

NEW JERSEY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL

Minutes

February 14 2023, 10:00 am

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

Microsoft Teams meeting

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Dial-in Number: +1 609-300-7196, PIN: 306216820#

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:

Donna Migliorino	Michael Ippoliti	Francis Walker
Heather Simms	AnnMarie Flory	Julia Barugel
John Tkacz	Krista Connelly	Robert DePlatt
Joseph Gutstein	Suzanne Smith	Winifred Chain
Nancy Edouard	Barbara Johnston	Diane Riley
Michele Madiou	Thomas Pyle	Nick Pecht
Connie Greene (Vice Chair)	Darlema Bey(Chair)	

DMHAS, CSOC, DDD, DMAHS & DoH Staff:

Brittany Thorne	Jonathan Sabin	Brielle Easton
Suzanne Borys	Clarence Pearson	Yunqing Li
Mark Kruszczyński		

Guests:

Kurt Baker	Filomena DiNuzzio	Rachel Morgan
Diane Litterer	Elena Kravitz	Nina Smuklawsky
Joseph Cuffari	Morgan Thompson	Andrea Bakun
Andrew Reid	Ann Denton (AHP)	Ellen Radis (AHP)

I. Administrative Issues/Correspondence (Darlema Bey)

- A. Attendance, 20/35, 57% attendance, quorum exceeded.
- B. Minutes of January 2024 General Meeting Approved

II. Planning Council Technical Assistance, Donna Migliorino, (State Planner, DMHAS)

- A. Background of Technical Assistance request.
- B. Introduction of Ann Denton and Ellen Radis

III. Block Grant 101 and Planning Council Operations (Ann Denton & Ellen Radis, Advocates for Human Potential (AHP, Consultants from the US Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA))):

- A. See PowerPoint slides, given to the Planning Council after today's technical assistance

1. Block Grants: Background
2. SAMHSA Priorities
3. SAMHA core principles
4. Block Grants Overview
5. Block Grants funding overview
6. Allocation of funds.
7. General purpose of grants: Prevention, Treatment & Recovery
8. Set Asides and other requirements: Children, FEP/CSC, Crisis, 5% Admin
9. Deadlines for Applications and Reports

B. What was New in these slides? What else do you want to know about Block Grants?

1. Q: JG: What metrics should we be looking at to see if recovery is the predominant outcome? A: SAMHSA does not define what you should be looking at.
 - a. What was funded and what was the performance of those in the programs that were funded?
2. Q: JG Does any state measure recovery? A: SAMHSA wants New Jersey to do New Jersey? New Jersey should define its own definition of recovery and determine what indicators would demonstrate recovery.
 - a. Be on the lookout for “SAMSHA Program to Achieve Recovery Knowledge (SPARK)”
3. Q: (HS): From the time that the state receives the dollars to the RFPs, how do we ensure that people’s voices are heard (in the RFP process). A: The BHPC is the main way that people’s voices are heard. “We don’t want council members diving into minutia. But we do want Council members to point out large patterns”

C. Slides (continued)

1. Block Grants: Council Involvement (“SUD is not an afterthought”)
2. Council Membership. Selected for Expertise and Perspective
3. Council Membership – Share the Load, Share the Microphone
4. Three Mandated Duties
 - a. Review the Block Grant
 - b. System Advocacy:
 - i. Refer to SAMHSAs five priorities
 - Preventing SUD overdose
 - Enhancing access to Suicide Prevention and MHS services.
 - Resilience for kids, youth and families
 - Integrating behavioral health & physical health
 - Strengthening BH workforce
 - ii. System Analysis – Environmental Factors
 - Access to care, integration, and care coordination
 - Health disparities
 - Innovation in purchasing decisions
 - Evidence-based practices for early interventions to address early serious mental illness (10% set aside)
 - Person-centered planning
 - Program Integrity
 - Tribes

- c. Data Monitoring/Evaluation.
 - i. System Strengths & Needs → Critical Caps & Unmet Needs → Priorities → Objectives, Strategies, Indicators
 - 5. How was the Council involved in the development and review of the state plan and report.
 - 6. Council Operations: “The *Work* of the Work”
 - 7. Fluid Processes
 - 8. See Planning Council Manual
<https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/planning-council-introductory-manual.pdf>
 - 9. Leadership and Operations – Logistical Support
 - 10. Recommended Committee Structure
 - 11. Agendas – A Management Tool. Agendas should go through Executive Committee
 - 12. Meeting conduct – Its everyone’s job!
 - a. Stick to Agenda
 - b. Respect internal timelines
 - c. Goal is inclusiveness, not letting anyone’s personal issues take over, nor letting any one member dominate the discussion.
 - d. Leader should summarize and note action steps.
- D. Recommendations
- 1. Revisit by-laws
 - 2. Rethink committees
 - 3. Annual Calendar

III. System Partner Updates (Connie Greene)

- A. Children’s System of Care (Nicholas Pecht): No report given.
- B. Division of Developmental Disabilities (Jonathan Sabin)
 - 1. The New Jersey Department of Human Services’ Division of Developmental Disabilities is pleased to announce the release of a new Request for Proposal (RFP) to Support the Development of Homes for People with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities Transitioning from Nursing Facilities and Other Qualified Institutions. If interested in this new funding opportunity please visit [https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/providers/grants/nofa/NOFAfiles/SNF%20NOFA%20\(002\).pdf](https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/providers/grants/nofa/NOFAfiles/SNF%20NOFA%20(002).pdf)
 - 2. The Department of Human Services is enhancing the statewide emergency services programs that support adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Department has awarded contracts to Community Options, Inc., Community Access Unlimited and Oaks Integrated Care to operate emergency capacity services (ECS) programs throughout the state. ECS programs support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), including those with acute behavioral needs who require immediate residential and day program support. This funding enables emergency, short-term support to be available for admissions seven days per week, 365 days a year with 24-hour coverage provided.

3. Reminder, DHS is still accepting submissions for its RFP for the provision of capital funds to offset costs incurred in the acquisition, development and renovation of group homes that serve newly placed individuals with acute behavioral and/or medical needs. The deadline to submit for this RFP is May 1st. Please visit <https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/providers/grants/rfprfi/RFPfiles/DDD.pdf> if interested.

C. Division of Aging (Nancy Eduoard): No report given.

D. Division of Juvenile (Justice Commission: Filomena DiNuzzio): No report given.

E. Department of Education (Maurice Ingram – Not present). No report given

F. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS). John Tkacz

1. NJ Div Voc. Rehab, MHANJ's CCERI, and Rutgers IEI are partnering to bring CRC providers a FREE 10 Hour Ethics Conference in NJ. Please fill out the polling survey below for planning purposes if you are interested. Survey closes 2/16/24.
<https://forms.office.com/r/fV3khtxmpi>

G. Department of Corrections (K. Connelly).

1. The next public meeting regarding Edna Mahan Correctional Facility for Women will be held March 1st at 10:30am. The link to submit questions prior to the meeting is <https://bit.ly/EMCFsubmit>.
2. The link to join the meeting is <https://bit.ly/EMCFPublicMeeting>
3. The links can also be found at the NJDOC home page: nj.gov/corrections

H. State Medicaid: No report given

V. Open Public Comment and Announcements: Nothing, due to time for Technical Assistance

A. Announcements: None

B. Questions/Comments: None

VI. Adjournment (11:04 am) Connie Greene

A. Next meeting: 3/13/24

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#

B. Future Agenda Items

1. Certified Community Behavioral Health Centers, (Charlotte Sadashige)
2. Quality Improvement Plan (QIP): (Connie Greene)
3. NJ DoE Threat Assessment Protocols
4. Overview of CSS (Harry Reyes, DMHAS)
5. Pretrial Services in Camden County (?) (Robin Weiss.)
6. JJV Discussion (Filomena DiNuzzio)
7. Overview/Update on 988 (DMM)

8. Psychiatric Advanced Directives (requested by H.Simms, 1/10/24)

C. March 13, 2024 Subcommittee Meetings

9:30 TBA

12:00 TBA