



Behavioral Health Coordinating Council Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

MAY 13, 2014

1:00 PM

BOARD ROOM 24-397

MEETING CALLED BY	Commissioner Frank Berry at approximately 1:05 p.m.	
FACILITATOR	Commissioner Frank W. Berry	
NOTE TAKER	Tracy Gamble	
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT	Commissioner Frank Berry, Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) Ombudsman Corinna Magelund, Office of Disability Services Ombudsman (ODSO)	Commissioner Clyde Reese, Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) Chairman Albert Murray, State Board of Pardons and Paroles (PAP)

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER	COMMISSIONER FRANK BERRY
DISCUSSION	Commissioner Frank Berry called the Behavioral Health Coordination Council Executive Committee to order at approximately 1:05 p.m.
CONCLUSIONS	There was no action taken.

ACTION ITEMS

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 6, 2013 AMENDED MINUTES		COMMISSIONER FRANK BERRY
	Action item: approval of the December 6, 2013 BHCC Executive Committee amended meeting minutes	
DISCUSSION	Commissioner Reese made a motion to approve the amended minutes from the December 6, 2013 BHCC Executive Committee meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Chairman Albert Murray.	
CONCLUSIONS	The December 6, 2013 BHCC Executive Committee meeting amended minutes were unanimously approved.	

APPROVAL OF MARCH 6, 2014 AMENDED MINUTES		COMMISSIONER FRANK BERRY
	Action item: approval of the March 6, 2014 BHCC Executive Committee meeting minutes	
DISCUSSION	Commissioner Albert Murray made a motion to approve the March 6, 2014 BHCC Executive Committee meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Clyde Reese.	
CONCLUSION	The March 6, 2014 BHCC Executive Committee meeting minutes were unanimously approved.	

Commissioner Berry called on Chris Gault, assistant commissioner of behavioral health to report on the behavioral health core provider redesign initiative.

The initiative is designed to improve access, quality, efficiency and fiscal accountability within DBHDD’s community behavioral health provider network. Readiness and implementation activities began May 12, 2014 and will continue throughout FY 2015. The initiative includes new provider standards to ensure that they are offering a full array of core services as well as complementary specialized services. DBHDD will require providers to offer intensive in-clinic and out-of-clinic services to meet the needs of any consumer seeking services.

DISCUSSION

DBHDD has established a tiered system for providers:

- **Tier 1** Community Service Boards (the department’s public safety-net providers)
- **Tier 2** Medicaid providers (which serve a smaller specialized population)
- **Tier 3** Specialty providers offering stand-alone services

DBHDD will offer one year of intensive technical assistance and training beginning July 1, 2014. All providers are expected to adhere to the new standards by July 1, 2015. The department will use 18 key performance indicators to measure compliance. The core redesign initiative clarifies DBHDD’s focus on community-based services and reinforces our commitment to strengthening the public safety net for behavioral health and developmental disability services.

Comment: Commissioner Berry said that we have invested almost \$400 million dollars in our community service boards (CSB). As a state, we have to make sure every citizen has equal access to great community services. The new standards are performance-based, rather than fee for service. CSBs may have to ask for a supplemental support grant (state dollars) to help fund them for services that we may ask them to provide. Everything that DBHDD is doing is to strengthen the public system.

CONCLUSIONS

Comment: Chairman Murray said that change based on the research and study makes us strong and also brings on anxiety at times.

Comment: Commissioner Berry stated that we have anxiety all over the department because we are looking at the core redesign, fee for service and administration services organization (ASO), which we are in the process of procuring. Some functions maybe eliminated within the department if they are provided by the ASO. Our overall goal is to provide easy access to high-quality care.

Commissioner Berry reported on the following:

- **Child and Mental Adolescent Mental Health:** DBHDD’s child and adolescent mental health office has changed its name to the Office of Children, Young Adults and Families. The name change reflects a new focus on young adults (ages 18 to 26) who are transitioning from child to adult services.

Comment: Chris Gault said 5% of the Mental Health Block Grant funding used to support the office must be directed to treatment for initial onset of psychosis. This hits a lot of the young adult population because many people who develop a serious mental illness experience their first psychotic break in young adulthood. DBHDD is working with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to determine how we will spend that funding.

- **DBHDD Personnel Reorganization:** DBHDD Deputy Commissioner Judy Fitzgerald has taken on the role of chief of staff. All state and regional office positions will be reviewed. There are several emerging leaders in the department who are ready to take on new responsibilities.

Georgia Pine Community Service Board: In FY 2015, DBHDD invested \$72 million dollars in new and existing services for Georgia Pines. The CSB created crisis cards with emergency contacts in case an individual is in immediate need of services. The Georgia Crisis and Access Line connects individuals with behavioral health services and helps avert the need for jail and hospital personnel to be involved in crisis situations, Georgia Pines provides these cards to law enforcement and community stakeholders in its catchment area.

- **Gateway Community Service Board:** Governor Nathan Deal appointed David Crews as the onsite manager of Gateway Behavioral Health Services for two years. Commissioner Berry has asked Crews to give a comprehensive report of his findings at the next full meeting of the BHCC.
- **Second Chance Act (SCA) Grant:** DBHDD is working with the Georgia Department of Corrections and the Governor's Office of Transition, Support and Reentry to develop and implement comprehensive strategies that address reentry and recidivism for individuals with behavioral health challenges. DBHDD is investing \$200,000 in the project. Commissioner Berry recognized Terri Timberlake, DBHDD's director of adult mental health, for doing a remarkable job with the reentry.
- **Olmstead 15th Anniversary Celebration:** Georgia is recognized as the Olmstead state. We are a nationwide leader in helping people with developmental disabilities live in their own homes in the community.
- **Employee Appreciation Week:** DBHDD has over 5,400 employees in the state regional and hospital offices. Commissioner Berry recognized DBHDD staff for their valuable contributions and great work.

Comment: Commissioner Berry asked the executive committee how the council can improve and what issues they should focus on.

Comment: Commissioner Reese complimented Commissioner Berry for breaking new ground with interagency-partnerships. Reese also suggested revisiting the BHCC members list to determine whether the council would benefit from adding new members.

Comment: Commissioner Berry said that the department will review SB 349 and enabling legislation and seek feedback from the BHCC executive committee. DBHDD will submit a proposal to the governor's office that offers clean-up language for the bill and will potentially modify the functions of the council and the members of the committee.

DISCUSSION	<p>Chris Gault gave an update on the Transition Care Work Group.</p> <p>The BHCC transition workgroup continues to meet and work in conjunction with the Governor’s Office of Transition Support and Reentry. The workgroup is tackling several initiatives and has identified the following barriers to reentry and actions to address them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education and training needs: exploring training curricula for state agency staff to help support efforts to integrate the reentry population into the community. • Employment: reviewing information from the Department of Labor on in-demand jobs and industries with the greatest need. • Awareness and access: developing a survey to use in two male and female facilities; obtain feedback from re-offenders on the usefulness of the Department of Corrections handbook. • Resource: Community reentry is currently expanding the Social Security Income/Social Security Disability Income SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR) initiative throughout Georgia Department of Corrections beginning June 2014. DBHDD has partnered with GDC to provide additional resources for SOAR trained staff and eligible offenders. • Second Act Chance Grant: DBHDD is working with the Georgia Department of Corrections and the Governor’s Office of Transition, Support and Reentry to develop and implement comprehensive strategies that address reentry and recidivism for individuals with behavioral health challenges.
CONCLUSIONS	No action was taken.

OTHER BUSINESS

COMMISSIONER FRANK BERRY

DISCUSSION	<p>Chairman Murray said the State Board of Pardons and Paroles has elected new leadership. Effective July 1, 2014, Terry Bernard will become the new board chairman. He will replace Chairman Murray on the BHCC.</p>
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ADJOURNMENT	The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.
SPECIAL NOTES	The next scheduled meeting of the Behavioral Health Coordinating Council Executive Committee is November 18, 2014.

SIGNATURES

	CHAIR
	SECRETARY