

# Adult Mental Health Planning Council Meeting

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JUNE 9, 2022

# Agenda

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1. New Membership/Appointments
2. Adult Mental Health System updates
3. DMHAS updates
4. Mental Health Block Grant allocation plan
5. Planning for 2022 meetings

# Updated Planning Council Structure



Adult Mental  
Health Planning  
Council

Children's  
Behavioral Health  
Advisory  
Committee  
(CBHAC)

# Updates to Council Structure

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Child Behavioral Health Advisory Council (CBHAC) will continue to act as Planning Council representing Children's mental health

Advocacy and oversight related to SUD services will continue through ADPC and other statewide bodies

Recruit additional membership with interest/expertise in adult mental health

- Provide clear orientation to new membership
- All current JBHPC members encouraged to remain

# Planning Council Membership

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Public or private entities that have vested interest in planning, operating, funding, and use of MH services?

Individuals in the recovery community with interest in advocacy related to adult MH?

## Membership Criterion

- Establish terms?
- New orientation?

# New Membership/Appointments

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## New Membership

- Lori Fedewa, Director, CT Office of Rural Health

## Appointments

- Kathy Flaherty, JD, Executive Director, Connecticut Legal Rights Project Inc. (CLRP)
- Dr. Peter Tolisano, Psy. D., Director of Psychological Services, Department of Developmental Services (DDS)

# Adult Mental Health System Updates

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# Block Grant Recovery Program

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Assistance with Security Deposit and Utility payments to help clients move into/maintain stable housing

Clients must be experiencing housing instability, active homelessness, or discharged from a hospital or Local Mental Health Authority with no identified housing

Must be receiving MH or SUD services from a DMHAS funded provider

\$5,000 cap on funding requests

[DMHAS Notice](#)

[ABH webpage - request forms and documents](#)



# Supported Employment

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Supported Employment RFP completed to re-procure programs

Currently putting out new contracts across the state

# Office of Recovery Community Affairs

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New Director - Elsa Ward, MS, CAC

Office acts as liaison to people in recovery, their families, friends, and other allies, grassroots and statewide recovery organizations

Represents DMHAS in national organizations and events

Facilitates meaningful contact, input, and dialogue with diverse representatives of the recovery community

Informs policy decisions and strategic planning to promote a person and family-centered, recovery oriented, system of care

[What Is Recovery?](#)

[Office of Recovery Community Affairs](#)

# Crisis Services System

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## **2.5 Million Awarded** for the Expansion of Crisis Systems

- DMHAS working towards expanding mobile crisis services to be able to provide mobile, in-person crisis response 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.
- This fiscal year, DMHAS was provided with additional \$2.5M in legislatively appropriated annualized funding to expand mobile crisis services for our private non-profit mobile crisis providers.
- SOs and PNPs are hiring
- Some PNPs are 24/7 (Intercommunity and CHR)

## **\$735,000 in COVID-19 MHBG allocated** to expanding MCT teams

- Adding 1 FTE to 7 teams

# Crisis Service System

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**8.7 Million in ARPA MHBG** allocated to support enhancement of National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (988) and ACTION Line

- Adding staffing to NSPL and ACTION Line call centers (United Way 2-1-1) to meet increased demand and reduce wait times

## **988 - National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (NSPL)**

- Federal legislation mandating the rollout of a 3-digit mental health and suicide crisis number 9-8-8 which will go live **July 16<sup>th</sup>**
- United Way 2-1-1 is CT's sole NSPL provider

## **Adult Crisis Telephone Intervention and Options Network (ACTION line)**

- Centralized call center for adults in crisis
- Available 24/7, 365 days a year
- Call 211, then press 1 and 2 again when prompted or 1-800-HOPE-135
- Staff include licensed clinicians, paraprofessionals, an individual with lived experience navigating distress and multilingual staff.

# DMHAS Updates

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# Staffing updates

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## Retirements

- Mary Kate Mason, Legislative Director
- Carol Meredith, Director of Prevention
- Barbara Bugella, COO

## New appointments

- Christopher McClure, Chief of Staff
- Michael Giralmo, Chief Data Officer
- Kyle Barrette, EQMI Director

# Legislative Updates

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RBHAOs codified in legislation

State Board of Mental Health and Addiction updates

- Sun setting current State Board
- Governor to confirm new appointments

Stabilization funding to PNPs

- FY21 & FY22 COLAs to staff
- 20 million to state agencies to distribute to PNPs

Emergency Certificates

- LPC and LMFT now able to issue certificate

# Mental Health Block Grant Allocation Plan

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# Draft FFY23 MHBG Allocation Plan

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Service Category	FFY22 Projection	FFY23 Proposed	Var FFY22- FFY23
Administration of RBHAOs	\$ 199,453	\$ 209,824	\$ 10,371
Case Management	\$ 222,196	\$ 237,154	\$ 14,958
Consumer Peer Support Services	\$ 97,821	\$ 104,648	\$ 6,827
Crisis Services 5% Set-aside	\$ 2,098,888	\$ 2,146,887	\$ 47,999
First Episode Psychosis (FEP) 10% Set-aside	\$ 589,347	\$ 705,093	\$ 115,746
Family Education/Training	\$ 112,980	\$ 120,824	\$ 7,844
Outpatient Services/Intensive Outpatient	\$ 407,527	\$ 433,524	\$ 25,997
Parenting Support/Parental Rights	\$ 45,315	\$ 49,708	\$ 4,393
Peer to Peer Support for Vocational Rehabilitation	\$ 48,091	\$ 52,850	\$ 4,759
Residential Services/Supportive Housing	\$ 775,730	\$ 825,247	\$ 49,517
Social Rehabilitation	\$ 134,044	\$ 145,044	\$ 11,000
Supported Employment/Vocational Rehabilitation	\$ 454,694	\$ 499,206	\$ 44,512
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$5,186,086</b>	<b>\$5,530,009</b>	<b>\$ 343,923</b>

# COVID-19 Block Grants

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## **COVID-19 Supplemental (3/15/21-3/14/23)**

- \$8,012,502 MHBG

## **American Rescue Plan Act – ARPA (10/1/21-9/30/25)**

- \$13,839,776 MHBG

## **ARPA Mitigation (10/1/21-9/30/25)**

- \$476,278 MHBG

# COVID-19 Block Grants

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## **COVID-19 Supplemental (3/15/21-3/14/23)**

- Flexible Funding for Homeless Services
- Trainings for peer recovery workforce
- Enhancing Mobile Crisis Teams
- Additional staffing for DMHAS ACCESS line and transportation providers
- Expanding staffing/capacity of National Suicide Prevention Line (988)
- Expand Supported Employment
- LGBTQ needs assessment/training/capacity building
- Technology for Women's SUD residential sites
- Expanding Recovery Supports for PPW
- Continue Crisis Counseling statewide
- Primary Prevention projects

# COVID-19 Block Grants

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## ARPA (10/1/21-9/30/25)

- FEP services expansion
- Enhancing Mobile Crisis Teams
- Expanding staffing/capacity of National Suicide Prevention Line (988)
- Additional staffing for DMHAS ACCESS line and transportation providers
- Perinatal hub to support statewide PPW screening
- Enhancing domestic violence assessment, triage, and support
- Expand Supported Employment
- LGBTQ needs assessment/training/capacity building
- Expanding Recovery Supports for PPW
- Primary Prevention projects

# Planning for 2022/23 Meetings

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# Planning Future Meetings

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Presentations/updates from DMHAS directors

- What topics/areas are you interested in learning about?

Other ideas/suggestions?

# Next Meeting

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Adult Mental Health Planning Council: **Thursday,**  
**September 8th, 2022; 2:00pm – 4:00pm:** Microsoft  
Teams