



State of Wisconsin

**Wisconsin Council on Mental Health**  
mhc.wisconsin.gov

**Meeting of the Legislative and Policy Committee**  
**September 13, 2018 from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm**  
**1 West Wilson Street, Conference Room 630, Madison, Wisconsin and Via Conference Call**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Members of the Legislative and Policy Committee in Attendance:** Crystal Hester, Joanne Juhnke, Alice Sykora, Shel Gross, Phil Robinson, Elizabeth Viera, Chris Wirth, Barbara Beckert, Kit Kerschensteiner, Justin Odulana

**Guests in Attendance:** Mishelle O'Shasky, Brian Michel, Jeanie Verschay

**Department of Health Services (DHS) Staff in Attendance:** Ryan Stachoviak, Joyce Allen

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

*Review and approval of the minutes of August 9, 2018*

**K. Kerschensteiner moved to approve the minutes of August 9, 2018.**

**S. Gross seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried, P. Robinson abstained.**

*Announcements: Opportunity for committee members to make general announcements*

C. Hester announced that NAMI Wisconsin is preparing for Mental Health Awareness week. This year's social media message is "stick it to stigma". C. Wirth announced the Wisconsin Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (WAMFT) is holding conferences on October 13<sup>th</sup> and later in spring. B. Beckert announced that Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW) is providing information on voting to support people voting in the upcoming election. DRW is also conducting a survey to collect information from voters with disabilities and how they feel about their voting experiences. Denise Johnson was awarded the annual Karen Avery award.

*Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) Updates*

M. O'Shasky and R. Stachoviak provided a briefing on the WCMH. The WCMH held its annual fall tour in Ashland Wisconsin and met with many organizations and agencies throughout the community. At the meeting Jessica Gruneich was appointed to the LPC as the alternate representative from NAMI Wisconsin.

*Public Comment: The committee will accept comments from the public relating to any committee business*

M. O'Shasky announced an upcoming National Conference on Incarcerated Women and Girls being held in Oklahoma. J. Verschay discussed Act 185, legislation regarding Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake, and offered to provide additional information on how to provide input on the process.

## **2. Legislative and Policy Updates, Discussion, and Action**

### *Budget Priority Planning*

C. Hester discussed updates for the budget priority document. State agencies are submitting their budgets on Monday. S. Gross noted that in general discussions are held with the Governor and Legislators regarding the budget in November and December. The updated budget priority document should be brought to the November 14<sup>th</sup> WCMH meeting for final approval and review. C. Wirth noted that the document can be edited online or, if preferred, updates may be emailed directly to C. Wirth.

J. Odulana suggested that the LPC be mindful, in the ongoing budgetary discussions, of the other important areas and responsibilities of the LPC. Much of the past LPC meeting time has been devoted to budget discussions. Members of the LPC discussed areas that could be minimized in the document. B. Beckert noted that due to Legislative staff and Legislator turnover it is still important to provide advocacy and education on areas that may have been provided in the past. A legislative briefing may be beneficial.

J. Juhnke discussed updates to the budget priorities from the Children and Youth Committee (CYC). Regarding item C1, regarding infant and toddler mental health, the CYC does not currently have a recommendation for an ask. The CYC also provided an update for item C2, and 3A.

P. Robinson introduced and discussed a draft budget priority proposal regarding the enhancement of coaching and supervision in various service areas identified via a gaps analysis. The proposal includes that priority will be given to addressing gaps related to coaching and supervision of providers (public and private) within wraparound programs serving children and families. The goal is to impact both private and public systems. The proposal is intended to provide training for those who provide supervision or coaching for frontline workers.

Members of the LPC provided recommendations on the proposal, including clarification of the inclusion of language of a gaps analysis, and a need for further specificity of the ask. E. Viera noted that many peer run organizations have a lot of challenges get off the ground, in particular with technical and budgetary skills. There may be some benefit for supporting peer run organizations through efforts such as this. Members of the LPC recommended that the outcomes of the gaps analysis be used to guide the use of training dollars. Members voiced their support for areas of workforce development, but recommended a proposal that is more specific and straightforward. Members of the LPC agreed to continue working on this topic, but not include this specific proposal in the budget priorities at this time.

### *State Legislation*

C. Hester and J. Juhnke provided a briefing on a meeting with the Office of School Safety (OSS) attended by several members of the LPC. The OSS has issued another round of funding, coming out of a \$100,000,000 funding allocation for grants for school safety purposes. Not all of the initial funding was expended, roughly \$45 million remained, leading to this second round of funding. Advocates have concerns about a required training

tied to the funding that is intended for School Resource Officers (SRO). The language included by the Department of Justice (DOJ) requires that 10% of school staff attend this training. Schools must also commit to reporting risk assessment data to a database. Six organizations sent a letter to the OSS regarding these concerns which led to the recent meeting. At the meeting the OSS defended the training. Advocates asked if they could attend the training or to get the curriculum materials. J. Juhnke hopes to attend the training. The training is via the National Association of School Resource Officers. K. Kerschensteiner discussed that training on the role of the SRO would be beneficial for school staff as many times SROs are brought in to address behavior with children in situations in which a SRO should not be involved. Members discussed the importance of continued outreach to the OSS to stay on top further progress.

Other legislation that is being proposed by the DOJ focuses on suicide prevention among law enforcement and crisis intervention for civil commitments. Additional information and discussion can be provided at the next LPC meeting.

B. Beckert discussed the Family Care waiver which will need to be submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). A majority of family care members have mental health needs. There are concerns that the program has not done a good job of addressing members' mental health needs and has embraced a medical model. B. Beckert asked if the LPC had any ideas for improvement that could be provided regarding the waiver, or is there interest in working on this topic further. The deadline is October 10<sup>th</sup>. S. Gross expressed interest in future dialogue on the topic.

### **3. Division of Care and Treatment Services (DCTS) Updates**

J. Allen provided a report on the DHS Certified Peer Specialist (CPS) program. The Bureau of Prevention Treatment and Recovery (BPTR) is also putting together an internal staff team to support the CPS staff. In addition, the BPTR has put together the Peer and Parent Peer Specialist advisory committee. The BPTR plans to hold a broad recruitment to ensure a wide group of representatives are on the committee. More information will be provided to the LPC soon. J. Allen announced that the Veterans Peer Run Respite Government Funding Opportunity will be reissued. The BPTR will no longer contract with Grassroots Empowerment Project (GEP) to provide Peer Run Respite services. The BPTR plans to work with the other established Peer Run Respites to evaluate opportunities for further implementation of another Peer Run Respite.

### **4. Agenda Items for the October 2018 Committee Meeting**

The following agenda items were suggested: budget priority updates, updates on discretionary DOJ spending, and federal budget review and discussion.

### **5. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.