



Behavioral Health Commission on Adult Mental Health

Meeting Name:	Behavioral Health Commission on Adult Mental Health Meeting 5
Date:	September 16, 2022
Start Time:	9:00 AM
End Time:	1:10 PM
Venue:	Capital Associates Building / Microsoft Teams Meeting

Attendees

Dr. Kathy Quick, Lisa Kennedy, Jason Riligio, The Reverend Michelle Anne Simmons, Tina Clymer, Dr. Matthew Hurford, Dr. Faith Dyson-Washington, Dr. Maria A. Oquendo, Chief Edward M. Cunningham, Dr. Jeanne M. Slattery, Dr. Stephanie Diez-Morel, Hasshan Batts, Dr. Kenneth Thompson, Dr. Dale Klatzker, Jillian London, Dr. Dale Adair, Mike Humphreys, Ellen DiDomenico, Muneeza Iqbal, William Ward, Dr. Noreen Fredrick, Rep. Wendi Thomas, Rep. Michael Schlossberg, Senator Maria Collett

Minutes

■ Meeting Objectives

Review priority funding allocation survey results

Finalize funding recommendations – allocation of funding

■ Meeting Minutes Approval

Motion to approve Minutes

- Dr. Slattery made motion to approve previous meeting minutes
- Dr. Quick seconds the motion
- Was approved unanimously by a voice vote

■ Deloitte Presentation

Conducted a workforce assessment for BH workforce

Challenges found were recruitment and retention – funding was mentioned as one of the most common issues with recruitment and retention

Regulatory issues and career pipeline were also mentioned frequently

Solutions mentioned were increased funding, telehealth, strengthening a career pipeline – some solutions were long term and some were short-term solutions

■ **Prior Meeting Follow Up – Natalie Krak**

What sort of state support is provided to county jails

Act 80 of 2016 – created the county jail based MAT program

- MAT provided is non-narcotic
- \$1.75 million has been administered by DOC in partnership with PCCD
- SOR funding has been made available to counties
- Want to expand current grant program to offer other types of MAT
- US DOJ has released guidance for how they view OUD and ADA and how restricting access to different types of MAT violates the ADA

Rep. Schlossberg mentioned that they just circulated a cosponsorship memo to expand Act 80 to all MAT assistance

■ **Survey Results Overview**

Workforce average was \$32 million – top three subcategories were retention of existing behavioral health providers, tuition assistance/reimbursement, and providing opportunities for employees to reach higher levels of education/credentialing

The average for funding for criminal justice was \$18 million – the top subcategories were pre-arrest diversion programs/specialty court programming, training for first responders, and expanding co-responder models

Expansion of services average was \$30.2 million – the top subcategories were collaborative care, expanding crisis services, support for 24/7 walk-in centers, and improving upon peer support/peer run recovery services

County funding average was \$15 million – the three subcategories were developing/retaining workforce, expanding services, and flexibility to choose

Other suggested areas of focus were long term care facilities, supportive housing, cultural competency and social determinants of health, and physical upgrades to facilities

Most people said the Commission should continue in some capacity – top suggestions were advise on regulatory reforms, oversight of funding, evaluating initiatives/programs that were funded, continued advocacy for funding

\$95 million allotted and \$5 million left to move around – Dr. Quick suggested this money be used to support peer support and also County Support Programs (CSPs), Chief Cunningham suggested that this money be used to fund academic research

■ **Workforce**

\$32 million was agreed upon as a reasonable amount to allocate to workforce payments

This money was suggested to be pushed out through grant funding

Grants should be flexible, but weighted to account for vulnerable populations such as rural and POC

Applications should include what the entity will do with the money and who the money will affect

■ **Criminal Justice**

\$18.5 million will be allocated to this bucket

Chief Cunningham recommended that this money be used to train first responders how to handle mental health crises, CIT training with someone who has lived experience (which could also support peer specialists), expanding co-responder model, and re-entry services

Both Chief Cunningham and Dr. Quick suggested integrating peer support into the criminal justice system specifically in the co-responder model so the peers could make a quick connection and de-escalate the situation

\$5 million of the \$18.5 million will go towards pre-arrest diversion programs

Applications for this funding should have some flexibility to be able to target the funding most efficiently

■ **Service Expansion**

\$30 million was agreed upon as the base allocation for this bucket

Frame crisis services and 24/7 care as crisis continuum – each county will spend money differently in this space

The \$30 million will be broken down into \$15 million to crisis continuum, \$10 million to collaborative care, and \$5 million to certified peer support

Mr. Riligio suggested that only peer run/peer led and PA based companies should be able to apply for this money, he additionally recommended that the last \$5 million be allocated to funding grassroots peer support groups – this money could go towards the creation of a career ladder for certified peer support specialists

■ **County Funding**

\$15 million was allocated to this bucket – it was intended to be more flexible than the other three buckets

This money should not necessarily be a stand alone item since the legislature did not fund the counties in the budget this year

The \$15 million will be broken out into a line item in each of the above three categories - \$5 million to each

■ **Remaining Funding**

\$4.5 million remains of the \$100 million

Chief Cunningham suggested that the extra money go to research a report to answer the question of where sustained funding should be allocation

Dr. Thompson suggested that money go to a formative evaluation on this money being spent

Of this money \$1 million more will be allocated to grassroots/peer support

\$3 million to expansion of services for counties to use towards LTC, housing, and other social determinants of health

\$500,000 to evaluate how the money is spent

Next Steps

Get initial report out with a quick turn around to review this – must be to the legislature by the end of September

The House is only in session 3 days in October and the Senate is only in 5 days in October

Motion to approve final report and final minutes via email vote

- Chief Cunningham made motion
- Bill Ward seconds the motion

Motion to adjourn

- Dr. Quick made motion
- Rep. Schlossberg seconds

Final Report Approved

24 votes for, 0 against, 0 abstentions

Final Breakdown of Funding

Workforce - \$37 million

\$32 million – broad

\$5 million – counties

Criminal Justice - \$23.5 million

\$5 million – pre arrest diversion

\$13.5 million – broad

\$5 million – counties/law enforcement/jails

Expansion of Services - \$39 million

\$10 million - collaborative care

\$6 million - peer support/grassroots

\$15 million – crisis continuum

\$8 million – counties (social determinants, housing, LTC)