

**Professional Advisory Committee
of the
Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS)
New Jersey Department of Human Services
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Location: Monmouth County Human Services Building, Kozloski Road,
Freehold, NJ

Date: July 17, 2015

Attendance: Camille Bloomberg, LeeAnn Cianci, Tony Comerford, Benjamin John Gonzalez, Connie Greene, Manual Guantez, Jean Hennon, Barry Johnson, Kendria McWilliams, Michael Paoello, Dharmesh Parikh, Jas Pelland, Vera Sansone, Michael Santillo, Barbara Schlichting, Sue Seidenfeld, Dinita Smith, Linda Voorhis, Donald Weinbaum, Ernesine Winfrey

State Staff: Andrea Connor, Jean DeVitto, Vicki Fresolone, Nancy Hopkins, Brian Regan, Harry Reyes, Patrick Roff, Dona Sinton, Irina Stuchinsky, Catherine Vahey, Laurie Woodward

Guests: Gary Abraham, Tonia Ahern, Nick Armenti, Shauna Moses, Debra Wentz

Chairperson Barbara Schlichting called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and welcomed all; self-introductions were made.

IME Discussion

IME launched

Vicki thanked Nick and Manny from UBHC. The participants had a discussion on how well the launch went. A few concerns but overall things went very smoothly. DMHAS received positive feedback from PAC members.

The participants who participated in the Readiness Review simulated calls and the problems were fixed prior to the launch.

- Consent form- an information sheet for clients will be developed by DMHAS. It will be helpful if clients need further referral. Clients will sign consent form at intake. Presently UBHC gets oral consent for referral.
- IME is getting about 300 calls a day consisting of consumer calls, provider calls, administrative calls and other calls.
- UBHC has instructed their staff to be explicit in NJSAMS notes.
- Previous hot line calls are transferred to UBHC.
- **PROVIDERS** use 844-276-2444 to call IME about issues.

- **NO authorizations** for **BLOCK** grant assessments are going through the IME.
- **NO authorizations** for assessment for Medicaid and ABP go through the IME.
- **All providers need to become Medicaid providers.**

IME Administrative Trainings

- 7 trainings were held throughout the state in advance of the launch. The participants reported it to be a positive training experience
- Access to client information - only information that is relative to the provider agency is available.

SCMS

- Targets referrals to providers
- Do not keep clicking on the on the available/occupied on a slot in the system this will shut down the system.
- Check the agency address on SCMS
- Note section has been added- providers can put notes into this section for the IME.
- Women's set aside will be programed in next week.
- O/P providers only need to click yes or no for availability.
- At present there is no way to know if the update has been verified by SCMS. UBHC is working on this.

PAC Business

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the June 19, 2015 PAC meeting were approved as submitted.

Lynn Kovich: Today is Lynn's last meeting she is taking a new position out of DMHAS at TAC. Lynn thanked all the providers for their hard work and the work they do for our clients. The PAC members thanked Lynn for her willingness to listen to the providers, and face the challenges head on.

Supportive Housing Options: A presentation on supportive housing was provided (see attached power point)

- There are different models available some require a person to be sober others do not. Harm reduction is an option, the housing first model i.e. if a person has permanent housing they can get sober.
- Licensing issues are a dilemma. DCA regulates licensing. A very vibrant discussion ensued on supportive housing, sober housing, licensing, actual houses, voucher programs etc. We need more discussion on this issue.

There is no meeting in August. Next meeting is September 18, 2015. It will be an IME and PAC meeting.