

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health
& Developmental Disabilities

Judy Fitzgerald, Commissioner

DBHDD

Office of the Commissioner

**Behavioral Health Coordinating Council
Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2022
10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
*Meeting held via WebEx only.***

QUORUM NOT MET

Meeting Called By: Judy Fitzgerald, Chair

Facilitator: Judy Fitzgerald

BHCC Liaison: Tracy Gamble

Council Members: Commissioner Judy Fitzgerald (DBHDD), Commissioner
Present: Michael Nail (DCS), Commissioner Caylee Noggle (DCH),
Commissioner Candice Broce (DHS), Stanley Jones, Esq., (Family
Representative), Chairman Terry Barnard (PAP) Commissioner
Kathleen Toomey (DPH).

Absent: Representative Katie Dempsey (District 13), Commissioner
Christopher Nunn (DCA), Commissioner Mark Butler (DOL),
Commissioner, Julie Spores (Adult Consumer Representative)
Commissioner Timothy Ward (GDC), Disabilities Services
Ombudsman Jacquice Stone (ODSO), Commissioner Tyrone
Oliver (DJJ), Superintendent Richard Woods (DOE), Diane
Reeder (Parent Representative),

DBHDD Leadership Brenda Woodard, Esq., General Counsel Services, and
David Sofferin, Director Office of Public Affairs

Agenda

Call to Order: Chair Judy Fitzgerald; 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Judy Fitzgerald welcomed everyone and acknowledged new council members Commissioner Caylee Noggle, Department of Community Health and Commissioner Candice Broce, Department of Human Services. Commissioner Fitzgerald thanked everyone for their time, partnership, and participation.

and effective best practice strategies to create and promote loan forgiveness programs for behavioral health professionals in the state.

Transition-Reentry Committee

Chair Fitzgerald introduced Terri Timberlake- Briscoe, Ph.D., Director of DBHDD's Office of Adult Mental Health and co-chair of the BHCC Transition Reentry Committee.

Dr. Timberlake- Briscoe gave an overview about the committee. Seven years ago, the committee was charged with looking at agencies that serve the population of returning citizens with behavioral health needs transitioning out of the Georgia Department of Corrections system back into the community. Several agencies came together to look at opportunities where agencies policies work in sync, programs could interface, and team members could have a better understanding of how the program and services could effectively support an individual with a behavioral health diagnosis transition back into the community. Dr. Timberlake-Briscoe spoke in depth about the committee's primary focus on access to Respect Institute speakers for partnering agencies, Forensic Peer Mentor Program, employment for returning citizens and the Family Reunification Project.

The Chair's Report

The Chair's report was an overview of the Assisted Out-Patient Treatment (AOT) and Co-responder Pilots (Terri Timberlake-Briscoe, Ph.D.)

Through grant funding and supports the AOT Enhancement Pilot will assist the provider network to work more collaboratively with probate court. The AOT Enhance Pilot initiative is an enhancement to the existing law. Its intent is to help the community mental health providers work more effectively with probate court. The goal of AOT is to motivate an adult with mental illness who struggles with voluntary treatment adherence to engage fully with their treatment plan and focus the attention of treatment providers to keep the person engaged in effective treatment. The target population is adults with Serious Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI) or Co-occurring diagnosis (mental health and addictive disease). Adults with frequent psychiatric hospitalizations and arrests/incarceration, who are unable to successfully engage in treatment on a voluntary basis and achieve freedom from seriously harmful behavior.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

Being there was no further business, Chair Fitzgerald adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Special Notes:

The next scheduled meeting of the Georgia Behavioral Health Coordinating Council will be held on **Wednesday, May 11, 2022.**

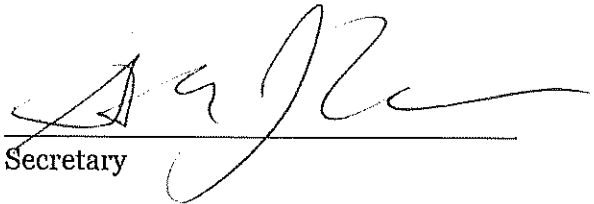
Respectfully submitted by:

Tracy Gamble, BHCC Liaison

Signatures:



Chair



Secretary