

HEALTHCHOICES ADVISORY BOARD

Magellan Behavioral Health of Pennsylvania, Inc.
1 W. Broad Street, Suite 210
Bethlehem, PA 18018

August 20, 2015 @ 2:00 PM

- I. Introductions: Those in attendance were: Matt Bauder, Pat McGarry, Marci Rachko, Deb Nunes, Donna Keutman, Ben Morriston, Diane Marciano, Donna Thorman and Ronnie Colbert.
- II. Review of February and May 2015 minutes.
- III. General Review Community Healthcare Alliance Report
 - **Member/Family Advisory Committee**
 - **Ronnie Colbert**
 - LANTA Bus Issue discussion continued from last report. Members are still waiting for the Metro to pick them up and the bus still shows up late after the program closes at 2pm. Marcy suggested that the members are encouraged to file complaints with LANTA so that it is registered and then could be followed up on the complaint. Another thing that members could do is go to the LANTA board meetings and complain to the board or write a letter describing what their issue is specifically.
 - Follow-up from Ronnie with trying to get help for some transgender members. Asked for a listing of meetings in the Allentown and Bethlehem areas. Several websites were suggested
 - **Provider Advisory Committee – Kim Benner sent her report**
 - St. Luke's reported hiring a new medical director and new outpatient psychiatrist.
 - New Directions is relocating from Chew Street in Allentown to 14th and Liberty Street sometime in September of 2015. They have hired a bi-lingual psychologist.
 - New Vitae received a grant to serve veterans with co-occurring issues or PTSD.

Updates from RCPA:

- Secretary Dallas has been meeting with a small group of providers across the state this week to discuss the current budget situation. As the budget remains unsigned and more counties stop funding, more and more providers will struggle to maintain services as they run out of their line of credit.
 - The rural workgroup is focused on trying to look at the issue of transportation. One aspect is how long individuals have to wait for rides to appointments as they rely on public or subsidized transportation. The other aspect is the cost providers have had to absorb in particular in services like psychiatric rehabilitation where the rates have not been increased to offset the costs.
 - RCPA is meeting with OMHSAS regarding ACT 62 and wait times for BSC services. OMSAS does not feel that there is an issue finding licensed behavior specialists where providers across the state are reporting shortage of qualified staff.
- **Children's Advisory Committee – Pat McGarry**
 - Child abuse checks for certification. I believe there are some changes from what initially came out. The piece that is not clear to her is apparently a certification can transfer within that five year period so I don't know does that negates the need for having a new employee have a child abuse check within 90 days?
 - Marcy's thinking would be yes. If they have an active one within the five years they could transfer it. That's how it reads. We have someone calling out there to double check that.

- o Discussion then regarding other examples for the child abuse clearances – are there two different versions? There is one for a volunteer as well.

OTHER POINTS

- o Asked for an update regarding where the status of combining the CHA meetings and the Provider meetings. Deb reported that she had a conversation with Angela Castro and typically whenever they have their provider meetings it's either the day after or in the same week as our CHA meetings. Initially I believe it was Dick Orleman's suggestion to maybe combine them so they wouldn't have so many meetings to attend. In contacting Angela we swapped schedules as to when the meetings are presently scheduled. Some discussion that there is a difference between the missions of the two groups. Also CHA meets quarterly and the Providers meet at various sites on a monthly basis. Discussed possibly combining a meeting before the end of the year just to see how it would go – but would have to consider a proper site to hold everybody. To date nothing else has been discussed or decided. Diane suggested getting a small group together to discuss ways that would successfully blend the groups together because there may be some benefit in blending as opposed to keeping them separate. She will have it set up for the identified persons and a conference call.
- o Ben brought up the homelessness situation in the city. He heard that the homeless people will have to vacate from Sand Island by August 25th or a bulldozer will push them out. He has a program that he developed to help people who have mental and brain disorders to improve their minds so that they can feel better. He will be glad to do a presentation at our next meeting.
- o Donna brought up Lehigh Valley Community Mental Health issue. Not sure what is going on with them and the closure. She is getting phone calls from people that were receiving their services there whether through HealthChoices or because they are Medicare and just not knowing what to do or how to go about doing it. If Magellan they should be calling the Magellan member service line. Diane explained the capacity that the network has to absorb the members and she will provide that listing to Donna. We are doing everything that we can to transfer about 3,500 members – it's a huge transition in a very short period of time.

NAMI

- o Donna Thorman brought up those that are getting discharged from community hospitals that have no insurance nor do they know what services they have access to in the counties. Deb brought up IRES with each county who can do intakes, guide them in the right direction and/or give them more information.
- o Any OCD support groups that any one is aware of? Diane suggested the Magellan website that has a ton of resources there. Matt Googled the OCD 12 step programs and found one through Lehigh Valley Hospital. Contact Marilyn at 610 821-8929.
- o Annual Walk/Run coming up and it will be a fun day.
- o Moving forward with their anti stigma campaign. Commercials on TV, in the news on bulletin boards and on the back of the buses.

IV. Magellan Report – Diane Marciano

- o LVCMH Update: Mailed all current LVCMH members letters in English and Spanish outlining the outpatient providers available, dates of open access at select providers and the availability of medical mobile services. As always, members were provided the Magellan 800 number and encouraged to contact us for assistance..
- o Magellan's My Life Bowling event occurred on August 14th – this was our summer event. It was fabulous. It was at the bowling lanes off Lehigh Street in Allentown and there were 20 or so kids =that attended. Thank you to Lehigh and Northampton County for supporting this event and as always and contributing.
- o Major D&A strategies are in process of being developed in response to increased need for Detox and Rehab beds.
- o Presented 2 outcomes reports on July 24 for Lehigh County. One for the ICM for the Homeless Program and one for the Integrated Care Program at Haven House.

- o The Integrated Care Initiative in Northampton County continues to move forward in partnership with AmeriHealth and NHS. We are targeting an early 2016 go live timeframe.
- o BHRS Action Committee has been ongoing and Magellan the Lehigh County recently issued an RFI for Early Intervention, BHRS for kids on the Autism spectrum.

V. Lehigh County Report - Matt Bauder

- o TIP Program, Transition to Independence Program, case management program that specifically targets transitionally aged youth. Approval received for reinvestment plan. Plan executed with Access Services who will be implementing the services effective July 1, 2015. Program will be presented to county and providers in September.
- o Early Intervention BHRS (EI BHRS) - Program modeled after the BHRS pilot program that Magellan implemented a few years ago with positive outcomes noted. Will be offered through at least 2 providers and assists younger members to help get caught up to the "typical", age appropriate functioning of other members
- o RFI for transitional age Autistic members will then be explored, which we do not have many services in this category. State recently presented a webinar on psych rehab services for adolescents who are in the transitional age population, however funding and program description approvals were not discussed as part of the webinar agenda.
- o Program Evaluation Performance Summary (PEPS) received 4/20/14 for Lehigh County and Northampton County and Magellan. No corrective actions requested on any items that were reviewed as all standards were met
- o Medicaid Expansion continues and seeing a hefty increase in terms of membership growth and we will continue to monitor that as we move forward. About 6,000 members more since last quarter.

V. Northampton County Report – Deb Nunes

- o Affordable Housing Initiative is going well. Referrals started in June and so now Conference of Churches is conducting the intakes for the 22 regular and 13 forensic spots that are available to those adults with SMI and/or substance abuse disorders - for the 13 it would be the same population with the addition of active forensic involvement.
- o Integrated Care – talks continue to organize and bring an integrated BH/PH model to Northampton County. We are working with Northwestern Human Services as well as representatives from the physical health plans. I will keep you posted.

VI. Other

Next meeting will be held on November 19, 2015