



HealthChoices Advisory Committee Meeting SouthWest Zone

Thursday, April 11, 2019

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

WCSI Conference Center
770 East Pittsburgh Street
Greensburg, PA 15601

Meeting Agenda

10:05 am Welcome & Introductions – Bobbie Jo Comes, PA EAP

- Roll Call Committee:
 - In Attendance: Dena Hoke (Consumer/Parent); Ronel Baccus (Parent/Legal Guardian); Laurel Spence (Aetna); George Ifill (Gateway); Jacki Porter (United HealthCare); Angelica Williams (UPMC); Brandi Holsinger (CCBH); Geraldine Green (Beacon Health Options/VBH/Parent); Jason Rilgio (Magellan); Rita Lane (Southwest Behavioral Health Management); Bobbie Jo Comes (PA EAP)
 - Absent: Sara Stenger (Parent), Curtis Upsher (CCBH), Skip Boykin (UPMC); Lindsay Wiefeling (United HealthCare); Suzanne Klaus (Beacon Health Options/VBH); Jody Kris (Center for Independent Living)
- Introductions by Audience
 - In Attendance: Refer to Sign-In Sheet

10:10 am Review & Purpose of the Committee – Bobbie Jo Comes, PA EAP

Ms. Comes reviewed the purpose of the Advisory Committee Meetings

- Format Structure change for 2019 – Moved from a presentation style to a committee format.
- These meetings are sponsored by the PA Department of Human Services and led by the Pennsylvania Enrollment Assistance Program (EAP).
- They are held three times each year throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- The meeting goal is to involve and educate Medical Assistance Consumers and the Community about program services.
- This is your opportunity to exchange ideas with HealthChoices providers, community organizations and other consumers in the Lehigh Capital Zone.

10:15 am Enrollment Assistance Program Report – Teresa McDonnell, PA EAP

- a. Data Review -- Ms. McDonnell provided enrollment data from PA Enrollment Services from January through December 2018. Additional data was provided from September 2018 through February 2019 regarding:
 - Enrollments



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- Web Transactions
- PCP Selection Rates
- Plan Transfers – Health plans consumers are transferring from
- Plan Transfers – Health plans consumers are transferring to
- Top 10 Transfer Reasons – Specific to the Zone, Overall top 10 transfer reasons across the state.

A question was asked from the audience. Ms. Coulson asked if an individual completes a plan transfer and then decides a few months later they need to transfer plans again, are they able to. Ms. McDonnell explained that plan transfers can occur at any time. Depending on the date an individual completes the plan transfer, it may take 4-6 weeks to take effect. For example if an individual completed a plan transfer on 04/12/2019 the new plan would start on 06/01/2019. The individual would be covered by their current plan until the new plan starts.

- b. 2019 Webinar Series -- Ms. McDonnell referenced webinars are posted on the www.enrollnow.net website. There are webinars that are posted on the website for all to attend. Registration invitations are sent out to the email distribution list within 30-45 days of the scheduled webinar. A reminder email is sent to all registered attendees 7 days prior to the webinar. Webinars held this year include:
- Tuesday, February 12, 2019; 10:00am Property Tax Rent Rebate Program – Despite inclement weather there were 129 attendees to the webinar.

Upcoming webinars include:

- Tuesday, May 14, 2019; 10:00am PA 2-1-1
- Tuesday, June 11, 2019; 10:00am Housing 101

10:25 am **DHS/BMCO Report – Stephen Luckie, BMCO**

Mr. Luckie from the Department of Human Services gave the following updates:

- **Medical Assistance/HealthChoices:** The Department of Human Services [monthly data report](#) provides details about enrollment and service utilization in DHS programs. It can be found on the Human Services Data Dashboard. Topics included on the dashboard are Child Welfare, County Block Grant Funds, Early Childhood Education, and Enrollment Data. Developmental Programs, Long-term Care, Medicaid, Medical Assistance, Mental Health, and Personal Care Homes. This information can be broken down by county or by zone.

During an announcement on Feb 8, 2019 Secretary Miller highlighted a report published by the University of Pennsylvania that studied the Medicaid population and how a work requirement would affect this population. The study found that a Medicaid work requirement could affect more than 800,000 Pennsylvanians. However, many of these Pennsylvanians already meet some criteria that exempts them from the work requirement. Exemptions to the work requirement may include



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disability, age, already working, being a student, pregnancy, having been on Medicaid for less than a year, and others. After removing these exempt populations, about 90,000 people would remain affected by a work requirement in Pennsylvania. Secretary Miller pointed out that when people are healthy and don't have to worry about their healthcare costs, then they can be freed to enter the workforce:

“Meeting a person’s health needs is an important first step to helping them excel in education, training, and the workforce.”

- **Community Health Choices**: Effective January 2019, the second phase of Community Health Choices was implemented Southeastern Pennsylvania. The final phase of the CHC program will be implemented on January 1, 2020 for the remainder of the state. CHC is Pennsylvania's mandatory managed care program for individuals enrolled in Medicaid and Medicare (or dual eligible), and individuals with physical disabilities — serving more people in communities rather than in facilities, giving them the opportunity to work, spend more time with their families, and experience an overall better quality of life choices.
- **Opioid Use Disorder, Centers of Excellence, Other**: Governor Wolf renewed the 90-day opioid disaster declaration. He states this is the best current means we have to maintain a concerted effort focused on fighting the opioid crisis. This renewal allows the 16 state agencies working together as part of the Opioid Command Center at Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency to continue their collaborative approach at creating and implementing initiatives.

The American Medical Association has hailed Pennsylvania’s fight against opioids as a model for the rest of the country. The governor detailed progress with five additional initiatives introduced as part of the disaster declaration:

- Implemented more than 45 treatment centers (Centers of Excellence) across the commonwealth that to date have provided a level-of-care assessment for substance use disorder to more than 12,000 individuals.
- Secured more than \$110 million in federal grants to support prevention, treatment such as medication-assisted treatment, recovery, career services, and other programs to aid in fighting this crisis.
- Announced improved prescribing guidelines for the safe and effective use of opioids, including in sports medicine, for minors, and Pennsylvanians on Medicaid, as well as improved education for medical professionals on opioid prescribing.
- Launched a 24/7 helpline, 1-800-662-HELP, for those who need immediate assistance with drug and alcohol problems.
- [Signed legislation to support grandparents raising grandchildren](#) as a result of the opioid crisis.



Governor Tom Wolf continues to expand access to community-based services for Pennsylvanians with intellectual and developmental disabilities and autism. In partnership with the General Assembly, more than \$381 million has been invested since 2015, allowing 7,500 more people to access services among their families and peers in their community.

The 2019-2020 budget proposal continues this progress by investing \$15 million to serve an additional 765 people in the Community Living Waiver and 100 people in the Consolidated Waiver who may experience unanticipated emergencies.

Currently in Pennsylvania, there are more than 300 residential services providers in Pennsylvania who provide services in more than 6,200 locations across the commonwealth.

10:35 am Housing Report & Presentation – Beth Ellis, Amy Auman; SDHP

Ms. Ellis, Executive Housing Specialist presented updates on Pennsylvania’s Five Year Strategy.

- Refer to Power Point Presentation - “Supporting Pennsylvanians Through Housing 2017-18 Update”.
- A question was asked in regards to slides 4 and 8 regarding West Moreland county is not listed on either slide. How does West Moreland County get awarded mainstream vouchers? There is a desperate need for section 811 housing. Ms. Ellis explained the process. The West Moreland Housing Authority would need to apply for the mainstream vouchers. This is developed in conjunctions with developers who have low income tax credits who reach out to the housing authority.
- A question was asked in regards to slide 12 Support Services Navigation and Housing Services for Individuals with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) Pilot Funding. Is this pilot funding only for Opioid Use Disorders or are other substance use disorders included? Ms. Ellis is going to look into this and send an update to the committee.
- Another question was asked in regards to slide 12. Does the individual with an Opioid Use Disorder need to actively participating in treatment to access funding through the pilot? Ms. Ellis is going to look into this and send an update to the committee.

Ms. Auman, Regional Housing Coordinator presented on Regional Housing updates.

- Refer to Power Power Point Presentation entitled “SDHP Self-Determination Housing of Pennsylvania”.
- A question was asked in regards to slide 9, 811 Eligibility. Persons with a conviction of methamphetamine possession or production in a federally subsidized building is not eligible for 811 funding however, what about other drugs as exclusions? Ms. Ellis explained this is a HUD rule, however, landlords can also set their own exclusion criteria.
- Another Questions was asked in regards to slide 9, 811 Eligibility. Can someone age 18 live with family? Ms. Ellis explained they can live with family and/or someone not related. However, for eligibility they will look at everyone’s gross income in the household in determining rent.

11:10 am MATP Report – Stephen Luckie, BMCO



Mr. Luckie shared that the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) was not able to make it today due to a scheduling conflict. He shared two handouts from MATP which were updated since their October 2018 Presentation. MATP has added two additional staff: one Program Analyst and one Program Advisor.

- Handout #1: MATP Staff Directory
- Handout #2: Program Staff Assignments

11:30 am Physical Health Managed Care Initiatives, Updates & Upcoming Events

Check the Health Plans' Websites for specific dates, times and locations of upcoming events

- Aetna Better Health Plan- Ms. Spence shared the following information:
 - Sponsor for the Second Annual Latino Summit – April 17 & 18 in York, PA
 - May 2019 Breast Feeding Summit
 - Focus on the Social Determinants of Health
- Gateway Health Plan – Mr. Rhodes shared the following information:
 - 04/28/2019 March of Dimes – March for Babies, Pittsburgh; will be held in May in Beaver Co.
 - Getting the Lead Out Program – partnering with School Districts
 - Recently hired a Housing Coordinator
 - GED Program
- United HealthCare Community Plan – Ms. Porter shared the following information:
 - 05/14/2019 Beacon Health Options Mental Health Walk
 - 05/18/2019 Kids Extravaganza
 - 06/23/2019 Allegheny County Kids Coalition – Car and Kids Day
 - Partnering with the Salvation Army, McKeesport - Dental Events, Diabetes Programs
 - Clinical Focus: Lead Programs,
- UPMC For You – Ms. Williams shared the following information:
 - Similar events being held by UPMC as others have shared
 - Pop Up Dental Clinics are for members from all the health plans, not just UPMC members

11:45 am Behavioral Health Managed Care Updates & Upcoming Events

Check the Behavioral Health Plans' Websites for specific dates, times and locations of upcoming events

- Community Care Behavioral Health - Ms. Holsinger shared the following information:
 - 05/07/2019 Regional Recovery Conference
 - Partnering with providers with the Warm Hand-Off Program



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- Working with providers to open up access to services
- Magellan Behavioral Health – Mr. Rilgio shared the following information:
 - 05/08/2019 Mental Health Awareness Day – STARS
 - Our Lives Matter Quilt, Pilot – Cambria Co.
 - Stronger Together Conference
- PerformCare – No updates or events provided.
- Beacon Health Options/VBH – Ms. Green shared the following information:
 - 04/26/2019 Adult Leadership and Recovery Forum – Pittsburgh Marriott North
 - 05/14/2019 Mental Health Walk
 - 06/07/2019 T.A.A.G Picnic

11:50 am Community Based Organization Updates & Upcoming Events

- Ms. Coulson shared information regarding the West Moreland CSP Meetings are held the third Thursday of the Month at the West Moreland Case Management and Supports, Inc. (WCSI).

11:55 am Consumer & Family Feedback

- No feedback provided by the committee or attendees

12:00 pm Open Discussion

- Reminder given by Ms. Comes from PA EAP to complete the survey in the meeting packet of information. The feedback is valuable and assists with planning future meetings, agenda items, and presentation topics.
- Attendees encouraged to stay for lunch after the meeting and to use the time to network after the meeting with one another

12:00 pm Adjourn

Total Number of Attendees: 44

Committee Meeting minutes and presentations available at www.enrollnow.net

Next Meeting: HealthChoices Advisory Committee Meeting SouthWest Zone
Dates: Thursday, July 18, 2019
Thursday, October 10, 2019
Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM (Lunch)



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Location: WCSI Conference Center
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