



## Behavioral Health Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2017  
10:00 a.m.

2 Peachtree St, NW  
24<sup>th</sup> Board Room  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

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**Meeting Called By:** Commissioner Judy Fitzgerald (DBHDD)

**Facilitator:** Commissioner Judy Fitzgerald

**Members Present:** Commissioner Frank Berry (DCH)  
Commissioner Judy Fitzgerald (DBHDD)  
Commissioner J. Patrick O'Neal, M.D. (DPH)  
Representative Katie Dempsey (District 13)  
Stanley Jones, Esq. (Family Representative)  
Disability Services Ombudsman Lavinia Luca (ODSO)

**Members Absent:** Commissioner Mark Butler (DOL)  
Commissioner Christopher Nunn (DCA)  
Commissioner Robin Crittenden (DHS)  
Superintendent Richard Woods (DOE)  
Senator Renee Unterman (District 45)

**Tele-Conferencing:** Diane Reeder, Parent Representative  
Commissioner Michael Nail (DCS)  
Commissioner Greg Dozier (DOC)  
Chairman James Willis (PAP)  
Commissioner Avery Niles (DJJ)  
Julie Spores Adult (Consumer Representative)

**DBHDD Leadership:** Amy Howell, Assistant Commissioner & General Counsel  
Jeffery A. Minor, Deputy Commissioner & COO  
Monica Johnson, Behavioral Health Division Director  
David Sofferin, Director, Office of Public Affairs

## **Agenda**

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Judy Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Fitzgerald and requested council members teleconferencing to identify themselves. She reminded the council that the purpose of the BHCC is to have cross-agency dialogue while getting the benefit of the council members experience and having the opportunity to meet face-to-face, ask questions, and share information to break down some of the barriers that affect individuals with behavioral health challenges.

## **Recovery Presentation**

Lindsey Sizemore, outreach coordinator for RESPECT Institute, introduced the guest speaker James Lingo, who graduated from the RESPECT Institute this past year and is owner of Lingo Speaks, LLC. Mr. Lingo discussed his youth and alcohol use disorder, while struggling with not having his father in his life. He challenged everyone to restore passion for those who try to make a difference in themselves.

## **Action Items**

The following action items were reviewed and approved.

### **BHCC Previous Meeting Minutes**

*Approval of the August 16, 2017 meeting minutes*

Commissioner Fitzgerald called for a motion to approve the August 16, 2017, meeting minutes. Commissioner J. Patrick O'Neal made the motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Frank Berry. The minutes were unanimously approved without additions or corrections.

### **Proposed 2018 BHCC Meeting Dates**

*Approval of the 2018 Proposed BHCC Meeting Dates*

Commissioner Fitzgerald called for a motion to approve the 2018 BHCC meeting dates. Commissioner Frank Berry made the motion, which was seconded by Disability Services Ombudsman Lavi Luca. The 2018 BHCC meeting dates was unanimously approved without additions or corrections.

## **Legislative Update**

State Representative Katie Dempsey discussed Governor and Mrs. Nathan Deal's passion for wrap around services and wellness in the community. Suicide prevention and crisis prevention discussions are part of legislative and budget discussions. Representative Dempsey thanked DBHDD for its work to inform legislators about how services affect families, and also people who are incarcerated.

## Behavioral Health Symposium Update

Monica Johnson, director of the Division of Behavioral Health (DBHDD), discussed the 2017 Behavioral Health Symposium and gave an update regarding training opportunities and provider networking. Ms. Johnson continued by discussing the robust adult mental health provider network.

PowerPoint presentations are available at <https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/2017-bhcc-meeting-calendar>

## Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Fitzgerald spoke about DBHDD's future and the drivers that affect the agency:

Driver 1:

- a) Political time cycles
- b) Fragile safety net protection
- c) ADA Extension agreement
- d) Funding shortages
- e) Sister agency partnerships
- f) Demonstrating impact

Driver 2:

- a) Evolving health care environment
- b) Fragile safety net
- c) Workforce shortages
- d) Age acceleration and the need to process in real time
- e) Demonstrating impact

Driver 3:

- a) Funding shortages
- b) Public/private partnerships
- c) Demonstrate impact
- d) Social determinants of health, location, transportation, and employment
- e) Recovery and independence

## DBHDD Presentations

Cassandra Price, director of the Office of Addictive Diseases (DBHDD), discussed the STR opioid grant and how the service providers were selected, in addition to the statewide requirements and funding amount.

Additional information can be found on DBHDD's website at [https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/sites/dbhdd.georgia.gov/files/related\\_files/site\\_page/SOC%20Plan%20Abbreviated%20Presentation%202017.pdf](https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/sites/dbhdd.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/SOC%20Plan%20Abbreviated%20Presentation%202017.pdf)

## **Interagency Directors Team Update: October – December 2017**

Linda McCall (DCH), chair of the Interagency Directors Team (IDT), gave the following report:

The IDT has taken considerable steps to begin implementing Georgia's System of Care (SOC) State Plan (finalized by the IDT in June 2017 and approved by the BHCC in August 2017). Over the past three months, the IDT has met the following critical SOC State Plan implementation milestones:

- Created detailed implementation plans for all Year 1 strategies/action items, including:
  - Activities and steps
  - Timelines
  - Agency and organization participants
  - Staffing/supports
- Estimated pricing for all Year 1 strategies/action items
- Created SOC State Plan public input feedback forms, and released to family support organizations and other core constituencies through IDT member agency and organization channels for review/comment (to inform Years 2 and 3 of plan)

Additionally, the IDT is currently drafting a SOC State Plan communications plan to timely and effectively communicate SOC State Plan content and progress to a variety of stakeholders, including families and youth, IDT member agencies and organizations, and the BHCC. With the help of the University of Maryland Technical Assistance Network, the IDT is also researching and discussing adoption of a SOC dispute resolution protocol. In December, the IDT will move full speed ahead on SOC State Plan Year 1 activities and work in all strategy areas. The IDT looks forward to updating the BHCC on its SOC State Plan work progress in the new year.

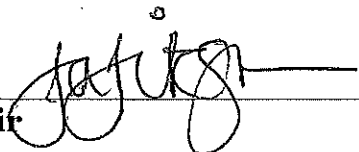
### **Adjournment**

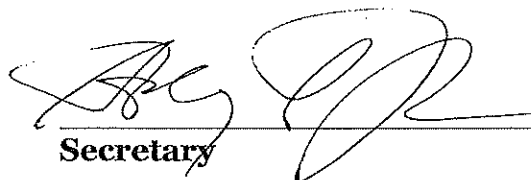
Time did not allow for further business. Commissioner Fitzgerald thanked the council members for their participation, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

#### **Respectfully submitted by:**

Sasha Williams, Acting Council and Executive Committee Liaison

#### **Signatures:**

  
Chair

  
Secretary