- C. Division of Senior Services (Jennifer Rutburg)
 1. Smart tablets for those age 65 and older, which includes web connection.
In order to get one, speak to one's County Office on Aging (Contact DOAS@dhs.nj.gov if there is any issue)
- D. Department of Corrections (Krista Connelly)
 1. Governor Murphy has announced a \$90 million funding package to build a new women's facility. The new facility will be centrally located and will include lots of space for visitation, group activities, and other resources. There is no timeline yet, but we have already begun a transition period by moving women who aren't housed in any specialty units to a satellite facility, William H Fauver Youth Correctional Facility, which is a previously consolidated location that has been refurbished. Feedback from the women has been positive so far. The most recent Edna Mahan site inspection by the federal monitor went well, and the next one is scheduled for September.
- E. Division of Developmental Disabilities (J. Sabin). No reports available
- G. Division Of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (J. Tkacz):

1. The New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVRS) and its State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) will be conducting virtual public forums during the month of April 2023 (see specific dates below).
3. DVRS is a division within the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development that provides services to eligible individuals with disabilities to achieve employment outcomes consistent with their strengths, priorities, needs, abilities and capabilities. T
4. The SRC provides oversight and advises the DVRS. The SRC is comprised of partnerships of people with disabilities, advocates and other interested persons, and it is committed to ensuring through policy development, implementation and advocacy that New Jersey has a rehabilitation program that is not only comprehensive and consumer- responsive but also effective, efficient and adequately funded.
5. Input during these forums helps develop the State Plan as mandated by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), and assists in reviewing topical issues impacting consumers, vendor communication and dialogue with employers. Your voice is extremely important to both the DVRS and the SRC and will help to mold program delivery and policy to ensure that people with disabilities receive rehabilitation services that result in employment.
6. Representatives from the DVRS and the SRC will be available to provide information on available services, and to hear public comments and testimony.
7. Topics:
 - a. While attendees will have the opportunity to make remarks on any topics from people with disabilities, family members of people with disabilities, educators and others about their lived experience with **transition planning and/or services**. We are hoping to have the opportunity to learn the areas of issues, concerns, strengths, and suggestions you may have about transition from school to work in our state generally, and as it pertains to DVRS specifically.

Location	Date	Time
Virtual	Date: April 11 th , 2023 Registration Deadline: March 28 th , 2023,	10:00 AM- 11:30 AM
Virtual	Date: April 11 th , 2023 Registration Deadline: March 28 th , 2023,	2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

- c. Online Registration closes on March 28th, 2023. You can register, leave comments and request accommodations on the Department of Labor and Workforce Development's website (public forum section).
- d. Website link is below: [Click here to register](#). (If link is not opening automatically, please hold the ctrl button and click on link)

IV. Subcommittee Updates

- A. By-laws: Council members are encouraged to sign up for upcoming by-laws Committee
- B. Advocacy: About six months ago, the Committee sent a letter and discussed with Assistant Commissioners on DoH, DCF and DMHAS. Since then there has been little publically-visible movement.

V. Open Public Comment and Announcements

Darlema Bey

- A. NJAMHAA (Robert DePlatt, NJAMHAA)
NJAMHAA's position on the NJ Proposed SFY24 State Budget
<https://www.insidernj.com/press-release/njamhaa-applauds-increased-funding-for-the-behavioral-healthcare-workforce-in-governor-murphys-proposed-fy2024-budget/>

VI. Adjournment

Darlema Bey

- A. Meeting adjourned.
- B. Future Agenda Items
 - 1. April 2023: Assistive Technology and how it can benefit people with Mental Health Concerns
- C. Next General Meeting April 12, 2023

Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer or mobile app
[Click here to join the meeting](#)
Or call in (audio only)
+1 609-300-7196, PIN: 306216820#

- 1. Subcommittee meetings on 4/12/23
 - a. 9:00
 - b. 12:00