



**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COORDINATING COUNCIL
MEETING SUMMARY**

May 11, 2022

10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

This meeting will be conducted via Webex audio access only. There was no in-person attendance at the Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

MEETING QUORUM NOT MET

Meeting Called By: Judy Fitzgerald, Chair

Facilitator: Judy Fitzgerald

BHCC Liaison: Tracy Gamble

Council Members:

Present: Commissioner Judy Fitzgerald (*DBHDD*), Commissioner 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:

Present: Brenda Woodard, Esq., *General Counsel Services*, and David Sofferin, *director Office of Public Affairs*

Chair Judy Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone who was able to attend.

Recovery Presentation

Chair Judy Fitzgerald called Danté McKay, *director of DBHDD Office of Children, Young Adults & Families*. Mr. McKay was pleased to introduce guest speaker Thandiwe Harris, *Certified Peer Specialist Parent and DBHDD's Program Manager with the Office of Children, Young Adults & Families*. Ms. Harris shared her family lived experiences, struggles and lessons learned trying to help her son toward his recovery.

A meeting quorum was not met. No action items were approved.

Commissioner Judy Fitzgerald receive a report from one of the BHCC Initiative workgroups, the *Interagency Directors Team*. Chair Judy Fitzgerald introduced Renee Johnson, *Director of Georgia State University Health Policy Center and Chair of the Interagency Directors Team (IDT)*. Ms. Johnson shared highlights on the phases of the strategic state plan in relations to behavioral health, IDT rebranding and the IDT Executive Committee members.

The Chair's Report

Dawn Peel director of the *Office of Crisis Coordination* and *Wendy White Tiegreen* director of the *Office of Medicaid Coordination & Health System Innovation*, presented updates on the planning efforts, implementation activities and budget information on the 9-8-8 national three-digit dialing code.

Michael Polacek, *director of the Office of Legislative Affairs* gave a General Assembly update that included highlights on behavioral health and details about the Mental Health Parity Act HB 1013.

Chair Judy Fitzgerald, *commissioner of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities* shared information about the *Behavioral Health Coordinating Council (BHCC)* moving forward. New legislation in HB 1013 will enhance the BHCC membership with other key department heads and charge the members with new duties and goals.

Chair Judy Fitzgerald thanked the council members for their interest, commitment, and service.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.