



**Behavioral Health Task Group
Meeting Minutes**

March 16, 2018

9:30 am to 11:00 am

Thurman Adams State Service Center, N. Entrance
546 S. Bedford Street, Georgetown, DE 19947

Mission: *The Behavioral Health Task Group is an inclusive & collaborative group focused on providing education, service expansion and advocacy to ensure that all Sussex County residents have access to quality mental/behavioral health services.*

Dashboard:

1. Access to Mental Health Services for Children and Youth and increased access to treatment and support for Adults.
2. Decrease in Overdose deaths and increased policies that address the addiction epidemic
3. 3rd Grade Reading Levels and Increased Graduation Rates

IMPACT - Increased access and support to mental health and addictions services for children, youth and families in Sussex County

Meeting called to Call to Order by Kym Alvarado. She asked committee members to review the minutes. Motion to approve the minutes by Janet Urdahl, motion was seconded by Carrie Snyder. Minutes were approved with one minor change, La Red received 175K grant not 75K. Cheryl asked the committee member to read the minutes prior to coming to the meeting, we will no longer have print copies available starting August 2018. Agendas and minutes are available from the SCHC website.

Attendees: Kym Alvarado, Jenna Montalbano, Carrie Snyder, Lynne Betts, Michael Betts, Johana Thomas, Quiana Dorn, Jim Purcell, Angelic Pariseau, James Larks, Annie Caswell, Janet Urdahl, Jason Coleman, Liam (intern), Angelic Pariseau, James Larks, Amy Hurley, Tina Moyer, John Richter, Catherine Sharkey, Desiree Francis, Kim Jones, Adam Smiles, Jennifer Showers, Rosanne Faust, Joan Gleckel, Kim Blanch, Robert Dunleavy, Peggy Geisler, Cheryl Doucette, Lisa Coldiron, Nancy Burris

Action Items:

If SCHC is the sponsor for Delaware State Fair, Healthy Kids Day, John Richter, Veterans Administration would like to have a table.

Bob Dunleavy promised that he will have an Administrator attending these meetings on a regular basis.

Bob Dunleavy/Kym Alvarado will invite a peer mentor to present this group.

Bob Dunleavy will invite Mary Moore, expert in early child resources, to present on services for younger children and experts in early child care.

Follow up with Kym Alvarado on Rocky (resource to come in and asses kids at home)

SCHC will show committee members SCHC website at a future meeting (May @ Delaware Hospice Center)

SCHC to work with Kym to have some division staff specialists present to this committee. On Going

Desiree Francis to send SCHC information on RESTART Program.

Committee members were asked to come next month prepared to share and address committee goals.

SCHC will work with Rosanne Faust to update the committee at a future meeting on Transportation issues for Sussex County. SCHC has a resource list as well and will share it with Rosanne. Rosanne Faust will present in May to BHTG.

Kym will email Rosanne her transportation resource list.

Guest Speaker: Bob Dunleavy, Division Director for Prevention and Behavioral Health Services

PHONE: Email: Robert.Dunleavy@state.de.us

HUB of services of State services, looking to be a bigger part of all three counties.

Tina Fountain has been asked to attend this meeting on a regular basis. Division isn't going to embark on new issues.

Division Goal: look at what is currently available and boost those programs. Get Back to Basics. Have as many community-based services available to kids in a timely way. He wants to get a real sense how can this division can be a better partner with BHTG? Shared some concerns that Beebe Health Care shared at a recent meeting.

Lack of treatment providers, lack of services for kids under age 5 in Kent/Sussex. Mobile crisis services needed. Keep kids out of the ER as much as possible, treat the kids in the community. ER is not equipped to treat kids. Greater collaboration in Kent/Sussex County. Private insurance holders have fewer choices to treat their kids, lacking resources. Responsibility of the insurance company to provide resources/providers. This division tries to support the family advocating better resources for private insurance holders. Superior benefits for kids of public social services over private insurance benefits. State of DE can't subsidize for private insurance holders.

He would like to have a discussion, on what the division if anything can do.

Q: On the issue of coordination/collaboration, what role does your division provide? Training is high on the list. Division can act as coordinator to bring resources together. BHTG is a good community collaborator. What are easy fixes, what are long time goals? How can we scale some of your best practices to bring to the landscape of need? Peggy updated the group on SUN treatment options.

Really young children need resources. How do we advocate for this? Day treatment programs were available years ago, now most have gone away due to lack of funding. Currently there are two schools in Sussex one in Blades, one in Woodbridge they only classrooms that offer support for very young children. Insurance companies are having issue paying for day treatment located in the schools. School staff may not be prepared to handle the issues, need more intense training. What are these pilot schools facing, what are their barriers, can the program be duplicated in other schools? Providers need to have a better understanding of the issues that younger kids face. Take an integrated services approach, school wellness centers need to have a more holistic approach for younger kids. Therapeutic nurseries. SBMHC, has brought in providers to help the kids get treatment sooner. Still lacking resources for K, 1, 2 grades.

Schools, mental health providers and the family need to work together, without a partnership, kids may fall through the cracks. Parents have a hard time using the right language (diagnosis) to "work" the system so private insurance companies cover the needed services. Long wait times to see providers.

Delaware is behind supporting younger kids. Not enough highly trained providers to treat the kids. When schools identify kids that may need assistance, parent can refuse treatment. Once parent refused treatment, the school can't take any further action unless, abuse or neglect is an issue. Pennsylvania has alternative school options. SCOPE/Carver are alternative schools here but there needs to be an educational reason to get in. Carver has redone their whole model. SCHC has provided funding with Carver/Dr. Mullen has worked with Carver as well. Training is important for all teachers, do we need to work with Dept of Education, every teacher should be well versed in ACES (adverse childhood experiences).

What do you see in your office? Do you treat younger kids, no? Private paid insurance blocks treatment. SCHC can advocate.

Janet Urdahl, Sussex county has good collaborative services. There is no territory. Currently behavioral consultant in every school in Delaware. Moving forward putting more private clinicians into the schools. La Red, Dover Behavioral Health can come into the schools. La Red treats kids 3 years or older, you can refer to Janet, call her anytime for resources. Most providers may lack the skill set to work with the younger kids— providers will work with providers – not the younger kids. Resources are in Sussex and are being utilized. How do we align, tighten up relationships and strengthen alliances? Division has Prevention programs out there. How to access those programs? Need to be more

user friendly, providers and public need to know about the programs. Prevention services has names, but no contact phone numbers. Bob agreed that the resources need to be more user friendly. Needs to be integrated more and be more known as a community resources. Bob stated supporting champions for children Mentors/Parents advocacy group. Recruit parents that have gone through the system, (parents that needed services for their kids). Parents are trained, once trained, match with other parents to help them navigate the system to advocate services for the kids.

Can we access information on the website, HELP IS HERE website, is evolving is now more user-friendly. SCHC is linked to HELP IS HERE as well with SCHC website.

Ongoing issues moving from child services to adult services. This should be an easy fix, communication is key. Transition from child services to adult services often results in loss of provided services. Also, the now "new adult" can decline services, treatment. Lots of services children qualify for are not available to adults.

Lots of concern for Autism kids. Hospitals won't take these kids. Are there beds available for Autism kids? New initiative, new desire to finally decide who does what. Last MOU was more generic (signed in 2006). Widening gap, now better at identifying Autism kids. Plan in the works to define who does what. Q: what do you recommend to address current situations? State needs to step in to provide treatment guidelines. Previously we only have a few kids, and those kids fell under school responsibility. Medicaid and uninsured population need resources. Children and Families First home program does have experience treating kids with Autism. Their program is already in place maybe an easy transition for CFF.

Behavioral Health Consortium meets next Friday, Cheryl will update after this committee next meeting.

Cheryl asked Annie, if there is any update on forced continuation of meds for vets. Not at this time.

Meet the funder Update: May 22, 1-3 pm, one representative per agency, please register. Funders are not normally included in the planning process. Opportunity to have a one on one conversation with the funder. You can ask the funder what outcomes they want? Peggy's goal, share how to work with my funder and create the best outcomes for the funding?

Seaford Goes Purple, Highmark funding received, Peggy is looking to match Highmark Funding and DSAMH grant. How to align our common goals, get treatment, prevention program so kid doesn't start to use any drug. People need to know where to go, how to be involved, and how to support the campaign. Looking to get Theron to speak to groups. If you want to be involved, let SCHC know. We have a logo, sponsorship packages are in the works, can be duplicated by city and county. Reproduce what Talbot County did. CAST Tool will be used, just signed a contract. Will drill down in Seaford Landscape. Lots of stuff popping up in Sussex, are they the right resources? CAST will help us prepare. What is the problem, what are the resources?

April 19th, next quarterly meeting. 8:30 am – 11:00, behavioral health main topic of meeting. Pre-Register. July quarterly meeting CAST will share their findings with SCHC community.

Partner Updates:

RESTART program is being using at the hospital 4-6 weeks home assistance. HELP is here cards are being redone. If your organization is interested in printing these off, we will share the template for you to print, changing design color. Rosanne Faust, May speaker. Her task is working on the transportation in Sussex County, she will partner with anyone. If people can't get to the appointment they can't receive the treatment. Kym will email her list that she has. Transportation needs to be put back on the person that is asking for it. Have accountability and responsibility on the part of the client. Needs to be easy to access. SCHC did a transportation study.

Jim Purell, Dover Behavioral Health, will be doing an assessment of providers.

Jenna, First workshop April 7th for kids, Newark, DE. In Plain Site, donation of a trailer decorated by recovering addicts.

Kim Jones, new to this meeting. Gaudenzia, drug and alcohol program 18-26 free. Received 75K grant from Highmark, women's center. New Journey (4-6 months, could take a while, does not discharge any client until they have a save

place to go to). One client was there for 18 months until all facets were in place. Keeping them safe in a sober environment.

Gee you Will ... women's retreat in Georgetown, this weekend. If you have any information to share with Lynne, she will include with the participant welcome bags.

New Business tabled until next month due to time issues of meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: Next Meeting, April 20, 9:30 am to 11:00, Thurman Adams Service Center.