

Children's Issues Committee, September 18, 2018, 1:00pm

Children's Administrators Forum Update – Gwenda Summers – CEI

Gwenda reviewed the minutes from the June, July and September meetings. These were distributed to the group in the packet of materials. Gwenda stated that in June, a presentation on CBAT was given. She stated that July saw an update on data for PSP (Parent Support Partners). She then stated that pilots are going well for TFCO (Therapeutic Foster Care – Oregon). She gave details on the September meeting as well, which were included in the minutes of the packet. Gwenda reported that the CAF is sending out a survey, which was sent to Children's Administrators for feedback. Mental Health Wellness Initiative will be discussed next month, with Project AWARE and eating disorders coming after that.

DHHS Updates – Kim Batsche-McKenzie (MDHHS), Sheri Falvay (MDHHS)

Sheri reported that the Division of Mental Health Services to Children & Families will be moving back to the Behavioral Health Developmental Disabilities Administration side from the Child Welfare side, as of October 1, 2018. Their role has been to provide policy and services to children with emotional disorders, and they need to be connected to the entity that coordinates that within the system. Their role is to provide this to all children, not just those in the Child Welfare system, so the move made sense.

Sheri stated that Psychiatric beds have been hard to obtain, with a bed open, but a child has a severe behavioral issue, and that Hawthorn has had children who were ready for discharge but cannot get discharged due to no placement with their severe behavioral issues. She reported that the Department sees a gap in their service array, and they would like to develop smaller, community-based treatment settings around the state, called Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTF). They are in the process of developing these facilities, with contracts being developed for technological support. Discussions are ongoing for this.

Sheri stated that the Licensing Act 116 regarding Children's Therapeutic Group Home (6 beds or less) is being reviewed and worked on with LARA to include the verbiage of imminent danger which is part of the Behavioral Treatment Review Policy. Sheri stated that they are hoping to get this introduced as Legislation yet this year. Sheri stated that this would be a Medicaid covered service.

Sheri stated that Juvenile Competency trainings were coming up in Gaylord (10/10), Lansing (10/11), and Detroit on (10/12).

Sheri stated that they applied for a SAMHSA grant for Healthy Transitions, and they did get the grant. It is for youth transitioning to adults. Transition Independence Program will be the EBP. Sites are Kalamazoo and Kent counties.

Kim reported that there are Parent Support Partner trainings coming up. She asked anyone who may be doing intense crisis stabilization and Peer Support be identified to her.

She stated that there will be a group meeting about this on October 5, 2018 from 9am to 11am.

TDCO – 2 sites are ready to move into implementation phase (The Children's Center and CEI). Looking for new site next year. New site would need to have volume for 10 children.

Autism Update & Discussion with Lisa Grost (MDHHS)

Lisa Grost spoke about Autism budgeting. She stated that DHHS is continuing with capitation and the rates have been set. BH Tech level was \$55/hr, but that has been reduced to \$50/hr. Lisa stated that a Legislative workgroup will be put together to review misuse, overdiagnosis, and other topics. This will be formed in January after November elections with new legislation coming in.

Lisa then spoke about the continued growth of ABA. Currently there are 5,878 youth approved to receive ABA services. Of those, 2,101 are aged 5 and under; 2,914 are aged 6-13; and 863 are aged 14-20. She stated that the Department is aware of the issue of Capacity. Also, the number of Certified Behavior Analysts has risen from 118 to 786. There are 100 contracted Autism service providers in the State, and there is now an ABA Provider Directory, which is sorted by Regions. There are 10 Universities within the State of Michigan that offer ABA degrees.

Lisa spoke about the Evaluator survey and training assessment. She reviewed the results of this survey, stating that there are 175 evaluators in the state, of which 44 were Supervisors. They found that 50% of parents were not receiving face-to-face sessions after evaluations for ASD. Also, the need for a list of statewide evaluators was identified, as well as the need to develop and disseminate best-practice and guidance documents.

Group discussed why the rates were capitated.

Legislative Update – Alan Bolter

Alan stated that after the elections in November, the Association will be watching minimum wage legislation, which was pre-empted last month, and will affect the Direct Care Worker wage issue. The Association will be meeting with multiple legislators to remind them that if this passes there is a Medicaid cost increase that goes along with this, and that must be funded. The association will push for a wage scale increase, not just a XX cents per hour increase.

Alan stated that there will be 2 supplemental budgets during Lame Duck. He stated that school safety saw \$30 Million advocated for that, and the Association is going to try to push for BH intervention teams, etc. He reported that the Association is going to continue to tell all Legislators to NOT allow major changes to go through regarding the 298 issue as there is no reason to turn everything upside down with 2am decisions. Group discussed what possibly could happen to by-pass waivers during the Lame Duck session such as the Mental Health Code, Social Welfare Act and local governmental changes that could affect the waiver approval process.

Alan spoke about the recommendations that came from the Gun Violence workgroup of the Association, such as early intervention, expulsions, and counselors in schools.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20pm.