

HealthChoices Advisory Board

Magellan Behavioral Health of Pennsylvania, Inc.
1 W. Broad Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018
(Remote meeting due to COVID restrictions)
August 18, 2022 2pm

I. Introductions: Those in attendance were: Janet Verga, Tom Walker, Tisbine Moussa, Chelsea Jones, Donna Thorman, Matt Bauder, Andrew Lazo

II. Review of May 26, 2022 minutes – No issues and accepted.

III. Community Healthcare Alliance Report:

Member/Family Advisory Committee

- Ronnie was not present

Provider Advisory Committee – Cathy Murphy (Not in attendance)

- Discussed Potential end of PHE at CHA.

Children’s Advisory Committee – Vacant

- Discussed at CHA that we are still looking for a Children’s Committee Representative to bring up issues relevant to the Children’s Service System for others to be aware of. There has been a lack of interest expressed.

IV. NAMI/OMHSAS/Provider/Peer/News

- Donna reported that the Family to Family education course will be starting on September 7th. She also noted that the Peer to Peer course will be starting September 12th. NAMI will also look to offer a family class on Sunday afternoons in October to give families a better option to attend.
- Family to Family support groups occur Wednesday evenings.
- Peer to Peer Support groups occur Thursday evening.
- NAMI preparing for the race/walk on August 28th.
- NAMI will also begin offering Family Basics. This is a free class for parents with members under the age of 18 and can be taken at their own pace.
- Janet reported that the Peer Support Network is meeting again in person. The network is meeting monthly to engage in learning and networking. Janet noted that

there is a good mix of CPS and CRS that attend and a discussion on documentation will occur at their September meeting.

- Janet noted that there have been some requests for QPR training from PROMISE Neighborhoods.
- Janet indicated that CSPs are going well. She added that there have been conversations on what can be done better and these conversations occurred to provide feedback to Northampton County's Block Grant.

V. Magellan Behavioral Health Report

- Tom presented on member level data that has been collected by the Magellan Member/Family Advocate. Tom noted that Magellan's advocate is averaging 2.4 contacts per member. It was reported that it has been taking more time to connect members to appropriate resources due to both general need and member acuity. Member/Family advocate also reports more Social Determinants of Health needs are being identified.
- Tom reported on current provider level occurrences. Tom noted that APA GAP payments continue to be offered to help providers remain solvent and operational. Tom explained further how the APAs have been structured.
- Tom noted that Magellan and Counites are currently trying to figure out the best rate strategy for 2023.
- The annual BBA mailing will be going out shortly.
- Tom indicated that updated member handbook are now available.
- Magellan electronic release of information forms are now back online again.
- Tom stated that verbal consent for text messaging can now be accepted.
- The Annual Magellan compliance training for providers is scheduled for November 4th.
- Magellan will be holding a Provider Town Hall meeting on August 29th with topics to include but not be limited to: ending of the PHE, Medicaid re-enrollment, telehealth, Clinical Best Practice Guidelines, general updates, and system transformational updates.

- Lastly, Tom noted that the 2021 Program Evaluation Performance Standards review for 2021 was received from the state. He added that no action plan is required though OMHSAS did provide a couple of recommendations.

VI. Northampton County HealthChoices Report

- Housing continuation plan has been approved as requested. Tisbine noted that they are working with the provider on more local housing options to be available.
- Easton Neighborhood Center has had it's soft launch of the Social Determinants of Health program. Keeping it small right now as they work through operationalizing the plan.
- Northampton County is working with Access Services on marketing the Respite program to increase census.
- ORLTSR construction is finally nearing completion. Hopefully it will be finished by the end of the year.

VII. Lehigh County HealthChoices Report

- Matt provided updates on Reinvestment Plans including Respite serving 8 members in community based and 4 in family driven, High-Fidelity Wraparound have 7 members, 2:1 Program has 1 member, and Clearinghouse has 33 members served (spend on members going up because rents and other expenses are going up). An extension for Respite will be requested in fall. Seeing under- utilization and staffing issues with all of these providers. Hoping Job fair in Fall could be helpful. Gwen is the new replacement for Corrina in children's integrated services unit and she will get more involved in Respite to approve utilization.
- Received response from OMHSAS for some extensions. Providers of the respective reinvestment plans remain Valley Youth House for Respite, Pinebrook-Family Answers for High-Fidelity Wraparound through 2024, ABA Support Services for the 2:1 program through 2024, and Conference of Churches for the Housing Clearinghouse through 2026.
- Social Determinants of Health Reinvestment plan has now been approved. Discussions will begin with Conference of Churches regarding implementation of an SDoH program to go live in 2023.
- The Reinvestment Planning Process continues in Lehigh County. To this point, few ideas have been received from members and ideas that have been submitted by providers do not fit for how reinvestment dollars can be used. Lehigh will continue to

engage stakeholders in the reinvestment planning process where possible including at Magellan's member and family workgroup.

VIII. Adjournment

Next meeting will be held on **November 17th, 2022 at 2:00pm** at the Magellan Bethlehem office or via Zoom depending on COVID circumstances.