Meeting of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health
March 15, 2017, 10:00 am to 3:30 pm
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, at 1801 Aberg Avenue, Madison, WI 53704

Members of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) in Attendance: Kathryn Bush, Charlotte Matteson, Kimberlee Coronado, Mark Lausch, Shel Gross, Kathleen Enders, Bonnie MacRitchie, Dori Richards, Carol Keen, Inshirah Farhoud, Pat Cork, Mishelle O’Shasky, Julie-Anne Braun, Matt Strittmater, Karen Iverson Riggers, Barb Buffington (Via Teleconference)

Guests in Attendance: Mark Flowers, Peggy Sundqvist, Chantel Wiedmeyer, Carly Bieri

Department of Health Services (DHS) Staff in Attendance: Ryan Stachoviak, Joyce Allen, Kay Cram, Ellie Jarvie, Faith Boersma, Theresa Kuehl

Minutes

Item 1: Call Council Meeting to Order

Review and Approval of Minutes of WCMH meeting of January 18, 2017

J. Braun moved to approve the minutes of January 18, 2017
M. O’Shasky seconded the motion.
Motion carries, minutes approved; K. Bush and B. Buffington abstain.

Announcements

J. Braun announced that she is developing a presentation for kids that focuses on mental health awareness. J. Braun will share the materials with the members of the Council. K. Iverson Riggers announced that the Asylum: Out of the Shadows Exhibit is now on display in Appleton. M. O’Shasky attended the most recent SCAODA meeting. K. Coronado announced that there are several upcoming Kids in Crisis events, including artwork contests.

Public Comment

No public comment was made.

Item 2: Strategic Planning

M. Strittmater requested that each Committee provide a briefing on each Committee strategic plan. B. MacRitchie provided a briefing on the Children and Youth Committee (CYC) strategic plan. The CYC established
three areas of focus: 1.) Prevention and Early Intervention Services, 2.) Access to Mental Health Services, and 3.) Services for children with Severe Emotional Disturbance (SED). Under the area of access to mental health services the CYC is looking to address consultation for school-based mental health. This includes supports for mini-grants currently in the Governor’s Budget. A second area of focus for the CYC is workforce development. Under the area of Prevention and Early Intervention a key area the CYC continues to address is Infant Mental Health Consultation. Under the area of Services for Children with SED the CYC plans to provide input on the Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) plan and application in 2017.

S. Gross provided a briefing on the Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC) strategic efforts. The purpose of the LPC is to enhance the ability of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) to effectively promote its priorities and see them become practice. The LPC spends a key focus on legislation and bills both at the federal and state level. Another area of focus by the LPC has been working with other committees to focus their legislative efforts and build their capacity to become involved in policy work. The LPC has worked to put the work done by all committees on legislation together in a coordinated effort. The Committee also works to identify areas that other committees may not be addressing or should be considering. The LPC also continues to meet with Legislators. The LPC is working to develop membership and bring in new members and increase collaboration with providers.

M. O’Shasky discussed Criminal Justice Committee (CJC) strategic planning. Juvenile Justice is an area that the CJC has not done much work around but is looking to address more in the near future. K. Bush noted that the CYC has also faced some challenges on identifying how to address juvenile justice issues. The CJC has also been addressing medication policies in the criminal justice committee, looking at the medication people receive upon release from the criminal justice system. The Committee is also looking to address the mental health of correctional officers and Trauma Informed Care. The CJC is encouraging the Department of Corrections to train both staff and offenders in Trauma Informed Care. The CJC is advocating for the use of peer mentors in the criminal justice system in Wisconsin. Another area of focus for the CJC is improving housing and reducing homelessness of offenders upon release. M. O’Shasky noted that the CJC is looking to the practices in Nebraska as many of Nebraska’s efforts have had a positive impact on the criminal justice system.

K. Enders stated that the Adult Quality Committee (AQC) has been working on finalizing the AQC charter and is developing a strategic plan. The overall goal of the Committee is to increase the quality and access to mental health services. The AQC continues to look at the use of evidence based practices and quality tools. One area the Committee may address is a recommendation for the universal use of the Recovery Oriented System Indicators (ROSI) tool. The AQC is planning to address the tying of funding to the use of Evidence Based Practices. The AQC has also been looking at the use of a universal discharge plan for use in transition from one Mental Health program or county system to another. The intent is to create a baseline of information that is exchanged to facilitate a smoother transition. The AQC hopes to soon finalize the Committee’s strategic plan. Members of the Council noted there it will likely be possible to align several efforts common to multiple committees.

**Item 3: Suicide Prevention in Wisconsin**

S. Gross provided a presentation on suicide prevention efforts in Wisconsin. Mental Health America – Wisconsin (MHA) receives roughly $125,000 annually to provide to provide suicide prevention services. The main goals of these efforts are to: strengthen staff and advisory capacity for the project, disseminate Zero Suicide practices to organizations that serve SMI/SED, promote suicide prevention in emergency departments, and disseminate information to stakeholders. By the end of the grant year a total of 45 organizations will be implementing Zero Suicide model principles.
Item 4: Public Record Training

Members of the Council completed a mandatory Public Records Training.

Item 5: Working Lunch

Item 6: Council Committee Reports, Discussion and Recommendations

Executive Committee

M. Strittmater noted that he appointed Phil Robinson to replace Dan Nahler on the CYC and Brian Weidman to the CJC.

M. Strittmater appointed Karen Iverson Riggers to the Legislative and Policy Committee.

M. Strittmater provided a briefing on the February 27 Executive Committee meeting. The Executive Committee passed two motions that were brought by the LPC for immediate action. The first motion was to add the following priorities to the Budget Priority document: stress the importance of adding exemptions and protections comparable to Food Share to the BadgerCare work requirement legislation and to support the Governor’s budget initiatives to reduce homelessness. The second motion was to support the Governor’s budget item to remove young adults under the age of 18 from adult facilities.

Children and Youth Committee (CYC)

B. MacRitchie provided updates from the CYC. The CYC has spent time discussing the Governor’s budget and items that were included in the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) budget request.

J. Allen provided an update on a proposal to create a children’s crisis treatment and stabilization facility. The intent of the proposal is that the funding would cover startup costs with a hope for the facility to become self-sustaining. The facility would be a mental health service provider and children would not need to go through the child welfare system to access this facility. P. Cork noted this facility would serve kids with a mental health crisis and provide short term services.

Motion: Support for Governor’s Budget Items

B. MacRitchie detailed the motion from the CYC. The first component of the motion was regarding the Children’s Crisis Treatment and Stabilization Facility. In addition to recommending support for the crisis treatment and stabilization facility proposal, CYC also recommended that such facilities should be community-based, aiming to reduce youth hospitalization, and providing short-term care with a plan for transition back to the community. CYC further recommends that the stakeholders advising the rule-making should include, but not be limited to: consumer and family voice, provider voice, county and tribal representation, crisis teams, educational support, law enforcement, and peer advocacy.

The second component of the motion was to eliminate the children’s long term supports waiting list. The Governor recommends improving access to care by eliminating the waiting list for long-term supports for all children with developmental disabilities, physical disabilities or severe emotional disturbances. The proposal would enable the state to eliminate waiting lists for the CLTS program by the end of 2017-18. Approximately 2,200 eligible children are currently waiting for services, a wait that can take years in some counties; nearly one
in four of those children qualify under the severe emotional disturbance category. Wisconsin has moved to eliminate waiting lists for adult long term support; eliminating the waiting list for children as well is long overdue.

The third component of the motion is regarding Fostering Futures: Connections Count. This grant program supports neighbors and community leaders to connect vulnerable families with young children to formal and informal community support programs. Total funding provided under the bill would be $360,300 in 2017-18 and $560,300 in 2018-19, representing an increase of $200,000 in 2018-19. The Council supported the Fostering Futures: Connections Count program in the 2015-17 state budget as well, in order to provide earlier interventions and support for at-risk families.

**Motion to support the above noted items in the Governor’s budget carries, K. Bush abstains.**

*Adult Quality Committee (AQC)*

K. Enders provided an update on AQC efforts. At the most recent meeting E. Jarvie provided a briefing on the ROSI tool. R. Stachoviak also discussed the Mental Health Block Grant and Needs Assessment. The AQC also reviewed the recovery thermometer, and addressed strategic plans and the committee’s charter.

*Criminal Justice Committee (CJC)*

M. O’Shasky provided a CJC update. The CJC most recently met collaboratively with the LPC and discussed legislative visits. The CJC has also spent time discussing transportation and ideas for peer transportation.

*Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC)*

S. Gross provided a briefing on the LPC. The LPC has been working to address the committee’s membership. A provider from the Association of Family and Marriage Counselors has started attending the meetings. The LPC is also hoping to soon have a new representative from the Children and Youth Committee.

S. Gross provided an update on the budget priorities and meetings with legislators. Representatives from the LPC have met with ten members of the Joint Finance Committee (JFC). Members of the LPC have not noted hearing concerns regarding the items in the budget. Members of the LPC are also looking for avenues with other groups to address outpatient therapy rates. The JFC has announced dates for meetings around the state; S. Gross will share this information with members of the Council.

S. Gross discussed the American Health Care Act (AHCA). The Congressional Budget Office reports that 14 million people would lose health insurance and there would be an $880 billion decrease in Medicaid funding. The legislation would also eliminate requirements for essential health benefits. These changes would impact a lot of people with mental health needs.

*Nominating Committee*

No Nominating Committee updates were provided.
**Item 7: Break**

**Item 8: Division of Care and Treatment Services Updates**

R. Stachoviak provided an update on 2017 Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) application plans and the development of the Mental Health and Substance Use Needs Assessment. The Bureau of Prevention Treatment and Recovery (BPTR) aims to have a draft of the Needs Assessment available for review by the end of April. The WCMH could then provide feedback and guidance to the BPTR at the May Council meeting. The BPTR will then provide a draft of the MHBG application and plan to the WCMH for final review and comment at the July WCMH meeting.

J. Allen provided updates regarding the Governor’s budget. Currently the PATH program is operated by the Department of Administration. This program would move to DHS under current proposals. The budget also contains positive re-estimates for supervised release and an expansion of the child psychiatry consultation program. P. Cork discussed elements of the budget which would fund two forensic units at Mendota.

The DCTS is holding some meetings with community partners regarding CCS expansion. A recent OIG audit did identify some concerns, primarily regarding documentation and how that documentation was done. The DCTS will be meeting with counties to better identify ongoing needs, including technical assistance, to support the CCS programs across the state. The DCTS is also looking at options to bring together some of the administrative rules that are rehab oriented, including CCS and CSP.

E. Jarvie provided a briefing on the BPTR Certified Peer Specialist efforts. A train the trainer event was recently held. There will be eight pilot trainings held this coming year across the state. Efforts are also currently underway to develop the Parent Peer Specialist certification and program. Additional information can be found on the Recovery Implementation Taskforce website: [https://ritf.wisconsin.gov/](https://ritf.wisconsin.gov/).

**Item 9: Call for Future Agenda Items**

The following items for future agendas were noted:

1. Cultural competence and Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) standards
2. Updates from SCAODA
3. Juvenile Justice

**Item 10: Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 3:28pm.