



State of Wisconsin

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

**MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY COMMITTEE**

**March 8, 2018 from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm**

**1 West Wilson Street, Conference Room 850A, Madison, Wisconsin and Via Conference Call**

**Members of the Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC) in Attendance:** Barbara Beckert, Kit Kerschensteiner, Mary Neubauer, Mike Lappen, Crystal Hester, Joanne Juhnke, Chris Wirth, Justin Odulana

**Members of the LPC in Attendance via Teleconference:** Elizabeth Viera, Sheli Jo Metzger, Kathie Knoble-Iverson, Tammy Conrad

**Guests in Attendance:** Peter Welch, Lynette Studer (via teleconference), Autumn Forrest, Lauren Kelly, Marc Herstand

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

**MEETING MINUTES**

**1. Call LPC Meeting to Order**

*Review and approval of the minutes of February 8, 2018*

**K. Kerschensteiner moved to approve the minutes of February 8, 2018.**

**M. Lappen seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried, minutes approved.**

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

J. Juhnke announced that the Children Come First Conference will be held in the Wisconsin Dells November 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. M. Lappen announced that the Milwaukee County Peer Run Respite RFP has led to a provider being selected, though it is still in the early stages. Representatives from Milwaukee County have been invited to present at an upcoming SAMHSA Best Practices Conference. The representatives will discuss initiatives in Milwaukee including Trauma Informed Care, the Crisis Assessment Response Team, the Trauma Team, and collaboration with the criminal justice system.

C. Wirth announced the Wisconsin Association for Marriage and Family Therapy is holding its spring conference on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

M. Neubauer announced an upcoming SAMHSA training being provided for peer specialists that are working with people that are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The training will be provided May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. C. Hester

announced the NAMI Wisconsin Annual Conference will be held April 20<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> in Elkhart Lake. Action on the Square will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### *Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) Updates*

R. Stachowiak provided an update, noting that the WCMH continues to conduct strategic planning. The Council has selected a topic of early intervention and prevention for a focus in the first year of the new strategic plan.

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

P. Welch announced that the Wisconsin Medical Society has created a physician survey. Wisconsin is high in rates of physician burnout and high stress. The Wisconsin Medical Society is looking into burnout more deeply. As part of an upcoming conference training will be provided on compassion fatigue. The organization is also working with the University of Wisconsin La Follette School to conduct a study on psychiatric workforce shortage and means to address the shortage.

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

#### *State Legislation and Review of LPC Bill Tracking and Bills to Review and Approve*

S. Gross provided a briefing on state legislation. Hopeline related legislation still needs to be heard by the Joint Committee on Finance. AB920, regarding employer groups for self-funded health care coverage, was discussed at the previous LPC meeting. Some concerns had been raised to how the bill was initially written as it would allow plans to not cover essential health benefits. The legislation passed the Assembly but was it amended so that all the state mandated benefits were included. The amendment also added some structural safeguards so that the association must be in existence for at least five years and it added some actuarial language. S. Gross noted concerns that the legislation could be impacted by changes to federal legislation.

T. Conrad discussed AB907/SB767, in regards to continuing education in prescribing controlled substances for certain health care practitioners. There are concerns that the bill could go outside scope of practice for master's level clinicians in addition to eliminating the substance abuse counselor certification. C. Wirth noted the importance of ensuring there is parity among the certifications.

S. Gross discussed AB848/SB737 relating to emergency outpatient mental health treatment for minors. The Children and Youth Committee (CYC) has not yet taken a position on this legislation. The LPC determined to take no action at this time.

J. Juhnke led a discussion on AB693, the "Teacher Protection Act." The legislation has been scaled back from the initial versions. What remains enables teachers to break their contracts over 'physical assault'. However, inclusion of this definition of 'physical assault' is problematic.

Regarding AB589/SB465, relating to regulation for sign language interpretation services has passed the Assembly. However, an amendment drastically changed the bill so that the legislation was no longer supported by ASL interpreter organizations or the Wisconsin Association for the Deaf.

Members of the LPC discussed legislation that did not move forward at this time in the legislative session. J. Juhnke provided an update on seclusion and restraint legislation. Legislation is currently circulating for co-sponsorship; so far there is bipartisan support. The CYC plans to bring a motion to the WCMH at the next meeting asking for support for the legislation.

AB29/SB5, relating to practice requirements for licensure as a clinical social worker, did pass. The legislation was amended with a requirement that the examining board may not require more than 600 hours of the diagnosis and treatment of individuals based on the DSM or its equivalent.

B. Beckert led a discussion on changes to SSI Managed Care. The State has been moving forward with a major expansion of those people in SSI Managed Care Medicaid, previously people had a choice between SSI and Fee For Service. This change will impact approximately 28,000 people. Advocates have had concerns about this change. The enrollment timeline is very aggressive at six months. After receiving a mailing people have six weeks to make the determination and if they do not make a selection they will be auto enrolled in a plan. Many advocates are concerned that people are not getting enough time on the front end to make a choice. So far the majority of people are not making a selection and are being auto enrolled. People with a rep-payee are also not receiving notice of the changes. Disability Rights Wisconsin is working with other disability advocacy groups to write a letter to DHS to express these concerns.

#### *Dialogue on Committee and Council response to Parkland shooting*

C. Hester noted that events like the Parkland shooting drive a lot of people to contact NAMI with their concerns. On the 14<sup>th</sup> most of the high schools in Dane county will hold a march to the Capitol for a rally. J. Juhnke discussed a school safety recommendations-document released by the Department of Public Instruction on March 6, with priorities in the following areas: physical safety and environment, behavioral and mental health, climate and culture, and policies and procedures. Members of the LPC noted their concerns that the common response to school shootings are to add more armed guards. Lethal violence protection orders, bump stock bans, and assault rifle bans are all pieces of legislation that have been proposed.

#### *Budget Priority Planning*

S. Gross discussed a proposed process for budget priorities. It is hoped that representatives from the Criminal Justice Committee and the CYC can attend an upcoming LPC meeting for discussions. Committees should hold discussions at upcoming meetings to bring additional guidance back to the LPC. The CYC and CJC are both planning on holding these discussions at upcoming meetings. The Committees should also take into consideration the State department that may be associated with each priority area as well.

### **3. Division of Care and Treatment Services Updates**

J. Allen announced that several of the items included in the State budget are moving forward. An input meeting occurred on March 1<sup>st</sup> regarding the Veterans Peer Run Respite. At that meeting DHS gained input from veterans on how the respite should be structured. It is hoped a Government Funding Opportunity (GFO) will be released in about a month. DHS is currently in the process of creating new administrative rules for a Youth Crisis Stabilization Facility. This facility will be under the auspices of the DHS. Emergency rules will be created to allow

the program to begin operations prior to final administrative rules being approved by the legislature. The DHS has also formed an advisory group to provide guidance on this administrative rule making process. A GFO was just released for an addiction consultation medical consultation service for physicians and providers. A GFO was also released for the Program to Assist in the Transition from Homelessness (PATH) funding.

#### **4. Agenda Items for April 2018 Committee Meeting**

The following future agenda items were noted:

- Budget priority planning
- Summarizing legislative actions in March
- Discussion on position papers

#### **5. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 2:55pm.