MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY COMMITTEE
July 14, 2016
12:30 pm - 3:00 pm
1 West Wilson Street, Conference Room 630, Madison, Wisconsin

Members of the Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC) in Attendance: Dori Richards, Kit Kerschensteiner, Crystal Hester, Barbara Beckert, William Parke-Sutherland, Joanne Juhnke, Justin Odulana, Mike Bachhuber, Shel Gross, Mike Lappen (via teleconference)

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

Minutes

Item 1: Call to Order

Review and approval of minutes of June 9, 2016

J. Odulana moved to approve the minutes of June 9, 2016.
J. Juhnke seconded the motion.
Motion carries; S. Gross abstains, minutes of June 9, 2016 approved.

Announcements

B. Beckert announced that the Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force is seeking nominations for the Third Annual Karen Avery Award.

Item 2: Committee Task List

Members of the LPC reviewed the revised draft of the Committee Task List. W. Parke-Sutherland summarized the process by which the list was developed.

M. Bachhuber moved to accept the Committee Task List.
J. Odulana seconded the motion.
Motion carries, Committee Task List approved.

Item 3: Budget and Policy Priorities

S. Gross discussed the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) Budget and Policy Priority document. Members of the LPC discussed opportunities for outreach for the priorities. S. Gross suggested that as the priority process progresses it may be valuable for more detailed discussion papers to be developed. M. Bachhuber suggested that the LPC may want to further develop the priorities to include more information
regarding outcomes, impact, benefits to the population, and the cost of each priority. M. Bachhuber noted that the impacts of each priority will likely go beyond the number of people served, it is also important to think of the impact on the person’s life that is served. S. Gross suggested that the CYC priority template may be a good model to use to enhance the priorities.

K. Kerschensteiner and J. Odulana volunteered to be part of data discussions with the Bureau of Prevention, Treatment and Recovery (BPTR). S. Gross will reach out to members of the WCMH as well to for this discussion.

S. Gross discussed a group which was convened by the Governor’s Council on People with Disabilities which was brought together to discuss the Wisconsin Medicaid Purchase Plan (MAPP). The group has been looking at the parts of MAPP that everyone agrees are positive. The ad-hoc group plans to continue meeting to discuss efforts on MAPP. K. Kerschensteiner noted that some of the most difficult aspects of the program are the in-kind work components. B. Beckert asked if there was any analysis that determined the demographics of people being served via MAPP. S. Gross suggested that the LPC could make a request of DHS for this data.

Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHOH) initiatives were discussed by W. Parke-Sutherland. There appears to be a lack of people who can provide services in a culturally and linguistically competent way for people who are DHOH. Clinicians who are DHOH and are trying to obtain licensure face many barriers as obtaining the necessary supervision hours is difficult.

S. Gross suggested that additional discussions could happen with DHS leadership and the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (OCI) around issues of parity. M. Bachhuber noted that the DHS has a contract with the Coalition of Independent Living Centers, one effort is around DHOH. One part of this effort is looking at how to bring stakeholders together. The LPC may want to see what is occurring as part of these efforts. M. Bachhuber mentioned that other groups the LPC could reach out to include mental health services professional boards at the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS).

S. Gross noted that there have been some discussions with DMHSAS regarding the Institution for Mental Disease (IMD) transition program. There are concerns regarding the program and there is still a lot to be done to address those concerns. M. Bachhuber suggested that IMD diversion into the community continue to be a priority area.

S. Gross noted that he will continue working on the suicide prevention priority area. W. Parke-Sutherland noted that the Recovery Intervention Task Force (RITF) is also looking to independently address suicide prevention. W. Parke-Sutherland noted that there will be additional information available soon regarding pay for Certified Peer Specialists (CPS). B. Beckert will reach out to Donna Wrenn from the Division of Housing regarding the housing priority area.

M. Bachhuber discussed transportation; a group from Survival Coalition is looking to meet with the Department of Transportation to further discuss transportation issues. Some issues involve DHS and other State departments. Because the DHS provides 40-50% of funds for specialized transportation services it will be critical to involve DHS, however it is a complex problem involving many players.

Regarding the Criminal Justice priority area, C. Hester discussed NAMI efforts around Treatment and Diversion (TAD) programs. A priority is to allow TAD programs to be able to provide services for people who solely have a mental illness and not just a need for substance abuse treatment.

J. Juhnke discussed recent discussions the CYC has had regarding a response to the issues at the Lincoln Hill and Copper Lake facilities. There are many inherent issues related to segregation and isolation at these facilities. The
CYC proposed that there be an outside independent review of the facilities in the near future. More long term the CYC proposed that there should be a stakeholder group convened to look at a redesign of the system to ensure it is more community and rehabilitation focused.

Members of the LPC noted that they are still interested in learning more about the Child Psychiatry Consultation Program. Future discussions with DHS could be help including discussions around options to expand reimbursement for consultation services.

J. Juhnke discussed a motion produced by the CYC requesting that the Council write a letter regarding seclusion and restraint. There are several organizations currently focusing on this effort as well. J. Juhnke can take the lead on drafting a letter.

**Item 4: Legislative Update**

Members of the LPC discussed H.R.2646, the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act of 2015. Members noted that there does seem to be a good amount of positive change in the bill in comparison to earlier drafts. However, there are still many elements which are concerning to many advocacy groups. The Mental Health Reform Act of 2016 (S.2680) is still being promoted as well.

**Item 5: Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Updates**

J. Allen announced that there is a 20 year celebration on the Recovery Implementation Task Force being held. The Governor has been holding Cabinet on the Road sessions. This has included meetings in the northwest with DHS Deputy Secretary Engels. Another forum was held in Chippewa County with a focus of discussion on methamphetamine use.

J. Allen announced that SAMHSA will be conducting a site visit of Wisconsin August 16th through 18th. The 2017 Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) and Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) application is due September 1. J. Allen discussed the recent Early Intervention for First Episode Psychosis Request for Applications (RFA) that was issued by DMHSAS. No applications were received. The DMHSAS is looking to make modifications to reissue the funding opportunity in the coming months.

DMHSAS has been working with WCHSA to improve services for the mental health professions in the behavioral health system. The MHBG does have limits on the amount that can be spent on professionals. In particular this group is looking at areas of crisis services and looking to address how these efforts could be done in a more sustained way.

J. Allen will provide an update regarding the Certified Peer Specialists program via email. J. Allen noted that curriculum development has been a lengthy process.

**Item 6: Committee Charter**

S. Gross stated that the WCMH is asking each committee to develop a charter. The first few pages area devoted to an overall WCMH committee charter followed by sections for each committee. S. Gross had developed a draft charter based on the structure which the WCMH had provided. S. Gross asked whether additional information or revisions should be made. J. Odulana suggested parents and guardians as included as members of the LPC structure. The LPC will discuss the charter and membership at the next LPC meeting.
Item 7: Public Comment

No public comment was made.

Item 8: Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:54pm.