

Meeting Summary/Minutes
Family First | Fiscal and Revenue Enhancement Workgroup
March 30, 2021 | 1:30 - 3:00 pm | MS Teams Meeting

Welcome and Introduction

- The workgroup was informed that this will probably be the last standing meeting, but there will still be more work to do.
- The co-leads, Cindy Butterfield and Allison Blake, will review the results of the Governance Committee meeting on 3/16.
- We will also cover next steps and possible opportunities.

Governance Committee Outcomes

- The Governance Committee reviewed the Evidence-Based Programs (EBPs) that have been analyzed and moved forward by Programs and Service Array (PSAWG) and Fiscal. They were compared across programmatic and fiscal criteria by group.
 - First group: PCIT, MST, BSFT*, FFT, MDFT, TF-CBT
 - All of the above programs were approved by Governance for inclusion.
 - There are good opportunities to claim on some of these services.
 - We can claim for 100% reimbursement until September, which gives us a leg up since many are services the Department already provides.
- *BSFT is not currently available in CT.
- Second group: MI, MMT
 - Neither of these programs were approved for inclusion.
 - MMT is covered by Medicaid and would not make fiscal sense to include.
 - MI has many variations in CT, whereas the Clearinghouse version is narrower. Based on this and the current reimbursement we receive, it does not make sense to include.
 - Third group: HFA, NFP, PAT, Triple P
 - All of the above programs were approved by Governance for inclusion.
 - HFA, NFP, and PAT are currently funded by the Office of Early Childhood (OEC), so the Department is in talks with them to determine what opportunities might be available and whether we may be able to do some early claiming.

Impact on Fiscal and Revenue

- The Department can receive up to 50% reimbursement on the cost of services above the Maintenance of Effort (MOE), as well as 50% reimbursement for case management costs where one of these programs is being used, even if DCF is not the one providing the service.
- The Department can receive 100% reimbursement from the date the plan is submitted through September, which could bring in potential revenue to support new service investments.

Governance Selection for 1st Iteration

- Tier 1 services
- Tier 2 services - will not be included in the first iteration due to CQI requirements. It will take some time to address the CQI components, but we have committed to including these services in subsequent iterations.

Next Steps

- A draft of the plan will be available for public comment in April and submitted to the federal government in May.
- Other Tier 1 services will be assessed, and ongoing analyses will take place by PSAWG.
- At some point, decisions may need to be brought into the Department to avoid any RFP issues. DCF does not want any conflict of interest and will make a firm announcement at that point.
- One workgroup member shared that their mindset is connected to seeing the actual numbers, projections, and matching models to dollars. Cindy responded that we will have an advantage in a low MOE, which can generate more revenue and seed money for services. We are still doing some of these calculations and determining the prevention budget; when the Department knows these, we will share.
 - Two funding notes: case management can be claimed, and MIECHV only applies to folks voluntarily seeking support (i.e. not DCF).
- A member asked whether the reimbursement goes to the state or DCF specifically. Cindy answered that it goes to the General Fund (state), but OPM and the Governor's Office budgets the Department based on what it needs, not based on how much it brings in. She feels OPM will support our efforts.
- Cindy and Allison thanked everyone for their help. They also thanked Cindy's team at DCF and Chapin Hall. Family First planning has felt like a relay, and we have just finished handing off the baton to our anchor.
- The workgroup thanked Cindy and Allison as well for their leadership.