



State of Wisconsin

Wisconsin Council on Mental Health
mhc.wisconsin.gov

Meeting of the Legislative and Policy Committee
June 14, 2018, 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm
1 West Wilson Street, Madison, Wisconsin

Members of the Legislative and Policy Committee in Attendance: Karen Iverson Riggers, Crystal Hester, Mary Neubauer, Justin Odulana, Phil Robinson, Joanne Juhnke, Barbara Beckert, Chris Wirth, Elizabeth Viera, Kit Kerschensteiner, Kathie Knoble-Iverson (via teleconference)

Guests in Attendance: Alice Sykora, Mishelle O'Shasky, Isaac Lu, Courtney Wagner, Marina Pappas (via teleconference)

Department of Health Services Staff in Attendance: Ryan Stachoviak, Joyce Allen, Dan Kiernan

MINUTES

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

Review and approval of the minutes of May 10, 2018

M. Neubauer moved to approve the minutes of May 10, 2018.

J. Odulana seconded the motion.

Motion carried, minutes approved.

Announcements

B. Beckert announced the Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW) board is hosting a listening session on Friday. DRW is also distributing information to support voting registration. J. Juhnke announced that Wisconsin Family Ties is holding their annual family fun day in Wisconsin Dells in July. C. Hester announced the Big Swell swim event, being held at Devil's Lake State Park.

Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) Updates

K. Iverson Riggers provided an update on the recent May WCMH meeting. Much of the meeting was devoted to strategic planning. The Council plans to look at WCMH infrastructure, orientation and onboarding of new members on both the Council and the Council's committees. Additional time was spent planning the Council's September fall tour to Ashland. The Council also approved the initial Budget Priority document that the LPC brought forward for approval. The CYC presented the WCMH with an Education Policy paper that was then approved by the WCMH. The document will be placed on the Council's website.

The Council also discussed the 2018 increased allocation via the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG) that Wisconsin received from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Areas for funding that were discussed at the meeting included a gaps analysis that the Children and Youth Committee (CYC) had previously recommended, investing additional dollars towards initiatives that are already in place and funded via the MHBG, and increasing Certified Peer Specialist (CPS) training for employers.

Members of the LPC voiced their support for providing funding to support training for CPS employers, not only for current employers, but also for potential employers. This could include efforts to promote the benefits of employing a CPS. The WCMH had also proposed the creation of a new CPS advisory body.

Regarding MHBG funding J. Juhnke suggested the WCMH reach out to organizations that would have received a cut due to the potential MHBG reduction to ask those organizations potential uses for additional funds. P. Robinson suggested the gaps analysis include CPS and the potential impact utilization could have on capacity in the mental health system in Wisconsin.

Public Comment

M. O'Shasky discussed a funding proposal for employment of formerly incarcerated people.

2. Legislative and Policy Updates, Discussion, and Action

Budget Priority Planning

C. Hester discussed the budget priority document and a timeline for the LPC and WCMH to advocate for budget items. B. Beckert asked on why Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHOH) items were included under policy items rather than budget items. K. Iverson Riggers will discuss the matter further with the WCMH.

M. O'Shasky and M. Neubauer will work to follow up with the DHS Secretary's Office to plan another meeting regarding the budget. C. Wirth and E. Viera will continue to work on the budget proposal document. Members of the LPC should identify if there are various areas on which they want to be involved. Likewise, if anyone has a cost estimate for any of the budget items bring those to the group as well.

B. Beckert discussed housing proposals that were included in previous budget proposals. Those proposals addressed opportunities for a Medicaid waiver to support housing. B. Beckert will also provide language regarding DHOH that could be included in the budget proposal document. Members of the LPC discussed opportunities for having representatives from the Office for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing attend a future LPC meeting. M. Neubauer and M. O'Shasky provided a briefing on the Criminal Justice Committee meeting that was held in Milwaukee. The meeting was well attended by members of the community.

Federal Legislation

J. Juhnke discussed the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). In this year's federal budget CHIP funding had been renewed. However, there is concern that due to the large amount of money devoted to the program future funding could be cut. The President has proposed taking back 15% in the budget, including CHIP funding. The Council could advocate in support of the CHIP if there are future concerns regarding funding.

Members of the LPC discussed proposals to modify U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) eligibility. A bill has been developed by Representative Ross, in addition to a separate proposal that has been developed. The proposed changes include increases to rent payments, changes to eligibility requirements such as minimum incomes, redefining the age of elderly, and healthcare deductions. At this time it does not appear that the changes have much support.

C. Hester moved to recommend to the WCMH that the Council write letters expressing concerns regarding the HUD proposal and the potential legislation drafted by Representative Ross.

M. Neubauer seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

3. Division of Care and Treatment Services Updates

J. Allen announced that the Bureau of Prevention Treatment and Recovery (BPTR) plans to bring a draft of an updated MHBG budget to the next WCMH meeting. J. Allen announced new staff in the BPTR. Corrie Flynn is the new Peer Run Respite Coordinator. Michelle Lund is the new coordinator for Multidimensional Family Therapy grant.

The BPTR received two applications for the Veterans Peer Run Respite and staff are currently reviewing the applications. The BPTR continues to host learning collaboratives and is in the process of ending the first phase. The BPTR plans to host a phase two for more of an implementation of those efforts. Staff are also currently analyzing new laws to determine how those would impact other state laws and administrative rules.

J. Allen provided an updated regarding the Winnebago Mental Health Institute (WMHI). The WMHI has been struggling to find adequate staffing, psychiatrists in particular. The WMHI received a visit from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) who found the facility to be in violation on several items including the physical facility, documentation, and patient care. The DHS submitted a corrective plan that was subsequently accepted by CMS. The DHS is currently making the corrections. There will be return visit from CMS to confirm those problems were corrected. B. Beckert suggested that the LPC invite Pat Cork or Rose Kleeman of the DCTS to attend the next LPC meeting to provide an update on the WMHI.

J. Allen provided an update on DHS 40. A draft has been written and will now be reviewed by the DHS lawyers. There will also be additional opportunities for public comment. DHS will also provide education to providers on changes made to the rule.

4. Agenda Items for July 2018 Committee Meeting

The following agenda items were noted: WMHI updates, budget priorities, and a presentation from the ODHH.

5. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.