



Children's CAP Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 9/13/24 10:00 to 11:30 am Next Meeting Date: 10/11/24 10:00-11:30 am

Co-Chairs: *Lisa Peterson-Lizun* (Allegheny Children's Initiative) and *Bethany Douglass* (The Children's Institute)

Participating Members: Susan Stewart-Bayne, Sharon Campbell, Katilyn Campbell, Laura Haile, Allyson Paracat Dixon, Amy Yosko, Nathan Omasta, Aaron Libman, Lori Grubs, Jessica Speer, Rhonda Sullivan, Debbie Jozwiak, Heather, Eric Patterson, Kate Pompa, Kelly, Heather Beachler, Laura Stainbrook

Guests: Laura Fiore

Agenda Items	Discussion
Welcome	Committee members and guests introduced themselves
RCPA Children's Committee Updates	Updates, Discussion & Collaboration from Jim Sharp, Chief Operations Officer, RCPA - see notes sent by Jim
Advocacy Opportunities	Conversation with Laura Fiore, CCBHO
Provider Updates & Announcements	AFN – partnering with PES (shared in introductions)
Wrap Up	Next meeting: October 11, 2024, 10-11:30 am- virtual only

2024 CAP Children's Committee Goals

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Children's Committee is to create a forum for advocacy on behalf of both member agencies and the children and families they serve. The committee provides education to its members on systemic and regulatory changes, practice developments, and issues of cultural importance to ensure that the services delivered are of the highest quality.

Children's Division 2023 Goals

Action Items

Build relationships with BH Deputy Director (Stuart Fisk) to increase knowledge and awareness of child services and improve advocacy efforts.

January: prep talking points (include overview of children's services, main pain points, advocacy efforts)

Stuart attended the April meeting along with Renee Patten



CAP

CONFERENCE OF ALLEGHENY PROVIDERS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Stuart Fisk is new Deputy Director of BH for OBH. Focus on relationship building, increasing his knowledge and awareness of child services, improve our advocacy efforts</i> 	<p>Both Stuart and Renee were asked to attend future meetings with the Children's Committee and each agreed.</p>
<p><i>Advocate for appropriate allocation of funds by partnering with schools to address MH needs in education.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Follow the funding for student mental health going through Dept of Educ- putting those without direct MH background in charge of developing MH programs/supports in schools.</i> 	<p>County BH Child and Adolescent Unit- Ruth Ann Koss and Emily Born, Renee Patten Renee attended April meeting with Stuart Fisk Community Care representative</p> <p>Discuss outlook for school-based services, funding opportunities, partnering with providers and school districts</p> <p>SAP, CSBBH, school-based outpatient</p> <p>Stand Together- utilizes youth in schools to address MH to promote anti-stigma</p>
<p><i>Advocate for eliminating the regulatory and Performance Standard requirements that do not have an impact on quality of care (specifically around encounter verification and unfunded performance standards that increase administrative burdens)</i></p>	<p>Provide opportunities to discuss new expectations and impact on providers- i.e., changes to Family Based referral process</p>
<p><i>Advocate that Parent Training be a separate billable service across service lines (specifically IBHS and outpatient).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Goal is to provide parent education and improve child outcomes</i> 	<p>Explore County funding for Parent Wise or other training (WFS- Westmoreland County)</p>
<p><i>Continue to partner with each other to grow awareness of new and existing services within the child-serving system</i></p>	<p>See announcement from Wesley Family Services</p>

www.Alleghenyproviders.org

Conversation with Laura Fiore-
 Summary of conversation with Laura:



CAP

CONFERENCE OF ALLEGHENY PROVIDERS

Introductions- each committee member introduced themselves, their agency name, their title; Laura introduced herself provided overview of experience and purview.

What does Laura see as the greatest challenge facing Child BH?

- Staffing

- Regulatory burdens

- Systemic issues that create gaps in communication

- Delays in care for kids

Discussion around anticipated barriers in process/communication in the face of the OBH leadership change. No anticipated issues per Laura.

Committee stated that we are eager to partner with CCBH- advocated to be at the table when decisions are made – some discussion around experiences where communication has not been idea and strategies for how to improve this moving forward. Recent IBHS meeting cited.

Discussion about historical advocacy regarding challenges with performance standards. This is new information to Laura since she is new in her role. Reportedly she is willing to help the committee escalate these concerns again.

Discussion regarding workforce and the impact of losing clinicians to private practice

Discussion about the staff recruitment and retainment- BH Fellows program – it has shown great promise. Committee inquired if this will expand to support other levels of care. Laura is advocating for this and will bring this feedback back to CCBHO.

Next steps: After the meeting, Laura took info back to Lisa Elliot. Lisa Elliot and Jewel Denne from OBH are scheduled to meet with Lisa and Bethany on 10/10 to further explore any communication needs.