

**Adult Behavioral Health Planning Council
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Day/Date:	June 9, 2022 2:00 – 4:00 PM	
Location:	Teams	
Attendance		
Members Present:	Peter Tolisano, Scott Newgass, Chlo-Anne Bobrowski, Allyson Nadeau, Kathy Flaherty, Maureen O’Neil-Davis, Mui Mui Hin-McCormick, Ellen Econs, Jennifer Abbatemarco, Pamela Mautte, Allison Nadeau	
Staff Present:	Kyle Barrette, Chrishaun Jackson, Alice Minervino, Elsa Ward	
AGENDA ITEM:		ACTION
New Membership: Kyle Barrette	<p>The Planning Council continues to look for new membership among advocacy groups, provider community, and current or former consumers of mental health services.</p> <p>Lori Fedewa, Director of the CT Office of Rural Health, proposed as a new council member. Lori planning to attend the next council meeting.</p>	
Adult Mental Health System Update: Kyle Barrette	<p>DMHAS staff provided updates on new block grant funded initiatives and work within the adult mental health system.</p> <p>Alice Minervino, Behavioral Program Manager, presented on the Block Grant Recovery Program. ABH is the agency assisting DMHAS with this initiative that will assist individuals and/or families with Housing security deposits and utilities. There is a \$5000 cap per person/family and they must meet DMHAS eligibility. This \$1 million grant is in effect until March 2023.</p> <p>Ellen Econs, Employment Systems Manager, presented on a new Supported Employment initiative across the state. This initiative is currently putting out new contracts across the state and continues to follow the “individual placement and support model” which is an evidence-based practice.</p> <p>Elsa Ward, Director of the Office of Recovery and Community Affairs, presented on the work of her Office. Elsa helped define recovery in relationship to mental health and outlined the work she has been doing to engage with community partners. The office continues to promote recovery and the different pathways to recovery. Elsa requested that any community partners</p>	

	<p>or council members interested in recovery can reach out to her to discuss potential ways of working together.</p> <p>Kyle Barrette presented on updates related to the adult Crisis Services System.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$2.5 million dollars awarded to the expansion of the crisis system in Connecticut. ▪ DMHAS is working towards 24/7 Mobile Crisis Team coverage. ▪ Additional FTE added to each of the regional Mobile Crisis teams ▪ Training for additional Crisis Intervention Coordinators at police departments throughout the state. ▪ MHBG ARPA funds (\$8.7 million) being used to support the rollout of new three digit crisis hotline (988) <p><i>*Power Point Presentation attached</i></p>	
<p>DMHAS Update: Kyle Barrette</p>	<p>Kyle Barrette provided updates on recent staffing changes within DMHAS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DMHAS retirees: Mary Kate Mason, former Legislative Director, Barbara Bugella, former Chief Operating Officer, and Carol Meredith, former Director of Prevention. ▪ New DMHAS staff: Christopher McClure, Chief of Staff ▪ New DMHAS appointments: Michael Giralmo, Chief Data Officer, Kyle Barrette, Director of EQMI ▪ DMHAS s looking to fill the positions of Legislative Liaison, and Block Grant Planner positions. <p>Kyle Barrette provided information on new legislation that was passed during the recent legislative session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RBHAOs codified in legislation ▪ Governor to confirm appointments for State Board ▪ Cost of Living adjustments for PNP's – state agencies received 20 million dollars in total to distribute to PNP's to try to stabilize the workforce and operations ▪ LPC's who are a part of a Mobile Crisis Team can now issue Emergency Certificates and can call police to transport someone in crisis, to the ER 	
<p>Mental Health Block Grant Allocation Plan Update: Kyle Barrette</p>	<p>Kyle Barrette presented on the allocation plan for FFY23 Mental Health Block Grant. The allocation plan for FFY23 is based on the final MHBG award that Connecticut received for FFY22 (\$8,419,241). Thirty percent of this award is transferred to DCF for the Children's Mental Health System. The remaining funds are allocated to adult mental health programs funded by DMHAS.</p>	<p>Allocation plan to be submitted to OPM 7/30/22</p>

	<p>The funds are allocated in the following Service Categories (with increases in the bold categories):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration of RBHAO's ▪ Case Management ▪ Consumer Peer Support Services ▪ Crisis Services 5% Set-aside ▪ First Episode Psychosis (FEP) 10% Set-aside ▪ Family Education/ Training ▪ Outpatient Services/ Intensive Outpatient ▪ Parenting Support/ Parental Rights ▪ Peer to Peer Support for Vocational Rehabilitation ▪ Residential Services/ Supportive Housing ▪ Social Rehabilitation ▪ Supported Employment/ Vocational Rehabilitation <p>Expansions were made to many of the service lines through additional COVID-19 related block grants.</p> <p>No recommendations or suggestions were provided by Council regarding the allocation plan.</p> <p><i>*Please see the attached Power Point Presentation</i></p>	
<p>Planning for 2022: Kyle Barrette</p>	<p>Kyle Barrette engaged council in discussion around planning for the remainder of council meetings during 2022. Kyle requested ideas and suggestions for future presentations, areas of interest of council members, and ideas for better engaging council members.</p>	<p>Council members to follow-up with Kyle regarding recommendations or suggestions for future presentations and topics for discussion at future council meetings.</p>
<p>Next Meeting:</p>	<p>September 8, 2022 2:00 – 4:00 PM</p>	