

NEW JERSEY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL

Minutes

October 9, 2024, 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	Francis Walker	Heather Simms	Julia Barugel
Jennifer Rutberg	Michael Ippoloti	John Tkacz	Krista Connelly
Maurice Ingram	Winifred Chain	Barbara Ferrick	Harry Coe
Darlema Bey (Chair)	Joseph Gutstein	Suzanne Smith	

DMHAS, CSOC, DDD, DMAHS & DoH Staff:

Suzanne Borys	Clarence Pearson	Brielle Easton
Yunqing Li	Nicholas Pecht	Shenal Pugh
Mark Kruszczyński	Sucharitihia Reddy	Brittany Thorne

Guests:

Nina Smuklawsky	Anne Smullen-Theiling	Nancy Edouard
Filomena DiNuzzo	Morgan Thompson	

I. Administrative Issues/Correspondence (Darlema Bey)

- A. Attendance, 18/33, 54% attendance, quorum exceeded.
- B. Resignations:
 - 1. Diane Riley (Supported Housing Association of NJ, SHA-NJ)
 - 2. Michele Madiou (NJ County Mental Health Administrator's Assoc.)
- B. Minutes of September 11, 2024 General Meeting Approved.
- C. S-3929: Data collection underway and training to hospitals. DMHAS is compiling reports based on received data. Once the reports are vetted by administration, they will be made available.

II. CMHSBG / SUPTRS BG

- A. CMHSBG and SUPTRS 2024 Implementation reports are being completed by DMHAS Staff. Update at the 11/11/24 meeting of the BHPC
- B. Consumer survey update:
 - 1. At the beginning of the month, 77 mental health agencies (contracted with DMHAS have received survey instruction packets, so that the consumer survey can be distributed across 609 individual sites (i.e., unique locations

- where a program element is offered), so that they survey (via survey monkey) can be distributed to 4,986 randomly-selected consumers).
2. Survey is available in Spanish

III. System Partner Updates (Darlema Bey)

- A. Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) DMHAS (D. Migliorino): See above
- B. Children's Systems of Care (Nick Pecht):
 1. 2024 CMHBG:
 - a. Priority Area and Indicator for Integrating Behavioral and Physical Health:
 - Objective: To increase utilization of the Pediatric Psychiatry Collaborative's (PPC) services and supports, we will increase the percentage of PPC-enrolled pediatricians who refer at least one youth to the PPC.
 - Strategies to attain the objective: In FY22, there were 665 pediatricians who have partnered with the PPC; 45% of these physicians referred a youth to the PPC at least once. To improve upon this rate, additional training / reminders / opportunities for connection will be provided to member pediatricians.
 - First-year target/outcome measurement: For FY24, the rate of pediatricians enrolled in the PPC who made at least one referral for a youth to receive services or supports from the PPC will increase to 48%. (Second year target: 50%)
 - For FY24, the total number of pediatricians enrolled in the PPC (denominator) was 892.
 - For FY24, the number of pediatricians who made at least one referral (numerator) was 437.
 - In FY24, 49% of enrolled pediatricians made at least one referral, exceeding our year one indicator by 1%.
- C. Division of Developmental Disabilities (Jonathan Sabin)
 1. The Division of Developmental Disabilities has begun implementation of its updated training requirements for Direct Service Providers (DSP's) and Supervisors.
 - a. Staff hired prior to the full implementation date of January 1, 2025 will continue to meet current onboarding training requirements until that date.
 - b. Staff hired on or after January 1, 2025 will be required to complete new onboarding training requirements.
 - c. Staff hired prior to January 1, 2025 are required to complete new trainings by December 31, 2025.
 2. The DDD Office of Transition to Adult Life & Employment offers a variety of webinars throughout the year. The target audience is school

personnel and middle/high school students and their families, but all are welcome to attend.

- a. Join the Transition Listserv to stay up-to-date on upcoming Office of Transition events and other transition resources. Go to - https://listserv.dhs.state.nj.us/scripts/wa.exe?SUBED1=DDD_TRANSITION_TO_ADULT_LIFE&A=1

3. National Core Indicators (NCI) is a national effort to measure and improve the performance of state developmental disabilities service systems. Each year, DDD administers quality surveys that provide insight into people's experience of our Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waiver programs. In 2024-2025, DDD will again administer NCI surveys for individuals and their families and guardians. To learn about NCI please visit <https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/assets/documents/quality/nci-survey-overview.pdf>.
4. Following a Request for Proposals process, the Department of Human Services', Division of Developmental Disabilities has awarded over \$3.4 million to seven service providers to develop community-based housing to meet the needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are transitioning out of nursing homes and other qualified institutions.
5. Voting resources for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, developed by The Boggs Center on Disability and Human Development, in collaboration with Disability Rights NJ and the NJ Council on Developmental Disabilities. Please visit <https://boggscenter.rwjms.rutgers.edu/resources/publications/voting-its-your-right> for more information.

D. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (John Tkacz)

1. DVRS is Celebrating Disabilities Employment Awareness Month throughout the month of October. Please feel free to attend one of the events listed below:
 - a. Avenues to Independent Living, 10/24 10- 12:30pm, Celebrating Success Bruncheon, Larry's II Restaurant
 - b. Avenues to Independent Living, 10/16 10- 1pm, Celebrating Success Bruncheon, Seven Star Diner Breakfast Buffet
 - c. Hudson Community Enterprises w/ N. Bergen Public Library, 10/16 10-3pm, Job Fair and DEAM event w/ resource tables
 - d. Jewish Vocational Services and Community Options co-hosting with WDB, 10/16, Mt. Olive Library 9:30- 12pm
 - e. Jewish Vocational Services Essex/ Newark DEAM, 10/28 8:30- 10:30am Wilshire Grand in West Orange

- f. 10/10 9:30- 12pm Essex County College in Caldwell, NJ, Employer Training on ADA and Accommodations
 - g. Water & Sims -DEAM Event/Job Club, 10/21 9-12pm Burlington County Human Services Building
- 2. DVRS has partnered with Rutgers IEI for providing the following training for providers to obtain CRC credits. Current IEI Trainings – Integrated Employment Institute (<https://iei.rutgers.edu/current-iei-trainings/>)
 - a. 10/10: Developing Accommodations for Employees with Mental Health Conditions
 - b. 10/17 & 10/24: Onsite Support: Coaching Phase (2 Parts)
 - c. 10/23: Financial Wellness - A Vital Component of Career Services Conversations
 - d. 10/30: Developing an Antiracist Practitioner Identity for Career Services Providers
 - e. 11/7: Motivational Interviewing - Foundational Knowledge & Skills for Career Services
 - f. 11/13: Direct Skills Teaching - Teaching Employment Related Skills
 - g. 11/13 & 11/20: Growing from What Works (2 Parts) - Utilizing a Strengths-Based Focus to Promote Successful Career Services Outcomes
 - h. 11/14: Motivational Interviewing - Advanced Skills for Career Services
- E. Division of Aging (Nancy Edouard)
No presentation/no update.
- F. Justice Commission, NJ Dept. of Law & Public Safety: (Francis Walker)
No presentation/no update.
- G. Department of Education (Maurice Ingram):
 - 1. Comprehensive Active Shooter Incident Management for Schools: A specialized training program focused on active shooter incident management, including preparation, response, and recovery protocols to protect students and staff.
 - 2. Kindergarten through Grade 12 Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management Training: A training opportunity for educators and school staff to conduct behavioral threat assessments and manage threats within K-12 schools, focusing on proactive strategies to enhance school safety.

3. Stop the Bleed Train The Educator Program: The "Stop the Bleed" program aims to train educators in life-saving techniques to control bleeding during emergencies, including severe injuries or school incidents.
4. 2nd Floor App: Discusses the helplines new app which provides students with a platform to report incidents and access mental health support.
5. NJ 9th Annual Suicide Prevention Conference (Virtual) Registration: This link directs to the registration form for the New Jersey Suicide Prevention Conference, offering details on registering for the virtual event focused on strategies and practices for preventing youth suicide.

H. Department of Corrections (K. Connelly):

1. The most recent public meeting regarding Edna Mahan Correctional Facility was held on September 13th. Due to substantial and continuous compliance, NJDOC has filed a motion to terminate portions of the consent decree, which is currently under review by the court. The state working group overseeing the construction of the new facility continues to meet. More than 45 vendors responded to the RFPs for an architect and engineer. Vendors will be selected after review of written proposals and in-person presentations that will occur in November. A recording of the meeting can be watched on the NJDOC YouTube page or at this link:
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1bpDrouAc8g>
3. A new edition of Perceptions Reimagined, the newsletter written by the women at Edna, is now available on the NJDOC home page.

I. NJ Div. of Medical Assistance and Health Services (NJ Family Care/State Medicaid) (Shenal Pugh)

1. Context on NJ Family Care Behavioral Health Integration
 - a. NJ Family Care is in the process of transitioning behavioral health services for all populations from direct Medicaid fee for service billing to management and reimbursement through Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs). The first phase of this transition will be effective January 1, 2025, and include ambulatory / outpatient services. This transition will promote integrated physical health and behavioral health coverage under MCOs and will help enable whole-person care across the care continuum, with the goals of improving access, member-centered care, and health outcomes.

- b. It is important for providers to prepare for integration to ensure continuity of care for members and avoid delays in care provision and payment for providers.

J. Department of Health: (Barbara Ferrick):
No presentation/no update.

K. Division of Family Development (Marie Snyder):
No presentation/no update.

L. Supported Housing Association (Diane Riley, resigned from BHPC 100824, no successor has been appointed.):
No presentation/no update.

M. NJ County Mental Health Administrators (Michele Madou resigned from BHPC 10/09/24, no successor appointed yet)
No presentation/no update.

N. NJ Hospital Association.
No presentation/no update.

IV. Open Public Comment and Announcements:

- A. Comments/questions
 - 1. None
- B. Announcements:
 - 1. None

V. Adjournment: Darlema Bey 10:30

A. At the conclusion of today's open, public meeting of the Planning Council, members must attend a mandatory State Ethics Training from 10:30 to noon. [The link was provided to BHPC/CAB members by DMHAS.Ethics@dhs.nj.gov]

A. Next meeting: 11/11/24 10:00 am –noon.

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- C. Future Agenda Items
 - 1. Block Grant and SUPTRS Block Grant Report
 - 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
6. JJC Discussion (Filomena DiNuzzo)

- D. November 11, 2024 Subcommittee Meetings
- 9:30 Block Grant
 - 12:00 TBC