

Children's Issues Committee, March 13, 2018, 1:00pm

Children's Administrators Forum Update – Regina Demetrakeas (AuSable)

Regina reviewed the minutes from the February 9, 2018 and March 9, 2018 meetings that were distributed to the group. She gave details of upcoming speakers and possible future topics. Inpatient psychiatric bed access was highlighted topic of discussion. Stress among staff as a result of Emergency Services was also a dominant topic of discussion. Group had no questions after the review of both sets of minutes.

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

Kim stated that they are reviewing Mobile Crisis applicants. Letters were sent to PIHPs of which sites were selected approx. 3 weeks ago. Those applicants who are uncertain should check with their PIHPs for clarification. Kim stated that they needed specifics of how this Mobile Unit would be activated and who would be on the teams – more practical information – specific details of that nature is what the Department was looking for in these applications. Kim stated that the models submitted varied widely. Group discussed what other counties were doing in this field, and how they were funding this. Sheri Falvay suggested funding from other Partner Agencies as one alternative, but other members stated that this is not always an available funding method, stating that the CMHs won't turn those away who do not have insurance, even though this is Medicaid funded program. Group requested that if/when a rural model has been shown to be effective, please send information on that model to urban areas throughout the state. If any site applicants have questions, email Kim. Kim then reported that CAFAS and PECFAS are now owned by a Canadian company called Multi Health Systems. There was a conference call between Kim's department and Multi Health. Kim stated that those who have questions/input around FAS system should contact her and Kim will help to coordinate that. Kim stated that Treatment Foster Care – Oregon project has identified 2 providers, The Children's Center and the CMH of Clinton Eaton and Ingham Counties (CEI). A Project Coordinator has been hired, and 2 pilots are being created, with teams being trained at this time. This will be a 6-9 Month treatment intervention for 7-11 year olds with an after care family to return to. Implementation should be by July of this year. Group discussed details of funding (through grants with Wayne State University) and if it was SED Waiver approved. Kim stated it was not... it was Treatment Foster Care – Oregon approved. Group then discussed the difference between what is required and what is evidence-based, as well as the difference between this project and the Children's Therapeutic Foster Care Homes. Group asked if the Pilot process will show what the added costs are. Kim stated that this project is designed to track the startup costs and also, the increases in Medicaid covered costs and out of Medicaid covered costs. Jane Shank (ACMH) gave details of the next Children's Mental Health Awareness Day. It will be held on May 8th from 9:00am to 11:30am at the Speaker's Library, Capital Building. This celebration goes back almost 30 years. It will hopefully inform Legislators and their aide's about the life of children and their families living with Mental Health issues.

Sheri Falvay stated that a Juvenile Competency Training for Forensic Examiners was being given later this week. Currently 30 attendees are registered. As a result of a statute passed roughly 6 years ago, the CMHs must track the number of children who are found not competent by these trained Forensic Examiners. Sheri stated that they are working with the BH TEDS folks to try to capture this data. Sheri then spoke about the Mental Health Child Welfare Leadership Forum held in November of 2017. She stated that a memo was sent to CMH and PIHP Directors with the summary of themes and recommendations resulting from this forum. It was sent approx. 2 weeks ago to that group. She reported that blended funding to maximize resources for services to children was an area of focus. Examples of this were presented by Connie Conklin and others, at a meeting held last week. Sheri spoke about programs the Department is working with to ensure this blended funding is put into motion. Sheri stated that the discussion of barriers stemming from transitioning youth out of foster care into the community was a topic of discussion currently in the Child Welfare Department. Child Welfare licensing does not see any licensing issues but will check with LARA. Also, Child Welfare licensing will look into whether or not this may be a payment issue.

Legislative Update – Alan Bolter

Alan Bolter reviewed details of the Governor's proposed budget for FY19. He stated that today is the last budget hearing in the House and the Senate before they vote out their versions of the budget. He reported that the budget proposed is kind of "flat", with the exception of Autism services. FY18 saw a proposed amount of \$105 Million, and then a jump to \$199 Million for FY19. The Senate may convene an Autism hearing during April for the Legislators to find out why the dramatic increase in this line. Alan stated that feedback from our members will be invaluable. The Autism Council has reached out to us for support in this area. The need for the increase is there, we just have to explain that to the Legislators. With services expanded from 0-5, to 0-21, costs have tripled across the board. Group continued to discuss the funding surrounding this issue. Alan stated that the final version of the budget should be voted out by June. He stated that the DAB Issue, Direct Care Wage Issue and several others have been the focus of the Association most recently. Alan then reported that the House CARES Task Force recommendations were released, and several bills have been proposed and seen some action as a result of those recommendations. He reviewed several House Bills and their progress, including HB 5085, 5439, 5460, 5461, 5524, 5487 and HB package 5450-5452. Summary of these bills will be emailed to the group. The Association is watching which bills to support, which not to support, and which may adversely affect the Behavioral Health System. Alan stated that he and Bob Sheehan met with Representative Canfield today regarding an update on the Hawthorn Center and the restraint and seclusion bill. He stated that Dr. Mello and Lynda Zeller gave an update at this meeting regarding the needs around the state. Alan spoke about the Op-Ed the Association has released regarding gun violence. Group discussed details of what policy actions are coming from this topic being in the forefront of peoples' thoughts.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30pm.