



Meeting Minutes of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment May 18, 2022

Attendees:

Greg Hoffman, Jeremiah Samples, Dora Radford, Brian Gallagher, Deb Koester, Carly Glover, Keith King, Steven Koehler, Justin Smith, Dr. Christiansen, Gary Krushansky, Heather McDaniel, Dr. Kilkenny, Brian Gallagher, Dr. Petrany, Dr. Moran, Betsy Jividen, Nick Stuchell, Thomas Plymale, Sheila Reynolds, Jostin Holmes, Dr. Kilkenny, Amy Saunders, Chad Napier, Martha White, Lyn O'Connell, Jon Dower, Stephanie Thornton, Melanie Purkey and Jessica Smith

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment was called to order at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 by the Chair. The meeting was conducted by Zoom conference. Quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes

The Chair entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2022 meeting. Council Member O'Connell moved the acceptance, which Council Member Napier seconded. The motion was adopted.

Agenda Items

Medicaid 1115 Waiver Update - Keith King

Keith King of West Virginia Medicaid provided the Council an update on the SUD 1115 Waiver (Waiver). Mr. King first provided the Council with an overview and history of the Waiver and the increasing progression of activities covered.

Medicaid is now developing its next five-year plan for the Waiver to include 11 new services and expansion of several existing services including but not limited to: adding Peer Recovery Support Specialists (PRSS) residential treatment, rapid MAT induction, contingency management (CM) Services, residential treatment for people with serious mental illness (SMI). When the Waiver ends, services are put into a state plan amendment and reimbursed through that mechanism.

Jeremiah Samples, Senior Advisor to the West Virginia Legislature's Joint Committee on Government and Finance requested data on how many West Virginians had served under the Waiver. He further requested data showing how many of those served under the Waiver had ended up in the penal system, had children removed, or died of fatal overdose.

The Council discussed the pay for performance model established under Senate Bill 419 and its effects on the Waiver. Mr. King reported that it will be navigated through contractual issues between the Bureau for Medical Services and the Managed Care Organizations.

Office of Drug Control Policy updates - Dr. Matthew Christiansen, Director

Dr. Matthew Christiansen presented a brief powerpoint outlining current updates for the Office of Drug Control Policy.

Agency SUD related updates

Bureau for Behavioral Health (BBH)

BBH has been working on responses for the Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Resources Accountability (LOCHHRA) and drafting criteria for the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics.

Senior Advisor Samples began a discussion surrounding a recent report ranking West Virginia 48th for those suffering from SUD (SA Samples was to share a copy of the report). It was estimated that between sixty and one hundred thousand individuals were suffering with an SUD. There appeared to be good availability for Medicaid-reimbursed beds.

Bureau for Public Health

No new updates.

Bureau for Medical Services

No new updates.

Department of Homeland Security

No new updates.

Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DOCR)

DOCR had secured its new medical contract with Wexford. Wexford along with ODCP and BBH would be partnering to discuss roll out of services under the new contract.

Discussion was had on starting sublocade services under the new contract. Volunteers were going to go in and help with prescribing at Northern to quickly begin services. Much of the sublocade was paid for by grants. Sublocade would also help prevent overdose in those leaving corrections. Councilmember O'Connell emphasized that the individuals participating in this program need to receive follow-up care. Medicaid has relaxed some of its pre-authorization requirements. Any provider could write for sublocade quickly and in an emergency, a sublingual sublocade could be used.

Commissioner Jividen discussed the continuing role stigma plays in medications for Opioid Use Disorder in corrections. DOCR was using evidence-based anti-stigma programs to combat this in its GOALS and RSAT units.

Education

No new updates.

Senior Advisor Samples began a discussion on the recent HIV outbreak in Cabell County. Councilmember Kilkenny who also serves as the Chief Executive Officer and Health Officer for the Cabell County Health Department discussed the extended time for validation of their current public health strategies. They were able to validate that lack of testing during COVID was a factor. They had increased testing and expected better numbers in the 2nd quarter of 2022. Councilmember Kilkenny also discussed the need for Syringe Services Programs.

Jeremiah question for Dr. Kilkenny - HIV outbreak - current strategie are taking longer to validate an increase, lack of testing during covid, have increased testing and confirmed what they suspected during covid, expats better numbers in second quarter 2022; discussion of need for SSPs

Adjournment - Dr. Matthew Christiansen

The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. Council Member Berry moved and Council Member Plymale seconded the motion. The motion was adopted and the meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.