

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Instructions: [F-01922A](#)

Name of Governmental Body: Wisconsin Council on Mental Health - Legislative and Policy Committee		Attending: Mary Neubauer, Crystal Hester, Alice Sykora, Amanda Anderson, Barbara Beckert, Kit Kerschensteiner, Justin Odulana, Hugh Davis, Brian Michel, Kimberlee Coronado, Mike Lappen, Jack Spear, Marc Herstand, Rick Immler, Linda Hall, Kathy Markeland, Sarah Coyle, Teresa Steinmetz, Ryan Stachoviak, Joyce Allen, Jim Jones, Leah Ramirez	
Date: 6/11/2020	Time Started: 12:30pm	Time Ended: 3:15pm	
Location: Meeting held via Zoom and Conference Call		Presiding Officer: Crystal Hester	
Minutes			

Meeting of the Legislative and Policy Committee

June 11, 2020

12:30 pm to 3:00 pm

Meeting Held via Zoom and Conference Call

Members of the Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC) in Attendance: Mary Neubauer, Crystal Hester, Alice Sykora, Amanda Anderson, Barbara Beckert, Kit Kerschensteiner, Justin Odulana, Hugh Davis, Brian Michel, Kimberlee Coronado, Mike Lappen

Guests in Attendance: Jack Spear, Marc Herstand, Rick Immler, Linda Hall, Kathy Markeland

Department of Health Services (DHS) Staff in Attendance: Sarah Coyle, Teresa Steinmetz, Ryan Stachoviak, Joyce Allen, Jim Jones, Leah Ramirez

Minutes

1. Call Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC) Meeting to Order

Review and approval of the minutes of May 14, 2020

M. Neubauer moved to approve the minutes.

J. Odulana seconded the motion.

Motion carried, minutes approved.

Announcements

M. Lappen announced that Milwaukee County has received an SAMHSA outpatient treatment grant to create a high fidelity ACT team. The grant starts at the end of July. B. Beckert announced that Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW) has been working to promote absentee voting. There are a few opportunities coming up, on the 23rd of June there will be a briefing for organizations on how to encourage people to vote and how to request an absentee ballot. A. Anderson announced an upcoming ethics webinar. Information will be shared with the committee. B. Michel announced that the Mental Health America Wisconsin

Veterans Peer Run Respite, has established a veteran peer run warm line that is available for people to reach out to.

K. Coronado discussed Service Members, Veterans and Families (SMVF) call in number, which was developed to help serve service members.

C. Hester discussed updates from NAMI Wisconsin. May was Mental Health Awareness Month. One effort was the collection of casserole recipes to create a cookbook. NAMI Wisconsin is also doing a Train the Trainer for Advocacy which teaches people how to tell your story of mental illness. This is a free training, and is available on the NAMI Website. Linda Hall discussed an Office of Children's Mental Health listening session that was held in May.

Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) Updates

R. Immler discussed that the WCMH did pass the motion regarding the clearinghouse rule that the LPC has passed. A letter will be sent out soon to the legislative committee in question. R. Immler briefed the group on the most recent WCMH meeting.

Public Comment

M. Herstand thanked the group for the motion and the letter which will be sent from the WCMH. M. Herstand discussed the Qualified Treatment Advisory Committee. The National Association of Social Workers will be working on developing a policy paper that will urge insurance companies not to drop telehealth coverages.

2. Updates from the Division of Medicaid Services (DMS)

J. Jones from the DHS DMS provided a briefing from the DMS. J. Jones noted that DMS plans to continue supporting telepath as a coverage, in particular with behavioral health. Up until this year DMS was not involved in telehealth. DMS had planned for a more phased approach, but with COVID-19 becoming a factor, this expedited the process and overall this has gone really well. Federal government did allow for flexibility for Medicaid (MA) including for phone therapy and group therapy. DMS is hoping to continue these flexibilities. There has not been much negatives about the use telehealth. DMS plans to continue the telehealth workgroup this summer. Doctor to doctor consultation is another area that is planned for continued support.

B. Beckert discussed the importance of access for people who need MA services who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. There is a lack of ASL providers.

DMS is looking to support this, including through funding to health centers to help build infrastructure. J. Jones expressed that he was open to suggestions and ideas on how to address these needs.

Members of the LPC discussed the need to address rules, such as CCS rules, which will need updating to bring them in line with modern telehealth practices.

J. Jones discussed housing efforts from DMS. DMS is working on a plan through which MA would pay for housing supports for people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. DMS had a plan, but CMS stated that the agency was no longer entertaining 1115 waivers that would allow for the waiver of certain provisions. DMS hopes to continue to pursue a waiver. L. Ramirez discussed the 1915i State Plan Amendment (SPA) that allows for service delivery for housing.

DMS hopes to align with HUD housing definitions. Medicaid cannot pay for room and board other than nursing home. Members of the LPC discussed housing and then need for additional housing, and barriers for paying for housing and the intersection with mental health.

3. Legislative and Policy Updates, Discussion, and Action

C. Hester briefed the group on the budget prioritization document being planned by the LPC. C. Hester asked members of the LPC to continue working on the templates and developing the priorities. C. Hester plans to work on prioritizing the priorities as well. It will be important to consider how these budget requests would impact needs arising from COVID-19. C. Hester has been able to provide some information on the budget process with the WCMH's Children and Youth Committee and the Criminal Justice Committee as well.

The first step for the priorities will be with DHS and are hoping to get these together by the July WCMH meeting. If a member of the LPC has agreed to be a lead on a section, please send them to C. Hester. There is a workgroup that has been addressing workforce issues. L. Hall noted that the group is planning on meeting with DSPS to learn about that agency's needs and barriers. J. Spear discussed DHOH Core group's efforts on the development of an action plan and needs assessment. The group is trying to get some more Wisconsin-centric data to inform needs.

B. Beckert recommended the group look at underserved populations through a health equity lens and asked if this is something that should be reflected in the budget priorities. C. Hester noted that this could also be something that could frame the budget priorities, as an important consideration for all of the budget priorities, or as a guiding principle. J. Allen discussed the value of looking at the Behavioral Health Gaps Analysis to inform these discussions and proposals.

4. Division of Care and Treatment Services Updates

J. Allen noted that additional information was sent out the group regarding Individualized Placement and Support (IPS) in follow up to the most recent LPC meeting. S. Coyle discussed that DHS 40 will likely be published July 1, when it is published a memo will be released that will provide more details. DHS 75 is nearing the point where a draft will be released for public comment. DHS has had a very intensive outreach effort to this point to gather stakeholder input on the development of the rewrite to this point. DHS 50 was published in its emergency rule form, and the permanent rule will likely be published in the next few months. Act 122, creating recovery coach training and reimbursement, in the early stages of reviewing to create a new administrative rule.

5. Agenda Items for the July 9, 2020 Committee Meeting

Members will plan to have the usual agenda items for the upcoming meeting.

6. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.

Prepared by: Ryan Stachowiak on 6/11/2020.

