



State of Wisconsin

Wisconsin Council on Mental Health

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MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

June 8, 2017, 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm

1 West Wilson Street, Conference Room 630, Madison, Wisconsin

Members of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC) in

Attendance: Crystal Hester, Phil Robinson, Joanne Juhnke, Shel Gross, Karen Iverson Riggers, Mike Bachhuber, Justin Odulana, Tammy Conrad, Mike Lappen (via teleconference), Britt Cudaback (via teleconference)

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

Guests in Attendance: Sierra Worob, Connor Nicolay, Marc Herstand, Linda Hall (via teleconference)

Minutes

Item 1: Call to Order

Review and approval of minutes of May 11, 2017

Motion to approve minutes of May 11, 2017 carries, minutes approved.

Announcements

M. Bachhuber announced that Representative Gwen Moore is holding a town hall on June 19th. M. Lappen announced that Hector Colon has resigned as Director of the Milwaukee County Health and Human Services.

Public Comment

No public comment was made.

Item 2: Budget Priorities Status

S. Gross provided an update on language changes to the Budget Priority document. The WCMH had supported DHS positions related to the MAPP changes. The LFB paper on this item was misleading as to the number or positions available in DHS. S. Gross noted that there may be some opportunities for advocating for the inclusion of the MAPP items via the Senate. S. Gross suggested that the LPC consider whether this is an area that the group should put some effort into. Funding for the Veterans Peer Run Respite was approved, however just one year of funding was approved using program revenue. Additional funding would need to be requested by DHS in the next budget. S. Gross noted concerns that this limited funding could make it difficult to establish a contract. J. Allen informed the committee that the revenue is through placements at the Winnebago Mental Health Institute. In the past revenue has been used for projects such as Electronic Health Records and building improvements. M. Lappen noted that Milwaukee County is looking to expand Peer Run Respite services

including expanding warm lines.

Additional budget items that were approved by the JFC include an expected transition of the PATH program from DOA to DHS, funding for the Child Psychiatric Consultation Program, and funding for mental health professionals. The JFC also approved one year of funding for a proposal to develop a crisis treatment and consultation services in schools. Funding was also approved for a stabilization facility for youth, but only for one year, elimination of the wait list for children's long term support, and Fostering Futures.

Item 3: Legislative and Policy Updates and Discussion

Medicaid Waiver

The DHS submitted the Medicaid waiver request. The request removes premiums for people under 51% of poverty. People 51%-100% of the poverty level will have an eight dollar a month premium. The request does not include a graduated copayment for Emergency Room visits.

State bill tracking

C. Hester provided a briefing on the bill trackers. C. Hester recommended that the bill leads track and provide updates each month. The members of the LPC agreed to this process. C. Hester will reformat the document to streamline the process and create individualized tables for the group to use.

J. Juhnke provided a briefing on juvenile justice related legislation. Legislation that removes time limits for incarceration and increases the offenses for which a juvenile can be incarcerated under the serious juvenile offender program were both approved by committee and can now be scheduled. Members of the committee discussed legislation on which the LPC could take action. J. Juhnke noted that AB349, regarding conversion therapy, is a bill that the Children and Youth Committee (CYC) could address at a future meeting. M. Bachhuber suggested that Disability Rights Wisconsin may be a good resource for reviewing AB331, regarding expungement of records for certain crimes. M. Bachhuber will look into AB305 regarding grants for language interpretation in health care settings. T. Conrad and C. Hester will track LRB2361.

Members of the LPC discussed the following legislation: SB265, relating to prohibiting preexisting condition exclusion and setting rates or cost sharing based on preexisting conditions; SB266 relating to prohibiting lifetime and annual limits under health insurance policies and plans; SB267 relating to requiring coverage and prohibiting cost sharing for preventative services under health insurance policies and plans; and SB268 relating to coverage of certain essential health benefits by health insurance policies and plans and requiring the exercise of rule-making authority. S. Gross noted that the elements of this legislation are things that the LPC has consistently advocated for. S. Gross will take the lead on tracking these bills. Members noted the importance of supporting this legislation and advocating for these positions.

M. Bachhuber moved that the WCMH take action to support SB265, SB266, SB267 and SB268.

C. Hester seconded the motion.

Motion carries.

M. Herstand noted that the Assembly Committee passed AB29, regarding practice requirement for licensure as a clinical social worker.

Prior Authorization

S. Gross noted that in an earlier meeting with DHS prior authorization was discussed. Many consumers have noted that the process hasn't gotten easier. S. Gross asked that people bring back any input from the community regarding how it is impacting people.

Federal Issues

The President's FY 18 proposed budget includes a significant reduction to Medicaid and the Mental Health Block Grant.

J. Odulana moved to recommend that the WCMH provide comment on the President's Budget.

S. Gross seconded the motion.

Motion carries, M. Bachhuber abstains.

Item 4: Division of Care and Treatment Services Updates

J. Allen announced Scott Stokes is the new Substance Abuse Section Chief in the Bureau of Prevention Treatment and Recovery (BPTR). J. Allen provided a briefing on the Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG). T. Connor and C. Keenan provided a briefing on the Needs Assessment. Members of the LPC provided comments on the Needs Assessment.

Members provided the following feedback:

- It would be helpful to differentiate between tables and figures in the labeling
- Ensure terms are defined for the lay reader
- Information regarding variation, and cause of that variation, across counties regarding per capita expenditure would be helpful.
- In consumer outcomes section, not seeing a lot about consumer outcomes such as those used in CCS such as if people are living where want to or employed etc. Some of those outcomes would be meaningful.
- Increases of tobacco use is concerning. It would be helpful to compare tobacco use in community settings versus institutional settings.
- Members noted that data in the school system is not well captured. Other services should be reflected such as those that occur in the school system and in corrections.
- Data regarding Medicaid benefits and amounts of in home treatment would be beneficial.

Item 5: Agenda Items for July 2017 Meeting

Members suggested future meeting agendas should address IPS and the importance of employment.

Item 6: Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 3:04pm.