

**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: May 16, 2015

Attendance: LeeAnn Cianci, Tony Comerford, Benjamin Gonzalez, Connie Greene, Manuel Guantez, Jean Hennon, Barry Johnson, Deborah McKinley, Kendria McWilliams, Alan Oberman, Michael Paoello, Dharmesh Parikh, Jass Pelland, Vera Sansone Michael Santillo, Barbara Schlichting, Dinita Smith, Linda Voorhis, Donald Weinbaum, Ernestine Winfrey

State Staff: Adam Bucon, Andrea Connor, Kathy Goat Delgado, Nancy Hopkins, Brian Regan, Dona Sinton, Catherine Vahey, Carol Grant, Valerie Harr, Roxanne Kennedy, Irina Stuchinsky, Steven Tunney

Guests: Gary Abraham, Bob Kley, Deb Wentz, Shauna Moses, Nick Armenti, Chris Kosseff, Adam Levinson, Rosemarie Rosati

Chairperson Barbara Schlichting called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m. and welcomed all; self-introductions were made.

IME Discussion

NJSAMS

- Brian Regan gave an update of NJSAMS IME functions.
 - Testing started in April, there are 462 test cases to be completed. We are on schedule with the testing.
 - Brian thanked the providers who have volunteered to test. We know that this has been hard work and there was one glitch that made NJSAMS unavailable. Providers requested additional testing time. Brian agreed to an extended testing period.
 - Jean commended DMHAS staff for their responsiveness
Brian is confident the one-month training test period can begin as planned on June 1.
 - There will soon be a FAQ section on the NJSAMS home page.
 - There will be a NJSAMS manual distributed at the IME trainings.
 - We are on target for the official launch date of July 1.

- Alan Oberman suggested a “help section” on each NJSAMS page.
- Vicki Fresolone said IME and IT full-day trainings (800 slots) will take place: There will be seven (7) training days in June; trainings will be taped by DMHAS.
 - A. June 8 and 24 --- UBHC, Piscataway
 - B. June 9 and 15 --- Hamilton
 - C. June 10 and 25 --- Morris Police Academy
 - D. June 29 --- Burlington Human Services Building

Service Capacity Management System (SCMS) Demonstration

- Adam Levinson conducted a power point demonstration about the system and answered questions about them. Providers will be asked to update the status of their available slots on a daily basis.
 - There will be an on-line testing area where people may “practice.”
 - SCMS training will be incorporated in the provider trainings indicated above.

Readiness Review Overview

- Vicki Fresolone said the UBHC readiness review will begin on June 22.
- Vicki invited agencies taking part in NJSAMS testing to be part of the readiness review
- She encouraged providers to think about most frequent issues in the intake process so that these can be used as test cases.
- As a feedback loop, DMHAS will send to PAC members a list of questions, issues and concerns prior to readiness review initiation; the PAC should discuss these at an Interim PAC meeting specifically for this purpose to be held prior to the June 19 scheduled PAC meeting.
- May trainings for the screening tool using ASAM criteria is now closed (300 people)
- Barbara suggested DMHAS consider more of this training in July and August.

Satisfaction Surveys (Client and IME)

- Vicki said:
 - UBHC will continue use of its own caller satisfaction survey.
 - DMHAS will develop a provider survey of the IME process. Vicki asked for volunteers for reviewing and commenting on the survey when it is completed. Vera Sansone and Barbara Schlichting volunteered. If you are interested, contact Dona Sinton.

Jess Pelland asked “What do we do if the system goes down? Is there back-up provision?”

- DMHAS will offer more generous time for completion of forms (as it now does)
- Agency may call UBHC to secure authorizations and approvals.
- Vicki said DMHAS will address this issue in the upcoming training

Rate Schedule by Service Code –

- Vicki said:
 - The new rate schedule is not yet ready for review.

- Discussion about this matter is scheduled for the Interim PAC meeting to take place on May 29
- When the PAC has weighed in, any concerns or issues will be addressed and then the rate schedule will go to the full provider community

Subcommittees

- **Assessment**: No feedback received (following Jean Hennon's mailing). Vicki said that the three previously-received recommendations is enough information for DMHAS consideration
 - Vicki said Dr. Hoffman will be in New Jersey during September; he will discuss LOCI results that link directly to diagnostic code.
- **Sliding Scale Fee**: Working internally on the policy resulting from the work of the DHS staff and the subcommittee will discuss at June 19 PAC meeting; these will be guidelines (not prescriptive); proposed effective date will be 1/1/2016.
 - Gary Abraham expressed concern about retroactive authorizations for services
- Vicki reported that DMHAS is developing a marketing plan for promoting the UBHC telephone number. DMHAS will ask provider agencies to incorporate the UBHC telephone number on agency voice mail messages. The number will released soon.

PAC Business

Approval of April Minutes: The minutes of the April 17, 2015 PAC meeting were approved as submitted.

PAC DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

FFS Cutover: Nancy Hopkins reported that effective May 19th (across all fee-for-service initiatives), authorization for residential packages of 25 and 30 days will be temporarily suspended through June 30, 2015; 7-day and 13-day authorizations will be available.

All authorizations end on June 30, 2015 and will automatically regenerate for balance of approved authorized time. DMHAS will issue a communication later today about these dates. DUII authorizations for detox and rehab are now closed; there is need to re-encumber some of these funds; \$1.5 million is now encumbered.

ASO/MBHO: Vicki said:

- The Request For Proposal for an ASO is cancelled.
- Medicaid is reviewing other options in the future to manage funds.
- IME will provide “non-risk” managed services for addictions for approximately two years (1/1/2016-12/31/2017).
- “While ASO RFP died, rate changes have not been dropped.”

- DMHAS expects to publish consultant Myers & Stauffer proposed rates in summer/autumn, 2015.
- On January 1, 2016, UBHC will begin management of mental health Community Support Services (CSS).
- Some of the cost of the IME (UBHC) is being covered by federal CMS funds.
- COLA: DHS-administered funds of 0.5% for direct service staff: 1/1/2015-6/30/2015.

Transition of the CWRP Treatment Services to DCF

Barbara Schlichting briefly reviewed a power point handout describing the Substance Use Disorder treatment services being provided now by the N.J. Department of Children and Families.

SAMHSA MAT Application: Suzanne Borys said DMHAS applied for federal funds from SAMHSA (\$1 million per year for three years) for MAT services to three targeted counties (Essex, Monmouth and Ocean). The proposal includes a lot of recovery supports. NJ hopes to receive a funding award, although 39 states were eligible.

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.