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State of Wisconsin

**Wisconsin Council on Mental Health**

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**MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY COMMITTEE**

**April 13, 2017, 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm**

**1 West Wilson Street, Conference Room B370, Madison, Wisconsin and Via Conference Call**

**MINUTES**

**Members of the Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC) in Attendance:** Kit Kerschensteiner, William Parke-Sutherland, Joanne Juhnke, Crystal Hester, Dori Richards, Shel Gross, Karen Iverson Riggers, Phil Robinson, Justin Odulana, Matt Strittmater, Mary Neubauer, Barbara Beckert, Mike Bachhuber (via Teleconference)

**Department of Health Services (DHS) Staff in Attendance:** Ryan Stachoviak, Kay Cram, Dan Kiernan, Tom Feryance

**Guests in Attendance:** Brenda Wesley, Tammy Conrad

**Item 1: Call to Order**

*Review and approval of minutes of March 9, 2017*

**K. Kerschensteiner moved to approve the minutes of March 9, 2017.**

**J. Juhnke seconded the motion.**

**Motion carries, minutes approved.**

*Announcements*

S. Gross announced that on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 10am a press event by the Wisconsin Coalition of Gun Safety will be held in the Assembly Parlor. The event is related to proposed legislation on universal background checks. J. Juhnke announced the key note speakers for Children Come First Conference are Jessie Benash, Darrin L. Harris, and Tamra Oman. The conference will be held November 13-14, 2017. C. Hester announced that the Annual NAMI-Wisconsin Conference will be held May 5-6, 2017. This event also includes Action on the Square advocacy day on May 4<sup>th</sup>. NAMI-Wisconsin is looking for volunteers to help facilitate the meetings with legislators.

*Public Comment*

No public comment was made.

## **Item 2: Budget Priorities**

W. Parke-Sutherland provided a briefing on the updated Budget Priority document and updates on meetings that were held with State Legislators. M. Neubauer attended a recent Joint Finance Committee (JFC) meeting and spoke on behalf of the Milwaukee Mental Health Taskforce. B. Beckert noted that several participants in this listening session voiced support for school mental health and Peer Run Respite. There are three additional opportunities for providing testimony to the JFC. These meetings will be held in Spooner, Ellsworth, and Marinette. J. Odulana noted that testimony was provided by advocates in support of school mental health and support was also voiced for the Governor's budget. J. Odulana also plans to attend the Ellsworth public hearing.

**M. Bachhuber moved that the LPC recommend that the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) submit testimony to the JFC in line with the WCMH Budget Priorities.**

**J. Odulana seconded the motion.**

**Members of the LPC recommended that the testimony include language regarding the Medicaid Purchase Plan (MAPP) and transportation.**

**Motion carries.**

W. Parke-Sutherland noted that he may be setting up a meeting with Senator Vukmir's office regarding zoning language for Peer Run Respite. M. Neubauer and K. Riggers are willing to assist with this advocacy. M. Neubauer will also reach out to Representative Sanfelippo.

## **Item 3: Legislative and Policy Updates (State and Federal)**

C. Hester provided an update on the LPC Bill Tracking document. Additional legislative items related to the opioid epidemic are not currently on the list. Additional legislation regarding increased funding for special education and a draft bill from Representative Quinn, "Colin's Law", are not included. The legislation proposed by Representative Quinn is in response to an incident in which a constituent with autism had a negative experience with law enforcement during a traffic stop. The legislation would allow for the placement of an indicator of "hidden disability" on a driver's license. The LPC will add this bill to tracking efforts. C. Hester noted that S235, the Choice Act, pertaining to special needs vouchers on the Federal Level should be added to the tracking document. The LPC will also track and monitor LRB2165, AB112, HR 1253, LRD 0600, AB115, AB116 and AB125. An additional bill to track is LRB1450, relating to the use of solitary confinement for people with mental illness, is based on a Colorado bill. The bill has had a dramatic impact in Colorado; however the high level of infrastructure costs is an often unexpected component of this type of legislation.

J. Juhnke stated that the Children and Youth Committee (CYC) is recommending that the WCMH not take any action on AB102/SB70 relating to the Missouri model and providing rehabilitation for juveniles adjudicated delinquent. The CYC feels that the bill is narrower than what was hoped for. K. Kerschensteiner suggested that the bill may be a starting point, though it is narrowly focused. As such it may be worth talking through a strategy to make the bill more comprehensive. K. Kerschensteiner will work to discuss the bill with Representative Goyke.

J. Juhnke discussed AB90 and AB87. Both bills are related to the serious juvenile offender program. The CYC recommends that the WCMH oppose these two bills. The CYC is planning on bringing a motion regarding these bills to the May WCMH meeting. Members of the LPC discussed AB57 regarding requiring child support compliance for FoodShare benefits. The bill appears to be not in line with the values of the WCMH as it would disproportionately impact people with Mental Illness.

**K. Kerschensteiner moved for the LPC to recommend that the WCMH oppose AB57.**

**W. Parke-Sutherland seconded the motion.**

**Motion carries.**

K. Kerschensteiner and W. Parke-Sutherland will write up a motion introduction document for the WCMH meeting on May 17. The LPC will revisit discussions on AB29 at the next LPC meeting.

Jon Peacock, from the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families (WCCF) briefed the members of the LPC on the WCCF's opposition to AB57. J. Peacock invited members of the LPC to engage in an informal group that has been brought together. The group meets on a weekly basis to discuss and address Medicaid and the risks of cuts to the program at the Federal level. The Medicaid Matters Coordinating Council is the informal name that the group has been using. If members are interested in joining the email list they should email J. Peacock at [jpeacock@wccf.org](mailto:jpeacock@wccf.org). The group's primary concern is the proposal to block grant or cap Medicaid. Other items of concern are waivers that are expected to be unveiled by DHS and the repeal of the ACA. The group meets once a week to share information and discuss what messages would be effective and to coordinate strategy. J. Peacock briefed the LPC on efforts to hold a Constitutional Convention. The goal of this effort is to establish a constitutional requirement for a balanced budget.

#### **Item 4: Division of Care and Treatment Services (DCTS) Updates**

J. Allen provided the LPC with a briefing on the Psychosocial Rehabilitation proposed rule. In 2009 the DHS launched an infrastructure study effort with stakeholders to investigate how DHS could improve Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder services. One outcomes of this effort was the Regionalization Pilots. Another outcome was to look at the Administrative Rule structure and identify means to simplify those rules. The DCTS is now looking now at creating a psychosocial administrative rule that would combine the rules for CCS and CSP. The hope is that it could be crafted in a way that would streamline requirements. The DHS 75 takes a similar streamlined approach. This effort is timely as that Wisconsin has a new Medicaid authority, under the Rehab Option that coordinates CCS, CSP, and CRS. The DCTS is looking to improve services and reduce burdens with the administrative rules. At this point this effort is in the exploratory steps. The DCTS cannot start rule making until the Governor provides DHS the authority to do so. The DHS would plan on holding listening sessions in addition to stakeholder group meetings to gather input on rule revisions. The official meetings would be limited to fewer meetings as per current DHS policy. In addition, the DHS does need to conduct further research as to whether CRS would be included as part of this rule revision. Members of the LPC expressed interest in being updated on the process and noted the importance of stakeholder involvement. Three stakeholder meetings alone do not appear to be enough for something this large and important. R. Stachoviak provided a briefing on the Mental Health Block Grant and Needs Assessment timeline. The WCMH and committees should be prepared to spend time reviewing the draft Needs Assessment in May. The draft of the Block Grant Plan should be available for review in early July.

#### **Item 5: Agenda Items for May 2017 Meeting**

Members of the LPC discussed plans for the upcoming combined meeting with the CYC. The two committees should continue discussions regarding their relationship. The LPC would be interested in hearing more about the CYC meeting format. The committees should also discuss the budget and special needs vouchers.

#### **Item 6: Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.