

**COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE ALLIANCE**  
**Virtual CHA Zoom Meeting**  
**September 15, 2021 @ 2:00 PM**

**Attendance:** John Lees, Ken Garavaglia, Patty Marth, Vance Farrell, Kristen Bertucci, Kristy Bernard, Jason Haller, Jessica Teel Sadler, Matt Bauder, Jay Deppeler, Suzanne Makary, Rochelle Reimert, Jaleh Mohallatee, Carl Kist, Nikki Baker, Janet Romero, Bill Leiner, Jr., Lisa Duarte, Drew Lazo, Liz Fox, Donna Thorman, Jana Morris, Nancy Stone, Dominique Gray, Debbie Hess, Jeremy Shutts, Chelsea Jones, Val Rode, Mitch Fash, Paul Berlet, Almut Dubischar, Alexis Harvey, Sun Moon, Ann Compostella, Ryan Flynn, Christine Hunsberger, Marie Lisby, Paulette Hunter

I. **Review of July 28, 2021 meeting minutes.** Kristy Bernard opened the meeting with a review of the meeting minutes. Minutes are approved.

II. **Provider Forum**

- **Jana Morris, Recovery Revolution** – Discussed the role of Certified Recovery Specialist Services as one way to build a collaborative relationship with those that have a substance use disorder diagnosis and struggling with recovery. Recovery Revolution also offers Grief Groups for parents that lost their loved ones to the disease of addiction or suicide. To refer a family to the grief groups, please contact Jana directly. [jana@recoveryrevolution.org](mailto:jana@recoveryrevolution.org) Program website for all services: <https://recoveryrevolution.org/services/>
- **Jason Haller, KidsPeace** – Effective 9/1/21, KidsPeace discussed changes to the diagnostic program and shelter care programs on their campus. The Residential Diagnostic Program offers emergency crisis stabilization and diagnostic services for children and adolescents experiencing emotional, behavioral and social adaptation challenges. The program provides short-term care for males and females ages 6 to 18, in a staff-intensive, 24-hour, campus-based environment. The diagnostic programs include a program for adolescent males, one for adolescent females, and one is co-ed. Additionally, there is one shelter care program for children on campus. KidsPeace announced they are hiring staff at various levels. <https://www.kidspeace.org/pa-residential/>
- **Ken Garavaglia, Kidspeace (in chat)**– The Explorer residential program for adolescent males currently has a few beds open. if you need more information, feel free to reach out to [ken.garavaglia@kidspeace.org](mailto:ken.garavaglia@kidspeace.org) or calling Ken directly at 610-799-8348.
- **Christine Higgins, Merakey Wellness Recovery Teams (in chat)** – The program needs referrals and has immediate opening. <https://www.merakey.org/services/adult-behavioral-health>
- **Nikki Baker, Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 (in chat)** – Has openings for school-based partial hospitalization program for K-12. [https://www.ciu20.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC\\_ID=1757849&type=d&pREC\\_ID=1955309](https://www.ciu20.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=1757849&type=d&pREC_ID=1955309)
- **Donna Thorman, NAMI Lehigh Valley** – Provided information on parent and peer education programs offered by NAMI. <http://www.nami-lv.org/education-programs/>
- **Jenny Duval, Lehigh Valley Drug and Alcohol Intake Unit** -Is accepting referrals for substance use disorder level of care assessments, and Certified Recovery Support services, including recovery support drop in centers in various community locations. <http://www.lvintake.org/rss.html>
- **Tamra McGee, Pyramid Healthcare** – Pyramid expanded walk-in hours for level of care assessments for SUD, Monday through Wednesday each week (expected to expand to Mon.-Thu. Within 30 days) for clinic services at the Allentown Outpatient Clinic. <https://www.pyramidhealthcarepa.com/document/allentown-program-schedule/>

A successful Rally in the Valley Recovery event was held 9/12/21 at ArtsQuest. Tamra thanked all the providers, Counties and Magellan for support provided by our treatment and recovery communities here in the Valley. Link to some of the music of Bakithi Kumalo and positive messaging for our community: <https://syncrecovery.org/rally-in-the-valley/>

- **Vance Farrell, Pennsylvania Mentor** – PA Mentor moved locations and has a new home. Services are now based from location 3450 High Point Blvd Suite 160 Bethlehem, PA 18017 <https://www.pa-mentor.com/bethlehem/>
- **Marie Lisby, The Lehigh Conference of Churches** – Accepting referrals for food, socialization, housing and intensive case management services. The program is open full time and delivers in-person support. <https://lehighchurches.org/what-we-do/>

III. **Member Forum** - No report this month.

IV. **Provider Advisory Committee** – No report this month: Members of the CHA may contact [CATHLEEN.MURPHY@hhinc.org](mailto:CATHLEEN.MURPHY@hhinc.org) to discuss involvement in the Provider Advisory Committee work.

**V. Children’s Advisory Committee** – Pat McGarry retired from Valley Youth House. There is an opening for a lead of our Children’s Advisory committee. Any interested providers that can serve to represent the children’s behavioral delivery system should contact Matt and Kristy with your interest.

## **VI. Magellan**

### **(Patty Marth- Reporting for Magellan’s Compliance)**

#### **Email Blasts:**

**July 2021** <https://www.magellanofpa.com/media/6467/magellan-compliance-notebook-july-2021.pdf>

This important clarification and guidance applies to Substance Use Disorder Providers regarding Member access to Methadone Maintenance Therapy (MMT) while in residential programming.

**Other important announcements:** Medicare covers Opioid Treatment Programs on an inpatient and outpatient basis. Providers were able to enroll for outpatient OTP services (Effective for Outpatient: 1/1/2020) and Inpatient OTP (Effective for Inpatient: 1/1/2021). As a reminder, Medicaid/Magellan is the payor of last resort. Effective 8/16/2021, Medicare providers of OTP services should be used, and Medicare must be billed as primary carrier to avoid any payment issues and to assure continuity of care. Medicare provider search tool: <https://www.medicare.gov/forms-help-other-resources/find-compare-health-care-providers>

#### **Bulletins:**

Patty provided an overview of the PA Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) Behavioral Telehealth Bulletin. Providers are strongly encouraged to review and familiarize this material thoroughly. <https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Mental-Health-in-PA/Pages/OMHSAS-Behavioral-Health-Telehealth.aspx>

Magellan also maintains a frequently asked questions document (last updated: 10/18/21) [https://www.magellanofpa.com/media/6532/20211018\\_th\\_faq.pdf](https://www.magellanofpa.com/media/6532/20211018_th_faq.pdf)

Please send future questions to [Telehealthinquiries@magellanhealth.com](mailto:Telehealthinquiries@magellanhealth.com)

### **(Mitch Fash Reporting for Magellan’s Network Dept) - COVID-19 Alternative Payment Arrangement Update**

Magellan Behavioral Health of Pennsylvania (Magellan) hosted a virtual provider town hall meeting 08/31/21 to strengthen relationships and share information with and among providers. A recording of the session is available for replay here [https://magellanhealth.zoom.us/rec/play/iO37lCaH57VnM9ZgzMjnou3T\\_rdUtyZyE3iln39g\\_UXqakyecB7Ac3W\\_j\\_fUaCtIZURL3KGZ\\_PqsQ.V0l7CPJ-Yoi8D\\_uY?continueMode=true&xzm\\_rtaid=MY6R6Ng-QN6jSWLLEyDgXw.1636120623645.f706ce66d84e8e4535b0e3f9cfd6390b&xzm\\_rhtaid=479](https://magellanhealth.zoom.us/rec/play/iO37lCaH57VnM9ZgzMjnou3T_rdUtyZyE3iln39g_UXqakyecB7Ac3W_j_fUaCtIZURL3KGZ_PqsQ.V0l7CPJ-Yoi8D_uY?continueMode=true&xzm_rtaid=MY6R6Ng-QN6jSWLLEyDgXw.1636120623645.f706ce66d84e8e4535b0e3f9cfd6390b&xzm_rhtaid=479)

### **(Carl Kist – Reporting for Magellan’s Clinical Dept.) – Focus on ASAM Realignment and IBHS**

- Anita Kelly ([alkelly@magellanhealth.com](mailto:alkelly@magellanhealth.com)) can be contacted for additional support in meeting the state expectations for ASAM realignment.
- Magellan MYLIFE meeting schedule remains virtual and is held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. Please help to promote this socialization and leadership empowerment activities for youth and young adults. <https://www.magellanofpa.com/members/community/my-life/>

### **(John Lees– Reporting for Magellan Strategic)**

- “Health and Hope in All Policies” campaign is an approach that incorporates health considerations into decision making across sectors and policy areas that impact SMI and SED.

Our approach request: Blended Case Management Partners in Care providers to collect instances in which decisions that happen in multiple sectors outside of OMHSAS, impacts the Medicaid populations we serve.

Our goal is to collect information and health disparities that are policy driven and determine how improved inclusion of member voice and provider advocacy support to health can further support the goals of these multiple sectors. We are further asking for policies of inclusion that represent strengths, as well. As part of our Partners in Care process, we have chartered a subcommittee to promote health, equity, and sustainability, and simultaneously advance other goals such as promoting job creation and economic stability, transportation access and mobility, housing, and improved educational attainment. In November, Tom will report on the initial survey findings which will be centered around homelessness and

access to Emergency Rental Assistance Program benefit offered by PA DHS and accessible through PA Compass website (<https://www.compass.state.pa.us/Compass.Web/RAP/Application>). If any provider would like to submit a concern, issue, or compliment, please contact Tom Walker [twalker@magellanhealth.com](mailto:twalker@magellanhealth.com)

#### **(John Lees – Reporting for Magellan Member and Family Advocate)**

- Magellan continues our practice of holding Member Advisory Workgroup meetings. Virtual groups will be held in partnership with The Arc of Lehigh Valley on 10/6 and 10/20 with an emphasis on dual diagnosis MH/IDD treatment services. A November virtual Magellan member meeting will be held. These are meetings help our system and program gain valuable feedback into the program and program quality, member information, needs and successes.
- John provided an overview of the recent work of Magellan’s Autism Action Committee and resources available to support impacted families. Please find new support resources published on the Magellan website <https://www.magellanofpa.com/for-members/services-programs/autism-resources/>

#### **VII.**

##### **Lehigh County Update – Matt Bauder**

Matt provided an update on all the current HealthChoices Reinvestment Plans. These include: HIFI Wraparound through Pinebrook Family Answers (19 families engaged in August), Respite Program through Valley Youth House (13 families served in August), Clearinghouse Housing Program through The Lehigh Conference of Churches (118 individuals served in August), and 2:1 Applied Behavioral Analysis through ABA Support Services (highly specialized – no member currently enrolled in these services). These programs are currently contracted with Lehigh County through the end of 2021 and approved through 2022.

Lehigh County submitted a new reinvestment plan to address more Social Determinants of Health. SDoH relates to members’ health outcomes. However, the state will not allow commodities such as housing, food, and transportation to be paid for through medical claims, so this only leaves Reinvestment.

Lehigh County also submitted an expansion plan for the high-fidelity wraparound program and housing plan. The request is for three years through 2024.

Matt discussed the member experience is being sought for those that are using telehealth services. There are workgroups chartered at the state level and run through Magellan that all focus on improving treatment experience overall, as regards to telehealth treatment delivery in the behavioral health program. Matt said collectively these work groups are meant as assurance that telehealth is producing the right outcomes and having the right effect. Paulette thanked Matt for considering the needs of families, and also for expanding necessary services such as respite services and all promotion to help spread the word about the value respite brings to families.

Matt recognized the retirement of Liz Fox, Lehigh County HealthChoices QI. Her last day is 10/1/21. Matt thanked Liz for her years of service and work done for the County and for our members.

##### **Northampton County Update – Kristy Bernard**

Kristy announced Northampton County continues with re-procurement for Behavioral Health Managed Care Organization for the Program with an initiation date of January 1, 2022. Magellan is the current BH-MCO for Northampton County. A competitive RFP process is underway.

The Outpatient Restoration Long-term Structured Residence construction project continues. The program is expected to open and serve members in Q12022.

Chelsea announced that the Northampton County Respite Program has started quarterly implementation and oversight meetings. The program is not site-based, but instead delivered in host family site/homes. Referrals are slow. The program is considering alternative ways to engage families in this needed service, such as in the parent’s own homes.

Northampton County’s newest Reinvestment Program continues to take some shape and help fill in holes in healthcare focused on helping members access childcare, clothing, transportation, getting jobs, and things that are not currently covered under the state plan. The Easton Neighborhood Center has been selected to meet these SDoH needs under the reinvestment plan.

#### **VIII. Next Meeting: November 17, 2021**