



## Behavioral Health Commission on Adult Mental Health

<b>Meeting Name:</b>	Behavioral Health Commission on Adult Mental Health Meeting 2
<b>Date:</b>	September 1, 2022
<b>Start Time:</b>	1:00 PM
<b>End Time:</b>	3:30 PM
<b>Venue:</b>	Capital Associates Building Forster Room / Microsoft Teams Meeting

### Attendees

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. Michael Schlossberg, Rep. Wendi Thomas

### Minutes

#### ■ Meeting Objectives

Roll call, vote to approve previous meeting minutes, review previously assigned research topics

#### ■ Meeting Minutes Approval

Motion to approve Minutes

- Dr. Klatzker made motion to approve previous meeting minutes
- Dr. Kathy Quick seconded the motion
- Was approved unanimously by a voice vote

#### ■ PA Budget/MH Funding State and Federal

Earlier this year \$210 million was appropriate for retention and recruitment payments for hospitals to help stabilize the workforce during the COVID-19 Delta surge

The Governor proposed a \$36.6 million increase in county mental health authorities/additional ARPA funding, but this was not funded in this years' budget

In the 2022 budget, other agencies have received mental health funding. For example, PCCD administers school safety funding and school mental health programs also received money to support various mental health programs

Federal Gun Violence Bill to address mental health and gun violence:

- Targeting MH funding in schools/children in school settings
- 988 & crisis grants
- Training and pipeline development for MH Staff at schools

#### ■ **Loan Repayment Programs**

\$2-\$3 million a year for Primary Care Providers to work in underserved areas of the Commonwealth administered by DOH

DDAP, DHS, and DOH have loan repayment programs for various specialists

#### ■ **HOPE Bill – Representative Schlossberg**

Would require \$100 million in recurring annual expenditures

Focus on law enforcement; training, education, and outreach; and capacity/workforce development

Could use this plan as a baseline and recommend recurring funding

Some specific plans included: staff recruitment, diversionary programs, crisis services/walk in centers, and creating a career pipeline

#### ■ **HB2686 – Representative Thomas**

This bill introduces a collaborative care model, it would provide \$10 million to embed mental health services into primary care offices

- It would be reimbursable by insurance, could be used for funding of project ECHO, provide grant money etc.
- Money would also go to infrastructure to set up the models

Suggestion to integrate peers into this model

There was broad support for this bill across the commission members

#### ■ **Other States' Initiatives**

Broadly speaking – FEMA could declare a state of emergency for mental health and then resources could be used to attract/retain workforce in the mental health space

CA SB964 creates a stipend for students in MSW to specialize in public behavioral health and must work in a public behavioral health agency for two years after

Creates new career ladders and a pipeline for certifications

Accelerates social worker programs by compressing the last year of undergrad with the 1<sup>st</sup> year of graduate school

Illinois SB3617 which would provide tuition reimbursement for behavioral health professionals and would allow for those who have been out of practice for less than 5 years to reactivate their licenses

Utah provided grant funds to behavioral health professionals to repay loans in exchange for working in a publicly funded office

Washington state has a program with 13 of their universities, providing scholarships in exchange for public service

Oregon appropriated \$60 million to develop the behavioral workforce including childcare, housing, loan repayment etc.

■ **Next Steps**

For the next Commission meeting PID will develop a survey to allow commission members to weigh in on where money should be allocated and how much, once this is developed it will be shared with the commission and discussed.

**Next Steps**

- Next meeting is on 9/8 @ 3:30 pm in Centre County