



Commission on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder

Children and Youth Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2023

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Members

Jay Reeve, PhD
Chairperson

Representative Christine
Hunschofsky, Co-Chair
Speaker of the House Appointee

Senator Darryl Rouson
President of the Senate Appointee

Clara Reynolds, LCSW, MBA
Governor Appointee

Ann Berner
Speaker of the House Appointee

Doug Leonardo
President of the Senate

Sheriff William Prummell
Governor Appointee

Kathleen Moore, PhD
President of the Senate Appointee

Kelly Gray-Eurom, MD
Governor Appointee

Larry Rein
Governor Appointee

Chief Judge Mark Mahon
Governor Appointee

Melissa Larkin-Skinner
Speaker of the House Appointee

Lee Fox
President of the Senate Appointee

Shawn Salamida
Speaker of the House Appointee

Secretary Shevaun L. Harris
Department of Children and
Families

Secretary Jason Weida
Agency for Health Care
Administration

Uma Suryadevara, MD
Speaker of the House Appointee

Wesley Evans
President of the Senate
Appointee

Richard Weisberg, CRPS
President of the Senate
Appointee

Welcome/Call to Order:

Representative Christine Hunschofsky, Subcommittee Chair, opened the Children and Youth Subcommittee meeting and called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Commissioner Hunschofsky asked that Aaron Platt, Staff Liaison, proceed with roll call.

The following members or designees were in attendance:

Jay Reeve, PhD, Chairperson (Governor Appointee: Apalachee Center)
Representative Christine Hunschofsky (Speaker of the House Appointee)
Ronald Ficarrotta (Governor Appointee)
Larry Rein (Governor Appointee)
Peggy Aune, Subject Matter Expert
Maria Bledsoe, Subject Matter Expert
Heather Allman for Shila Salem (Subject Matter Expert)

Guest Presenter: Nicoleta Zenn, University of South Florida, Department of Mental Health Law and Policy, College of Behavioral and Community Sciences.

Business

Reimagining the Behavioral Health Care Workforce:

Nicoleta Zenn provided an overview of the University of South Florida's center for behavioral healthcare educational studies programs and the Bachelor of Science in Behavioral Health Care degree tract. Review USF's three concentrations, Applied Behavior Analysis, Children's Behavioral Healthcare and, Behavioral Healthcare Across the Life Span.

Discussion surrounding partnering with other colleges and universities, high schools and possibly certifications programs, workforce turnover, possibility of a state designated organization that regularly examines behavioral health care gaps, capacity, accessibility and need.

Peggy Aune will share Department of Education information surrounding career and adult education programs within Florida schools. This information will be shared with the subcommittee at a later date.

Interim Report Discussion – Preliminary Recommendations:

Therapeutic Group Care Recommendation

Commissioner Rein reviewed the Therapeutic Group Care draft recommendation but stressed therapeutic group care in just one piece of the statewide therapeutic residential treatment options, namely therapeutic foster care and the statewide inpatient psychiatric program. Discussion surrounding the different levels of oversight and funding and, reimbursement rates.



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Schools and Community Partners MOU Recommendation

Maria Bledsoe (Subject matter expert) reviewed the draft recommendation for improving care coordination between school districts and community behavioral health care providers. This draft recommendation promotes a memorandum of understanding between school districts and their local managing entity to address children and youth behavioral health concerns. The agreement should clearly define the scope of work, performance measures, referrals, and care coordination.

Discussion regarding the possibility of including recommendation for transportation of individuals subject to involuntary examinations and, improving public education and awareness of the behavioral health care system and doors to access.

Public Comments:

Shelley Katz (Lutheran Services Florida): A county (Gilchrist) within the LSF catchment area disbanded its school mental health services program in favor of school safety. Was that a district decision or Department of Education decision? Andrew Weatherill with the DOE will follow-up.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned.