



Commission on Mental Health and Substance Abuse Business Operations Subcommittee

Commission on Mental Health and Substance Abuse Members

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Speaker of the House Appointee

Representative Christine
Hunschofsky
Speaker of the House Appointee

Clara Reynolds
Governor Appointee

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Dr. Uma Suryadevara
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Judge Ronald Ficarrotta
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Wes Evans
President of the Senate
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September 21, 2022
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Call to Order and Welcome

Commissioner Christine Hunschofsky called the Business Operations Subcommittee to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call

The roll was called by Aaron Platt and a quorum was confirmed

Attendance Summary

Members in Attendance

Commissioner Christine Hunschofsky
Commissioner Wesley Evans
Commissioner Clara Reynolds
Jacob Oliva
Carali McLean
Amy McClellan

Commissioner Kelly Gray-Eurom
Commissioner Ann Berner
Commissioner Wesley Evans
Melissa Jordan
Christine Cauffield

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from July 20, 2022, were motioned for approval by Clara Reynolds and seconded by Christine Cauffield. Minutes unanimously approved.

Interim Draft Report Discussion

Commissioner Berner – Master Client Index. Interesting discussion related to the Data Subcommittee and the expansive approach, excellent long-term solution. In the interim, may be beneficial to limit the scope and have a way of identifying individuals that cross systems. Master client index can help identify individuals that are failing in multiple systems and target those because 10% of our clients consume 80% of our funding. Even if it is just demographic records.

Commissioner Hunschofsky – It was a great discussion. There are medium and long-term goals, we can also do short-term goals. Goes back to the low hanging fruit where we can make changes that can make a big improvement over where we are today.

Metrics with Melissa Jordan. Having more coordinated metrics for all systems based upon outcomes as opposed to just input.

Melissa Jordan – Tried to capture the recommendation that we have a standardized, comprehensive approach to data metrics across systems. Thinking about quality of care and health outcomes.

Commissioner Reynolds – What are the next steps on that?



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Melissa Jordan – To establish a workgroup, probably individuals from the Data Subcommittee that could be a part of this. National benchmarks are important. A workgroup can dig into this topic.

Commissioner Hunschofsky – Basically we are recommending that another workgroup but put together to do this?

Melissa Jordan – I think a sub team. Because there are probably individuals having discussions in the Data Subcommittee and other groups that we might pull in.

Commissioner Hunschofsky – Are you suggesting instead of making this a recommendation to the Governor or Legislature, that this be a recommendation for the Commission to give a subcommittee to work on developing a recommendation on metrics?

Melissa Jordan - Thinking we have a standing recommendation for a workgroup to solidify metrics, but not necessarily have this worked out because that aligns with the master client index. Conversation that moves us forward will be based on the data and variables that we will be collecting to meet other recommendations.

Commissioner Hunschofsky – Will this workgroup be part of the Commission or separate from the Commission?

Melissa Jordan – Was thinking outside of the Commission with a core set of members coming together to operationalize this recommendation.

Commissioner Gray-Eurom – Can you give more detail on why you think this work would be better completed outside of the Commission?

Melissa Jordan – Not sure what recommendations might be coming from other subcommittees. If we have the authority to form an additional work group, we can do it under the Commission umbrella.

Commissioner Hunschofsky – Forming a separate workgroup as part of the Commission maybe something we can suggest. Asks DCF Staff Liaison to look into it.

Carali McLean – Medicaid expansion, proposing closing the coverage gap for young adults aged 18 to 26 who are not able to be on a parent's insurance. It is hard to get on Medicaid, we are proposing to expand the criteria so they would be eligible.

Commissioner Reynolds – 18 to 25 age range is a very vulnerable time. Particularly for behavioral health issues to emerge. For those who do not have coverage, it is incumbent



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upon the deeper end systems to manage that. In thinking about expansion, we are thinking about trying to start a pilot.

Amy McClellan – In support of the pilot. Would it be an extension of the children's Medicaid coverage, or would it fall under adults?

Carali McLean – I believe it would fall under adults. Was told this happened in Maine as a pilot and produced good results. We could try to get some data to show the outcome and cost benefit.

Christine Cauffield – This would be particularly helpful for kids aging out of the child welfare system.

Linda McKinnon – School coordination with managing entities. To ensure access to appropriate level of community behavioral health and, care coordination for children in high-risk school settings. Want global, uniform process that we can put in across the State to assure referral coordination and the collection of outcomes. Recommending outcomes for days in school and level of functioning.

Amy McClellan – For kids using substances in school, are they still treated punitively rather than offered treatment?

Linda McKinnon – Don't know how the schools deal with that issue.

Carali McLean – Expresses support on this.

Christine Cauffield – Expresses support. Advocates for treating the entire family and not just the child which does not happen at the school level.

Clara Reynolds – Managing entity pilot, implement a three-year pilot in which one managing entity manages all public behavioral health care funding in a single county. All funding from Department of Children and Families, safety net, child welfare, prevention, substance abuse and mental health, criminal justice funding, Department of Corrections, Department of Juvenile Justice, Medicaid managed care, local funding, county, city, children's services councils, independent taxing districts, etc.

Commissioner Evans – Supports this recommendation.

Amy McClellan – Would like to hear from the managing entities. This is a bold approach.

Christine Cauffield – This is what the managing entities were Legislatively mandated to perform but it has not happened. There is a lot of duplication in the current system. This is innovative and long overdue.



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Clara Reynolds – Florida Behavioral Health Association was instrumental in putting this together. We have to think boldly if we are going to move the system forward. The managing entity will be the one doing all the data collection and billing. The provider is freed up to just provide the service regardless of the funding source.

Review Forensic Recommendations

Commissioner Hunschofsky – We all were sent forensic recommendations and asked to review them to see if there was anything we felt belonged in the Business Operations Subcommittee. Does anyone think there is a forensic recommendation that should be in our committee?

Any other recommendations that anyone want to bring forth.

Ann Berner – I would like to send a review of the existing statutes that reference performance measures related to behavioral health. There may be value in reviewing reports the DCF prepares each year, i.e., the annual behavioral health assessment. This may be utilized by us to add to the performance measures or expectations that might cross systems. To the extent that we can identify areas in the law the needs to be changed we can build on that.

Commissioner Hunschofsky – Ask that we send out the forensic recommendations, the draft school services document from Linda McKinnon and the performance measurement statutes document from Ann Berner.

Wanted to get everyone's thoughts on legalizing the purchase of fentanyl test strips.

Commissioner Gray-Eurom – From a healthcare and quality perspective, if fentanyl were the only drug we were worried about, it would be a great idea but, there are so many synthetic drugs, in so many forms that will not be picked up by a fentanyl strip. It may give people a false sense of security.

Christine Cauffield – So many drugs are being laced with fentanyl but, I think it would be beneficial even if it saved one life.

In-Person Meeting October 18 and 19, 2002

Commissioner Hunschofsky – New dates for in-person meeting are October 18 and 19 in Tallahassee. Details regarding host site and hotel room block to be sent out soon.

Next Steps/Action Items

Commissioner Hunschofsky – Want recommendations in the most final version possible prior to the October in-person meeting. Therefore, Business Operations Subcommittee meetings have been scheduled for October 5th and October 11th. Before the 5th, want draft recommendations in their final form so we can hash out any questions or concerns.



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Public Comment

Jack Wood – Sent a document Commissioner Reynolds with a complete proposal to do the pilot in Lake and/or Sumpter County. States he has government support from Senator Baxley who wants to establish the pilot in Lake County because of the size and complexity of the county. I would like to send what I have to all of you.

Commissioner Hunschofsky – Absolutely. May be best to send it to Commissioner Reynolds so she can incorporate it into our recommendation.

Jack Wood – Has government support from politicians, Judges, Sheriffs, etc.

Closing Remarks

Commissioner Hunschofsky – Delivered closing remarks
Meeting adjourned a little after 10:00a.m.