

## NEW JERSEY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL

### Minutes

September 11, 2024, 10:00 am

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

Microsoft Teams meeting

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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	Shawn Buskirk	John Tkacz	Krista Connelly
Robin Weiss	Maurice Ingram	Barbara Johnston	Michele Madiou
Winifred Chain	Barbara Ferrick		
Darlema Bey (Chair)			

#### DMHAS, CSOC, DDD, DMAHS & DoH Staff:

Suzanne Borys	Clarence Pearson	Brielle Easton
Yunqing Li	Nicholas Pecht	Shenal Pugh
Mark Kruszczyński	John Fogliano	Preak Patel
Richard Campanelli	Brittany Thorne	

#### Guests:

Nina Smuklawsky	Diane Litterer	Nancy Edouard
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#### **I. Administrative Issues/Correspondence (Darlema Bey)**

- A. Attendance, 15/35, 42.8% attendance, quorum exceeded.
- B. Minutes of August 2024 General Meeting Approved, with minor edits.
- C. Membership Committee October 8, 2024, time TBD by DMM.
- D. Mandatory State Ethnic Training on 10/9/24, 10:30 to noon

#### **II. CMHSBG / SUPTRS BG Fiscal Tables (John Fogliano, Prerak Patel, Richard Campanelli)** See PowerPoint

- A. Comment on Selected Slides
  1. MHBG Table 2, Direct Services: Total MHBG \$28.1M
  2. MHBG Table 6: Non-Direct Services: SFY 24 Block Grant \$623k, SFY25 Block Grant \$623k
  3. SUPTR Table 4L FFY24 SUPTRS Block Grant Award total \$52M, SFY25: \$52M
- B. Q&A:
  1. Q: How are the recipients of the funding determined?

A: Prerak, we will get back to you on that.

2. Q: Can we get general information on the agencies that have been funded?

C. Comments of John Fogliano

1. SFY25 show slight increases but certain programs in between there are reductions because the previous year's actual expenses were low (the providers were underspending due to things like: understaffing, financial condition of the provider, COVID after effects, the provider did not submit necessary fiscal info to support the funds they have already been given). Providers must submit documentation to DMHAS to support/justify the funds they have received and/or might receive in the future.
2. The Federal Government monitors how Block Grant dollars are spent. If agencies don't spend their allotted funding in one fiscal year they might not receive that same level of funding in the following year.

**III. Using Mental Health Screeners in Schools: Overview from NJ Department of Education**  
(Maurice Ingram, NJ DoE)

- A. See PowerPoint, overview on implanting MH screening in schools.
- B. See [https://www.nj.gov/education/safety/wellness/mh/docs/NJDOE%20MH%20Screening%20Guidance\\_acc.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/education/safety/wellness/mh/docs/NJDOE%20MH%20Screening%20Guidance_acc.pdf)
- C. Q&A
  1. Comment: Request that these programs are mandated by the NJ DoE.
  2. Comment: Desire that more schools connect with behavioral health providers.

**IV. System Partner Updates** (Darlema Bey)

- A. Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) DMHAS (D. Migliorino): See above, "CMHSBG / SUPTRS BG Fiscal Tables"
- B. Children's Systems of Care (Nick Pecht):
  1. Pediatric Psychiatry Collaborative.
    - a. For six years, 9 hubs operated by Hackensack Meridian Health, Cooper University Health Care, Atlantic Health System, and Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care, covering all 21 counties.
    - b. Mental/behavioral health and substance use consultative and referral support program; improves comfort and competence of pediatric primary care clinicians to screen, identify, and care manage.

- c. Available to youth up to 18, or 21 if still under a pediatrician's care.
- d. Tele-psychiatry available.
- e. An increase in enrolled pediatrician referrals to the NJPPC was lifted up as an indicator for the current grant cycle under the Priority Area of integration of behavioral and physical health. Our data for the last fiscal year indicates we have achieved our year one goal which we will report in this year's Implementation Report.

C. Division of Developmental Disabilities (Jonathan Sabin)

1. The Rutgers Developmental Disabilities Planning Institute (DDPI) is conducting a research study to identify areas of the NJCAT (NJ Comprehensive Assessment Tool) that might benefit from improvements. Using the collected feedback to inform the process, DDPI drafted a revised NJCAT, referred to as the Study-NJCAT, and will begin testing of this draft tool with a stratified random sample of about 5,000 individuals served by DDD. DDPI will begin outreach to persons identified in the stratified random sample starting in September 2024. They will contact between 100-500 persons a month until complete. The study will take 12-18 months to complete.
2. It is estimated that more than a million people in the US have a dual diagnosis of an intellectual and/or developmental disability (IDD) and mental health needs/mental illness (MI). The National Association for the Dually Diagnosed (NADD) developed the NADD Competency Based IDD/MI Dual Diagnosis Direct Support Professional (DSP) Certification Program to certify the competency of DSPs who support people with dual diagnosis. NADD-DSP Certification adds another level of professionalization to the DSP career path by entitling those who pass the certification exam to use "NADD-DSP" as a credential. This certification enhances the quality, efficacy, and consistency of service delivery for people with IDD/MI. DDD has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for provider agencies to support a minimum of 10%, up to a maximum of 100%, of their eligible DSPs in obtaining the NADD Competency-Based IDD/MI Dual Diagnosis DSP Certification. Below please find links to the certification pilot as well as the NOFA:
3. NADD Competency-Based IDD/MI Dual Diagnosis Direct Support Professional Certification Pilot  
<https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/providers/grants/rfprfi/RFPfiles/NADD-RFP-FINAL.pdf>
4. Notice of Funding Availability  
<https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/providers/grants/nofa/NOFAfiles/NADD-NOFA-FINAL.pdf>

D. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (John Tkacz)

1. Disabilities Employment Awareness Month in October.
  2. DVRS has partnered with Rutgers IEI for providing the following training for providers to obtain CRC credits.
  3. Current IEI Trainings – Integrated Employment Institute (rutgers.edu)
    - a. 9/12: Integrating Clinical & Vocational Services
    - b. 9/18: Developing Accommodations for Students with Mental Health Conditions in Postsecondary Education
    - c. 9/19: Supporting Job Seekers with Co-Occurring Substance Use Disorders and Mental Health Conditions
    - d. 9/25: Educational & Career Assessment - Selecting an Occupational Direction
    - e. 9/26: Trauma Informed Career Services
    - f. 10/2 & 10/9: Off Jobsite Supports in Job Coaching (2 Parts)
- E. Division of Aging (Nancy Edouard)
1. Medicare (adults, disabled).
    - a. Medicare open enrollment. Free counselors are available in each county. In person or remotely. It is from the NJ Division of Aging.
    - b. Medicare savings programs, Medicare subsidies (to save on Part B)
    - c. Medicare Savings Program and other programs can assist with Medicare Part B and other Medicare costs: Division of Aging Services | Get Help Paying Your Medicare Costs (nj.gov)
- F. Justice Commission, NJ Dept. of Law & Public Safety: (Francis Walker)
1. The JJC rehabilitative services are revisiting mindfulness training to better serve residents. We are also organizing additional trainings on Trauma Informed care.
- G. Department of Education (Maurice Ingram):  
See above, “Using Mental Health Screeners in Schools: Overview from NJ Department of Education”
- H. Department of Corrections (K. Connelly):
1. The next public meeting regarding Edna Mahan Correctional Facility for Women will take place on Zoom this Friday, September 13th at 10:30am. The meeting can be accessed via the NJDOC home page or by following this link: <https://tinyurl.com/b42jjfre>.
- I. NJ Div. of Medical Assistance and Health Services (NJ Family Care/State Medicaid) (Shenal Pugh)
1. New Jersey Innovation Institute (NJII) is hosting a Behavioral Health, and Substance Use Disorder Promoting Interoperability Programs webinar on October 8, 2024 @ 3:30-4:30 in collaboration with the DMAHS. Register by visiting the link below.

- a. Promoting Interoperability Programs: Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder - NJII  
<https://www.njii.com/events/promoting-interoperability-programs-behavioral-health-and-substance-use-disorder/>
- b. Promoting Interoperability Programs: Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder – NJII . Join us for a webinar introducing the Behavioral Health Promoting Interoperability Program (BH PIP) and providing updates made on the Substance Use Disorder Promoting Interoperability Program (SUD PIP).

## 2. 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.

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.

- b. Provider Readiness Trainings

To help you get ready for Phase 1 go-live, we have prepared a suite of readiness trainings and materials to ensure that you get the information you need, know the requirements and steps you need to take for integration, and have an opportunity to ask questions.

As part of this preparation, the NJ Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) and the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) invite you to register for the following provider readiness trainings.

Date & time	Training Details
i.	Sep 25, 9-11AM Enrollment and Credentialing (register) Learn how to enroll in Medicaid and credential with the 5 MCOs
ii.	Oct 16, 9:30-11AM Achieving Success with Managed Care (register) Gain insight into best

- practices and lessons learned to work successfully with managed care
    - iii. Oct 24, 9-10:30AM Claims (register)  
Understand processes and policies to submit claims and be reimbursed by MCOs
    - iv. Nov 21, 9-10:30AM Prior Authorizations & NJSAMS (register) Learn the processes and requirements for prior authorization of BH services through MCOs
    - v. Dec 5, 2-4PM Office hours (register)  
Drop in and ask DMAHS and MCOs any remaining questions about the integration prior to go-live
  - c. Please register for these sessions through the links provided and save the dates into your calendar. For more information about these trainings, please refer to the attached Provider Readiness Trainings Schedule flyer. We encourage you to attend all sessions that are applicable to you.
  - d. DMAHS will be releasing additional guidance and resources for providers in the coming months. Please reach out with any questions in the meantime to [dmahs.behavioralhealth@dhs.nj.gov](mailto:dmahs.behavioralhealth@dhs.nj.gov).
- 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, not present/excused):  
No presentation/no update.
- M. NJ County Mental Health Administrators:  
No presentation/no update.
- N. NJ Hospital Association.  
No presentation/no update.

#### **IV. Open Public Comment and Announcements:**

- A. Comments/questions
  - 1. Could Council obtain information on S-3929, Involuntary Commitment Law information by 10/9/24? Three reports should have been posted. (H. Simms will send MK & DMM more information).
- B. Announcements:
  - 1. NAMI Walk 10/5/24, Middlesex College, Edison NJ, 10:00 to 2:00

**V. Adjournment:** Darlema Bey 12:01

- A. Next meeting: 10/9/24 10:00 am – 10:30. (Meeting length curtailed due to mandatory NJ State Ethics Training, 10:30 to 12:00 noon.)

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- B. Membership Committee Meeting 10/8/24, time TBA

- B. Future Agenda Items

1. Mandatory State Ethics Training (10/9/24)
1. Quality Improvement Plan (QIP): (Connie Greene)
2. NJ DoE Threat Assessment Protocols
3. Overview of CSS (Harry Reyes, DMHAS)
4. Pretrial Services in Camden County
5. JJC Discussion (Filomena DiNuzzo)

- C. October 9, 2024 Subcommittee Meetings

9:30 TBD

12:00 None scheduled