

## HealthChoices Advisory Board

Magellan Behavioral Health of Pennsylvania, Inc.  
1 W. Broad Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018

August 29, 2019 at 2:00pm

- I. Introductions: Those in attendance were: Tom Walker, Matt Bauder, Pat McGary, Kristy Bernard, Chelsea Jones, Liz Fox, Donna Thorman, Ben Marston, and Ronnie Colbert
- II. Review of May 30, 2019 minutes – Minutes were approved.
- III. Community Healthcare Alliance Report:

### **Member/Family Advisory Committee**

Ronnie Colbert reported that Emily is no longer at Haven House and that the new Psych Rehab Director is Ed “Ski”. He reported there will be a new music room and new computers for the computer lab. Ronnie also related he is working to get someone from the Bradbury-Sullivan Center to speak on LGBTQ and mental health issues at Haven House

Haven House getting new referrals every day. The Psych Rehab is more like a big family.

Back on August 16 was our Client Appreciations Day. Former Clients were invited

August 15, 2019 was my anniversary for being a Mental Health Advocate

### **Provider Advisory Committee – TBD**

Matt related that Allison Branch of Progressions had expressed interest and he has been communicating with her via email to determine her experience/interest regarding adult mental health perspective/services. Matt is awaiting a response back from Allison. Will also review HCAB Charter. Matt may seek additional interest at the next CHA meeting if there is no response from Allison.

### **Children’s Advisory Committee – Pat McGarry**

Pat related that the IBHS regulations had passed the IRRC on July 18, 2019. Implementation is expected for January 1, 2020. Regulations still need to be approved by Attorney General. This is a much broader umbrella for IBHS. This will include STAP, After-School and Traditional BHRS programs. The state will be having statewide training webinars on September 30, 2019 and November 20, 2019. There will also be Regional Forums specific to IBHS regulations in the month of October.

Western Region: October 11, 2019

Central Region: October 16, 2019

Southeast Region: October 21, 2019

Northeast Region: October 22, 2019

#### IV. NAMI/OMHSAS/Provider/Peer/News

Donna reported NAMI has been working with LANTA and did a presentation on how to interact with clients with MH issues.

There is a 5K run/walk on September 29, 2019 at Wayne A. Grube Memorial Park. NAMI is looking for vendors.

NAMI is starting both the Family to Family 12 week class and the Peer to Peer 8 week class in September

At the NAMI National Convention In June 2019-it was announced that there would be significant changes in the next 5 years

#### V. Magellan Behavioral Health Report

Tom informed the group of:

Autism Psych Rehab Pilot-teaching skills for TAY with ASD; MBH brought in KidsPeace and Elwyn to provide training and education to the Psych Rehab Providers (Salisbury Behavioral Health, Step-by-Step, and Haven House), currently building a learning community; discussed family and parent connect (NAMI's Parent to Parent Program) and a collaboration with the ASSERT Partnership.

MBH will also be looking at Social Determinants of Health through Lehigh County; MBH will be building prompts for Care Managers questions to obtain this data from members. It could be transportation, child-care, legal support, etc.

MBH had a call with 2-1-1 and will continue to have conversations to develop a partnership to improve the system. They are managing entry into the homeless assistance program. Primarily used by homeless and elderly.

Changes to the COEs were effective July 1, 2019 and now under HealthChoices

Providers reported potential changes at the CMS level related to changes to studying MAT to be medication only and that treatment isn't required. AT the Federal Level looking to study whether therapy is actually enhanced by the medications and vice versa. Maybe for patients that have to work and don't want therapy and could benefit from just a pill. This is not MBH position at this point. Matt pointed out that studies on MH have shown the efficacy between treatment and medication. Each individually doesn't have the same benefit as combined. The information on the mental health side has proven itself but on the drug and alcohol side the thinking is different.

Terry Mardis- Health Secretary of the State has made the clear expectation the state expects Behavioral Health Care to be integrated, 80% of members on MAT treatment also have a serious mental illness. Similar discussions on the physical health side. How do we address the whole person. There is still a barrier to the integration of Drug and Alcohol and Mental Health. One identified barrier may be the 255.5 regulations which limits the ability to share information.

Lehigh County has hired a Certified Recovery Specialist to join Lehigh County's Drug and Alcohol team. That is very important work along with community policing and Social workers that are more mobile.

Ben reported someone is buying homes for the homeless in the Lehigh Valley

Ben related CSP wants to become more involved in the community. Ben also stated that he felt that CPS should have a power walking club hiking club. Matt suggested the involvement in the Wildlands Conservancy. Tom related that Jesse Hummel from the state had shared a resource regarding a non-profit that is doing something very similar. Tom will follow up with the group regarding the resource

Tom spoke with Michelle Baxter of the PA Lead for SOAR Program. The SOAR effort in Pennsylvania is an initiative designed to increase access to SSI/SSDI for eligible adults who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and have a mental illness, medical impairment, and/or a co-occurring substance use disorder. Tom reported that the program is greatly underutilized-with no completed applications. Tom will be introducing to

ICM and ACT providers. Also involve the RHAB and strongly support. Can be paid for through HealthChoices.

Integrated Health- There is possible consideration between MBH and Gateway Health Plan of co-locating a Nurse at Haven House. Gateway has already partnered with MBH for the Emergency Room Project.

Expansion of School-Based Outpatient Services- The State of PA set up a TIPLINE (Safe To Say) to take calls related to potential school violence. The state released 6 months of data. The data was not related to school violence, the majority of the calls were for mental health: the top 3 were bullying/cyber bullying, cutting/self-harm, and depression/anxiety. The information released supported the decision to develop the School-Based Outpatient Program. Now at about 35 schools that have shown interested. Already have some schools set to start in the Fall 2019. Also started a collaborative. First meeting is October 14, 2019 and will discuss what schools want to see out of this program.

The MBH Provider Town Hall is scheduled for Friday, September 6, 2019 at 1:00pm at St. Luke's-Sacred Heart Campus. Currently 30 Providers have registered. Tom will send out a reminder to the providers.

## VI. Lehigh County HealthChoices Report

Matt attended the OMHSAS Value Based Purchasing Conference on August 13-14, 2019, there was a group with mixed experience in VBP that attended the conference. This made it challenging for OMHSAS to meet all attendees learning needs.

OMHSAS will be reconvening the RTF Summit in the Fall 2019.

The Integrated Care Summit will also be reconvening in the Fall 2019.

Matt shared a great resource for conferences, trainings, webinars, support groups, etc. He gave the example that he received an email on the Autism Support Group that Leslie McKelvey runs in Easton. He encouraged the group to become part of the distribution list for PA Families, Inc.

<http://pafamiliesinc.org/>

The 2019-2020 Magellan Contract was approved by the Lehigh County Commissioners

The Lehigh County Bi-Annual Reinvestment Process was extended due to lack of ideas being submitted despite numerous outreach attempts. Currently in the Prioritization Phase. Asking members to give input around needs, gaps, things that are needed. Even though the process was extended out Lehigh did not get a lot of responses, now Lehigh asks are stakeholders to prioritize the ideas. When reinvestment funds are available it tells us where we should look to use funds

Reinvestment – There are changes at the state level for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year-changing to retrospective capitation payments. Lehigh County will need to make sure providers are paid, thus reinvestment funds will need to be moved to the a risk and contingency fund so providers get paid. The excess funds from 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 will need to be used for the Risk and Contingency Fund so Providers can get paid. Thus there are no excess funds for reinvestment.

Matt has spoken with current reinvestment providers regarding their plans. Pinebrook's High Fidelity Wrap Around has 1.5 years remaining. The Clearinghouse through Conference of Churches has chosen to be operational for 1 more year, though they were given the option to plan out for 2 years.

#### VII. Northampton County HealthChoices Report

Report is similar to Lehigh County. Northampton also attended the OMHSAS Value-Based Purchasing Conference in August 2019

Northampton County HealthChoices attended a LANTA Board meeting to support members. Information from smaller committee meetings would be more helpful and Kristy will be continuing this for Northampton County.

Northampton County received continued funding for the Conference of Churches Housing Program.

#### VIII. Adjournment

Next meeting will be held on **November 21, 2019 at 2:00pm** at the Magellan Bethlehem office.