



Commission on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Children and Youth Sub-Committee

Members

Jay Reeve, PhD
Chair

Representative Christine
Hunschofsky Co-Chair
Speaker of the House Appointee

Senator Darryl Rouson
President of the Senate Appointee

Clara Reynolds
Governor Appointee

Ann Berner
Speaker of the House Appointee

Richard Duggan
President of the Senate

Sheriff William Prummell
Governor Appointee

Dr. Kathleen Moore
President of the Senate Appointee

Dr. Kelly Gray-Eurom
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 Harris
Florida Department of Children
and Families

Secretary Jason Weida
Florida Agency for Health Care
Administration

Richard Weisberg
President of the Senate
Appointee

Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2024

9:00 am – 11:00 am

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Welcome/Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Commissioner Hunschofsky, Subcommittee Chair.

Roll call was taken by Aaron Platt.

The following members or designees were in attendance.

Representative Christine Hunschofsky, Subcommittee Chair

Jay Reeve, Commission Chair (Governor Appointee)

Larry Rein, (Governor Appointee)

Richard Duggan, (President of the Senate Appointee)

Peggy Aune, Subject Matter Expert

Austin Noll, Subject Matter Expert

Maria Bledsoe, Subject Matter Expert

Theresa Rulien, Subject Matter Expert

Leslie Lynch, Subject Matter Expert

Shila Salem, Subject Matter Expert

Amanda VanLaningham, Subject Matter Expert

Review and Approval of April 10, 2024 Meeting Minutes

A motion was entered to approve the April 10, 2024, minutes. The motion was carried. Minutes were approved with no opposition.

Commission Update

Commission Chair Jay Reeve provided a brief Commission update. The full commission in-person meeting is scheduled for August 20, 2024, in Orlando. The subcommittee should have recommendations to Aaron Platt by the end of July to ensure enough time for the preparation of meeting materials for the meeting. The next full Commission meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2024.

Access, Outcomes and Performance Measures in Children's Behavioral Health Services

Bill Hardin, Policies and Services Director for the Department of Children and Families-Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health presented on behalf of Deputy Assistant Secretary Shila Salem. Mr. Hardin provided information on the various entry points for children and families to access the behavioral health care system, the care coordination available upon entry and the importance of collecting and monitoring output, outcome, and performance measures.

School-Based Services Update

Austin Noll, Deputy Secretary of the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) provided a joint update for AHCA and the Florida Department of Education (DOE) on the 2022-2023 Medicaid reimbursement to public schools



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and revenue maximation information shared during the April 10, 2024 Children and Youth subcommittee meeting.

Austin Noll will send Aaron Platt a link that will allow individuals to follow the AHCA rule making process. Aaron will send the link out to subcommittee members.

Workgroup Report Outs

- Behavioral Health Outcomes Workgroup

Workgroup members presented on preliminary findings related to behavioral health outcomes, and measurements utilized by behavioral health providers and school districts. Preliminary findings may indicate behavioral health providers treating mental health and substance use disorders should implement a system of measurement-based care whereby validated symptom rating scales are completed.

There was discussion around the mandated utilization of functional assessment tools for children and adolescents. Leslie Lynch will send Austin Noll Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes that require the use of the Children's Functional Assessment Rating Scale (CFARS). The AHCA will research and inform the group of the results.

The two workgroups (Behavioral Health Outcomes and Behavioral Health Funding Mechanisms for Schools) will have a joint meeting to discuss the overlap of the topics being researched.

- Behavioral Health Funding Mechanisms for Schools Workgroup

Andrew Weatherill provided a brief update on the workgroup's first meeting. The group is examining a variety of funding mechanisms from the AHCA and the DOE that support behavioral health services and supports. Preliminary findings are forthcoming.

- Family Access and Entry Workgroup

Commissioner Rein provided an update for the workgroup. Workgroup members have participated in two meetings thus far and will meet weekly. The workgroup is currently identifying the key institutions that come into contact with families that may have behavioral health challenges and educating the staff. The workgroup is also identifying single points to send families within the institutions and single points in the behavioral healthcare system that will assist families with navigating the system. The hope is that assessments or screenings can be available at the touch points to identify potential behavioral healthcare challenges. Chair Reeve offered to recommend a member to join the group with experience in the rural areas.

Public Comment

Kamaya from Safe Homes for Youth Alliance requested resources and/or suggestions for opening a residential treatment program. She was provided the email information for SAMH staff member Aaron Platt.

Closing Remarks

Subcommittee Chair Hunschofsky provided closing remarks.



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Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:47 am.