

DBHDD

Behavioral Health Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes

August 15, 2018

10:00 a.m.

2 Peachtree St, NW
24th Floor Board Room
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Meeting Called By: Commissioner Judy Fitzgerald (DBHDD)

Facilitator: Commissioner Judy Fitzgerald

Members Present:

Commissioner Judy Fitzgerald (DBHDD)
Stanley Jones, Esq. (Family Representative)

Commissioner Frank W. Berry (DCH)
Senator Renee Unterman (District 45)

Members Tele-conferencing:

Representative Katie Dempsey (District 13)
Superintendent Richard Woods (DOE)
Chairman Terry E. Barnard (PAP)

Diane Reeder (Parent Representative)
Julie Spores Adult (Consumer Representative)
Commissioner Greg Dozier (DOC)

Members Absent:

Commissioner Avery Niles (DJJ)
Commissioner Christopher Nunn (DCA)
Commissioner Robyn A. Crittenden (DHS)
Commissioner J. Patrick O'Neal, M.D. (DPH)

Commissioner Mark Butler (DOL)
Commissioner Michael Nail (DCS)

Others Present:

Keisha Dixon, Chief of Staff (DPH)
Margaret Caewood, Deputy Commissioner (DJJ)

Others Tele-conferencing:

Teresa Eggleston (GVRA)
Yosha Dotson (MHAGEORGIA)

DBHDD Leadership:

Amy Howell, Assistant Commissioner & General Counsel

Agenda

Call to Order: Commissioner Judy Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m., welcomed everyone, and took roll of council members attending in person and via phone. Fitzgerald expressed appreciation to the council members for their time, sharing of information and participation in today's meeting.

Recovery Presentation

Commissioner Fitzgerald introduced Emily Ribblett of the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse (GCSA). Ribblett shared her experiences with homelessness, mental health challenges, incarceration, and poverty as a result of her substance use disorder. She started her life in recovery on March 5, 2015, and it is providing her the opportunity to rebuild lost family

relationships and live a life beyond her wildest dreams. Ribblett's life in recovery has brought about an exciting role as the Building Communities of Recovery Grant Coordinator with GCSA. She is excited to be building relationships around the benefits of long-term recovery in communities across Georgia by providing training and technical assistance. Ms. Ribblett lives her recovery out loud, and her life is a testament to the power of a life of wellness.

Action Items

The following action item was reviewed and approved.

BHCC Previous Meeting Minutes

Approval of the May 16, 2018 meeting minutes

Commissioner Fitzgerald called for a motion to approve May 16, 2018, meeting minutes. Commissioner Frank Berry made the motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 16, 2018, which was seconded by Senator Renee Unterman. The minutes were unanimously approved without additions or corrections.

BHCC Initiatives Interagency Directors Team

Commissioner Fitzgerald introduced Danté McKay, director of DBHDD's Office of Children Young Adults, and Families, and chair of the Interagency Directors Team (IDT).

McKay introduced the IDT co-chair, Rebecca Blanton, Project AWARE Director for the Georgia Department of Education (DOE).

Georgia System of Care Framework:

The Interagency Directors Team (IDT) is getting back to the basics with the System of Care values, principles, and infrastructure.

The Interagency Directors Team receives monthly updates on the following projects:

- The System of Care Expansion Grant to DBHDD: four-year grant that ended in June 2018. The focus of the grant is to provide services and supports for ages 15-21 with mental health or substance use diagnosis. Accomplishments include two piloted co-occurring club houses that combined mental health and substance use; expansion of youth and family support organizations across the; and routine training for Local Interagency Planning Team (LIPT) chairs.
- Project LAUNCH grant to the Georgia Department of Public Health: four-year grant that allowed integration of physical and behavioral health services in Muscogee County with DBHDD being the mental health authority partner on the grant. The focus was on ages 0-8. By partnering on this project, the two agencies created a unique opportunity to connect families and youth to services, including engaging with pediatric practices.
- Project AWARE to DOE: grant that blends education and mental health services. It focused on three school districts in Georgia: Griffin-Spalding, and Muscogee and

Newton counties. The grant supports LIPTS, which are the front line of Georgia's System of Care.

- Regional Interagency Action Teams (RIAT) consist of the chairs of the LIPTs and are organized according to DBHDD's regions. The IDT will begin engaging the group to address different trends within and across the regions.
- The Governor's Commission on Children's Mental Health (DBHDD) made eight recommendations in its 2017 report, and funding was allocated by Governor Nathan Deal and the Georgia General Assembly as follows:
 1. Strengthen child and adolescent crisis stabilization units: staff training and new staff to increase capacity
 2. School-based mental health: expand the Georgia APEX Program to increase behavioral health services and supports
 3. Telemedicine and equipment for Apex providers
 4. Expand and enhance High-Fidelity Wraparound (HFW) services: increase use of HFW services and improve fidelity to the model
 5. Support employment and education
 6. Crisis respite homes
 7. Opioid prevention
 8. Suicide prevention: enhance the Georgia Crisis and Access Line

System of Care State Plan update

The System of Care State Plan is a three-year plan and is currently in its second year.

Highlights: One of the strategies involved data collection around the expansion of school-based mental health. A survey of 700 school counselors identified that one third of Georgia schools are applying some sort of school-based mental health intervention. In addition, public-facing references have been developed and are available; and the telemedicine services and equipment map was developed to help inform the work across Georgia.

The **11th Annual System of Care Academy** was held on June 20-22, 2018, in Stone Mountain. Nearly 500 attendees included 373 professionals, 96 youth, young adults, and family member, and 31 exhibitors. DCH Commissioner Frank Berry received the Life Time Achievement Award.

Transition and Re-entry

Commissioner Fitzgerald introduced Terri Timberlake (DBHDD), director of the Office of Adult Mental Health and co-chair of the Transition Re-Entry Committee.

Timberlake recognized Michelle Stanley, deputy director of the Department of Community Supervision and co-chair of the Transition Re-entry Committee. The Transition and Re-entry Committee has been working for four years, continuing as a collaboration with a number of state agencies to address the issue of how to support returning citizens who have behavioral health needs as they transition out of the correctional system back into the community.

Updates from Timberlake included numbers of returning citizens releases by GDC mental health classification levels for the months of May, June, and July 2018. Levels 2, 3, and 4 are

specific populations of returning citizens who have a behavioral health diagnosis.

The committee has been working on the "Prison to Purpose" video that is a demonstration of the Forensic Peer Mentor project work. The video consists of interviews from GDC wardens, returning citizens, forensic peer support staff, and leaders from our partnering agencies who share stories of how effective the program has been in their lives. Timberlake anticipates being able to share the video at the next scheduled BHCC meeting.

Timberlake shared highlights of the Forensic Peer Mentor Program outcomes for FY 2018:

- Forensic peer mentors provided 16,059 training planning sessions.
- 380 returning citizens were enrolled
- Only 3 returning citizens required psychiatric inpatient admissions
- 30.5% employment rate
- 25% stable housing rate
- 2 re-arrests
- 0 reconvictions
- 1 probation/parole revocation
- Functional 0% recidivism since program inception (0.02%)

Another area of focus for the committee is the Family Reunification Project, family-focused reentry curriculum that provides six months of family counseling that will be co-facilitated by licensed therapists, certified FPMS and certified peer specialist parents (CPS-P) who will function as family peer mentors and will be specifically trained to support family members of incarcerated individuals. The workgroup includes representation from DBHDD, Department of Corrections, Department of Community Supervision, State Board of Pardons and Paroles and the National Incarceration Association. The group will target population in Metro, Phillips, and Lee Arrendale State Prisons. Individuals and their families will be paired with peers starting 12 months prior to release until after release.

Supported housing continues to be a large focus for the workgroup, addressing barriers that make it difficult for returning citizens to obtain housing. DBHDD and GDC staff are working to develop a process for sharing data for eligible individuals in need of supported housing as part of the release and transition planning.

The committee is also focused on employment for returning citizens. A sub-subcommittee is identifying strategies and initiatives that will address some of the employment barriers and engage employers to hire individuals with a criminal background.

Future Items:

Timberlake reported that DCH will be presenting about the shift from termination to suspension of Medicaid benefits for individuals who are incarcerated. She also informed the BHCC that the 3rd Annual Respect and Recovery 5K Race/Walk will take place on October 12 in Grant Park.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Fitzgerald introduced Karen Bailey, Ph.D., director of DBHDD's Office of Forensic Services. Bailey provided an extensive overview of the office's progress and challenges. Its work interfaces with the criminal justice system and covers the following:

- Forensic evaluations and expert testimony for the courts

- Competency restoration
- Inpatient Evaluation and Treatment
- Community Forensic Services
- Juvenile Forensic Services

PowerPoint presentations are available at <https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/2018-bhcc-meeting-calendar>

Note: Time did not allow for presentations on the Opioid update and Prevention Services.


Adjournment

Commissioner Fitzgerald called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Senator Unterman made the motion to adjourn the August 15, 2018 meeting and Stanley Jones seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

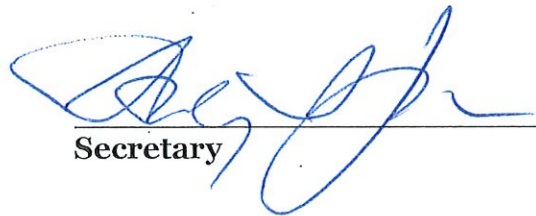
Respectfully submitted by:

Tracy Gamble, Council Committee Liaison

Signatures:



Chair



Secretary