

Adult Behavioral Health Planning Council Meeting

MARCH 30, 2023

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. New Chair appointment
3. Block Grant updates
4. DMHAS Updates
5. New programs/services/initiatives
6. Planning Council Membership
7. 2023 Council Meeting Planning

Block Grant Application

Full biennial application completed by September 1st 2023

- Assess strengths and capacity of BH service system
- Gaps and needs analysis
 - Regional/Statewide priority reports
 - SAMHSA survey data
 - DMHAS service system data
 - SEOW, DPH, and other statewide data
 - Planning Council survey? Other sources?
- Identify priority areas and performance measures

Priority Populations

Adults with Serious Mental Illness (SMI)

- One or more disorder(s) which substantially interferes with daily activities/functioning

Children with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)

- One or more disorder(s) which substantially interferes with daily activities/functioning

Pregnant Women with Dependent Children (PWWDC)

People who inject drugs (PWID)

Individuals who have or are at-risk for TB/HIV

Individuals with First-Episode Psychosis (FEP)

Persons in need of Primary SUD Prevention (PP)

FFY24 Federal Budget update

President's FFY24 proposed budget released in March 2023

- Similar to FFY23, budget proposes large increases to the block grants
- MHBG: \$1.7 billion, an increase of \$645 million
- SABG: \$2.7 billion, an increase of \$700 million
- Final FFY24 budget not likely until December 2023

SABG Updates

Name changed from Substance Abuse Block Grant to Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Block Grant (SUPTRS)

- Change language to reduce stigma associated with “abuse” language

Proposal for 10% set-aside for Recovery Support services

- DMHAS currently spends close to 47% of SUPTRS BG on Recovery services

FFY2024 Proposed SUPTRSBG Award

FFY23 Award	FFY24 Proposed Award	FFY24 Actual Award
\$20,463,616	\$29,045,529	?

Substance Use Related Needs?

Social Emotional Learning activities/services

Holistic approaches to wellness

- Groups/team members certified in non-clinical and wellness

Family/Parenting Support groups

- Awareness/education
- Social activities

Alternative Recovery activities

Trauma-informed activities/initiatives (as a Prevention strategy)

Targeted recovery services/resources for young adult services

MHBG updates

Codifies ESMI/FEP set aside at 10%

- Supports evidence-based programs that address the needs of individuals experiencing their first episode of psychosis

Proposal to increase Crisis Services set-aside to 10%

- Mobile services, collaboration with law enforcement, call centers, etc. (988 Implementation)
- CT already expends close to 35% of MHBG on Crisis Services

Proposal for new 10% set-aside for prevention and early intervention programs targeting youth and adults who are at risk to develop SMI or SED

FFY2024 Proposed MHBG Award

FFY23 Award	FFY24 Proposed Award	FFY23 Actual Award
\$9,786,104	\$16,424,865	?

Mental Health Related Needs?

Education regarding Serious Mental Illness (verbiage, what this is)

- Look at language use/updating language related to SMI

DMHAS Updates

Prevention – Sarju Shah, Director, Prevention and Health Promotion

Recovery system – Elsa Ward, Director, Office of Recovery Community Affairs

Crisis Services system – Erika Echevarria, Behavioral Health Clinical Supervisor, Evidence-Based Practices and Grants

New programs/services/initiatives

Transit Homeless Outreach Program

- Homeless outreach contractor (CT Harm Reduction Alliance) doing evening outreach several days weekly at transit sites in Hartford and New Britain, and successfully connecting many individuals to shelter and warming centers
- In partnership with DOT, DMHAS conducted several train-station oriented meetings with staff from the station, community members, and local homeless service providers. Led to improvements like station security being able to contact the various homeless outreach providers in the area
- Developing a referral spreadsheet that could be used at stations around the state to request outreach support
- DOT stations are reporting a decrease in incidences of individuals residing at stations, and we are optimistic that these relationships can strengthen over time
- More info contact Mollie Machado (mollie.Machado@ct.gov), Behavioral Health Program Manager, Housing and Homeless Services Unit, DMHAS

New programs/services/initiatives

Access MH for Moms (7/1/2022 – present)

- Provides resources and real-time consultation to help medical providers treat pregnant and postpartum patients with mental health and/or substance use concerns.
- Perinatal psychiatrists provide diagnostic clarification, psychopharmacology and counseling recommendations and, if needed, offers resources and referral support to patient.
- Enrollments = 46 obstetrical practice groups with 93 site locations
- Consultations = 82 which provided support for 27 moms
- Team clinician continues to work directly with mothers identified during consultation who need additional resources and support
- Perinatal practitioner toolkits and screening tools continue to be developed and will be available on the website
- Providers can call ACCESS Mental Health for Moms at 833-978-MOMS (6667) Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- [Home - ACCESS Mental Health for Moms \(accessmhct.com\)](https://accessmhct.com)

New programs/services/initiatives

First Episode Psychosis (Project 169)

- Statewide effort to reduce duration of untreated Psychosis and improve outcomes for people experiencing FEP
- Collaboration between DMHAS, Yale (STEP), and DCF
- Meeting with PNP LMHAs to coordinate/identify FEP champions
- Learning Collaborative to disseminate knowledge/best practices related to FEP treatment
- Regional Early Detection and Assessment Coordinators (start 7/1)
 - Ideas for stakeholders to connect to EDACs?

Planning Council Membership

Planning Council pamphlet for new/potential members

Expanding membership

- Individuals who are receiving or have received services
- Service providers

2023 Meeting Planning

June 8th

- Presentation on Regional/Statewide Priority Report findings
- Discuss potential Block Grant Goals/Objectives for FY2024-25
- Additional Ideas?

September 14th

- Review/Feedback FY2024-2025 Block Grant Plan/Application
- Additional Ideas?

November 9th

- Ideas?

Next meeting

June 9th 2:00 – 3:30pm via Teams