

COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE ALLIANCE

Lehigh Valley ACT

601 E. Broad Street

Bethlehem, PA 18018

June 26, 2019 @ 2:00 PM

Jorge Acosta, Cliff Aulizio, Robyn Barbosa, Matt Bauder, Kristi Bernard, Paul Berlet, Allison Branche, Ronnie Colbert, Tim Custer, Almut Dubischar, Jenny Duval, Liz Fox, Christine Higgins, Joshua Hoch, Ellen Hunt, Carl Kist, Midge Klotz, Corina Labish, John Lees, Veronica Lefurgy, Marie Lisby, Patricia Marth, Jodi Matthews, Alaina McCarter, Jodi McCloud-Missmer, Pat McGarry, Mike McKenna, John Mooney, Jana Morris, Tisbine Moussa, Kim Rauch, Jenny Reilly, Rochelle Reimert, Janet Romero, Shanon Saddington, Nolan Steffen, Nancy Stone, Tom Walker, Kristina Ward, Karen Yob

- I. **Review of March 27, 2019 meeting minutes.** Meeting Minutes are approved with one change to the youth advocacy effort grant – dollars are requested, but not currently approved for the drop-in center in Allentown. Over the summer, youth involved in this effort will meet to further the project/goals.

II. Provider Forum

- **Tim Custer, Nulton Diagnostic and Treatment Center** – Tim discussed the new satellite outpatient clinic in Slatington, currently open for new referrals <https://nulton.com/contact-us/>
- **Christine Higgins, Wellness Recovery Team of Merakey** – Merakey WRT added a nurse position as part of expansion effort <https://www.merakey.org/services-behavioral-health.html>
- **Jana Morris – Provided an update about Recovery Revolution**, operating the only drug and alcohol treatment service in Bangor (IOP and OP). Jana provided a basic description of the program. The agency also offers Grief Recovery Groups for parents; supports families/survivors impacted by overdose deaths through counseling and monthly support. The groups are run at least twice a year and are closed groups. Please contact the program for information. <http://recoveryrevolution.org/home#>
- **Jody Missmer, St. Luke's University Health Network** - Adding a Child/Adolescent Psychologist to their mental health outpatient practice at Eaton Ave (August 2019). Call volume is increasing for Eaton Ave outpatient intake line. Over 8,000 calls are received for new intakes with two intake workers to make call backs. The program is also growing with plans to add additional psychiatric services in Allentown, targeted for September. <https://www.slhn.org/wellnow/Emotional-Health/Behavioral-Health>
- **Midge Klotz, Recovery Partnership** – Consumer run/staffed organization. Accepting referrals for CPS with no waiting list. Also, referrals are being accepted for the Reflections CPS peer-run respite program, a 24/7 Peer Support service with a residential component. Three beds are available at the program, 5-10 day stay. Please visit the website to download referral forms/information. <https://recoverypartnership.us/services>
- **Karen Yob, Step by Step** – Mobile Psychiatric Rehabilitation for Transitional-age Youth. Psychiatric Rehabilitation is a direct skills building/training service. The program tackles the skills necessary to succeed in housing, jobs, resource development, socializing, etc. in environments of choice. Please contact the program to make a referral. <https://stepbystepusa.com/community/psychiatric-rehabilitation/>
- **Michelle Reimert, Salisbury Behavioral Health** – Two psychiatric rehabilitation programs available in Lehigh and Northampton Counties. Provides site-based and mobile services. Information was supplied about the scope of service. <https://salisb.com/index.php/psychiatric-rehabilitation-test/#1566920853073-d0cde0d4-030c>
- **Ellen Hunt, Autism Resource Community Hub**, provided an overview of groups running over the summer. Please visit the program website for additional information <https://www.elwyn.org/services/children-3-21/autism-resource-community-hub-of-lehigh-valley/>

III. Member and Family Forum - No update.

IV. Advisory Committee Reports

- **Member/Family Forum – Ronnie Colbert** – Haven House membership in programs are increasing. New activities and new groups are offered at Haven House. <https://www.haven-house.com/mental-health-services/psychiatric-rehabilitation/> Ronnie also described the advocacy needs among individuals looking for door-to-door transportation. Information about LANta Van is available here <https://www.lantabus.com/lantavan/> Ronnie described recent advocacy and support meetings at Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center, located in Allentown. Please consider getting involved or make a referral <https://www.bradburysullivancenter.org/programs>

- **Children's Bureau – Rochelle Reimert for Kim Benner** – Described that RCPA continues to work on a redesigned outpatient model to present to DHS and payors. There is a pilot program to advance new approaches to outpatient care. RCPA maintains the new MH outpatient regulations are not going to meet the needs, and alternative approaches are sought through this work group effort. The National Council for Behavioral Health will release a white paper on Value Based Purchasing models, and scan of evidence. Here is a link to the whitepaper (published in September 2019).
https://www.thenationalcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Behavioral-Health-Provider-Participation-in-Medicaid-Value-based-Payment-Models-An-Environmental-Scan-and-Policy-Considerations.pdf?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiWVRKak9HSTVOR00yVWdRNCIsInQiOiJtTmlacjNJZk9CbkdVdWlpQTJhXQ1p2TVNpCm1nVE01bFVUZ0p6RTZjSFk2dDdqYVZISm9UMIF0Tm1QbmRLcG83dmlOM1pFNU9ZQ3hIR29RaHRKNGw0RGM1a1ZZQmVhXC9WY1orK2xcL1M5N1R3c0VEK0NkUzdjUzBxcGRxSHVTeERlIn0%3D
Lastly, Rochelle promoted Pat Deegan's resources to members and providers through The CommonGround Program, outcome data, and quality of life information and videos. Pat Deegan will also be presenting at the RCPA Conference September 11th <https://www.commongroundprogram.com/>
- **Provider Advisory Committee – Pat McGarry**. Reminder to BHRS providers about rollout of new IBHS (Intensive Behavioral Health Services) regulations. The Community Healthcare Alliance will be updated on webinars, and local in-person trainings. The current offering of IBHS trainings from the state, as reported by RCPA, are here: <http://www.paproviders.org/update-date-change-for-ibhs-regulatory-training/>

V. Magellan Behavioral Health

Patty Marth – (Reporting for Magellan's Compliance Dept.)

- **Please register for Magellan's Compliance Communications.** <https://www.magellanofpa.com/for-providers/communications/provider-announcements/compliance-alerts/>
Communications:
[Targeted Case Management Compliance and Regulatory Reminders](#) (May 2019)
[RTF Bed Hold and Therapeutic Leave](#) (April 2019)
[Provider Self-Audits and Self-Reports of FWA](#) (March 2019)

Tom Walker – (Reporting for Magellan's Network Dept.)

- If you are moving sites, it is very important that PROMISE enrollment be changed. This process replaces the former process of submitting a change in service address form. Magellan cannot pay for services operating out of unenrolled locations. Magellan is conducting provider outreach for Enrollments. Additionally, it is critical to alert Magellan early in the process to ensure that credentialing and contracts are updated to the new service location.
<http://www.dhs.pa.gov/provider/promise/enrollmentinformation/index.htm>
- Effective July 1, 2019, **every MH OP Clinic satellite location** needs to be enrolled in MA. This is a change from past practices -- in the past, the actual clinic that the satellites operate under was all that was required to be enrolled. The reason for this change is based on a Federal Requirement which DHS Policy will be issuing. Magellan will forward information when we receive it. This also applies to school-based outpatient programs. **Providers are required to enroll each service location out of which they operate in the Medical Assistance Program, in PROMISE, by July 1st. Online Provider Enrollment Application**
 - Use the [Online Provider Enrollment](#) portal to submit a new application, for revalidation, or for reactivation.
Benefits of using the secure online portal:
 - Allowing documents to be uploaded directly to the portal
 - Permitting providers see the status of their submission
 - Decreasing wait time to review applications
- Please complete the webform to receive the electronic copy of Magellan's newsletter. <https://www.magellanofpa.com/for-members/member-resources/newsletter-sign-up-form/>
- Current Magellan Member Newsletters
English Language
[Member Newsletter: Crisis Teams are Available For You - Fall 2019](#)
[Member Newsletter: Searching for Specialty Providers On Our Website - Summer 2019](#)
[Member Newsletter: Social Determinants of Health Resources Are Available - Spring 2019](#)
Spanish Language
[Boletin para el miembro: Los equipos de crisis estan disponibles para usted - Otono 2019](#)
[Boletin para el miembro: Como buscar proveedores de especialidades en nuestro sitio web - Verano 2019](#)
[Boletin para el miembro: Hay disponibles determinantes sociales de recursos de salud - Primavera 2019](#)

Magellan Strategic – Tom Walker

Expansion of School-Based Outpatient Services- Eight school districts are partnering with Magellan, Providers and County HealthChoices program to expand access to outpatient services within school settings. The number of interested schools is 29 schools and growing. Already have some schools set to start in the Fall 2019. Also started a collaborative. First meeting will launch Fall 2019 and will discuss what schools want to see out of this program.

Outpatient analysis – Service access to outpatient services is strained by limited providers in rural parts of Lehigh and Northampton counties. The school-based outpatient programming will help to address access to care needs. A list of new outpatient mental health providers will be released.

Autism Psych Rehab Pilot - teaching skills for transition age youth (adults 18+) with ASD; MBH brought in KidsPeace and Elwyn to provide training and education to the Psych Rehab Providers (Salisbury Behavioral Health, Step-by-Step, and Haven House), currently building a learning community; discussed family and parent connections (NAMI's Parent to Parent Program) and a collaboration with the ASERT Partnership. Specialized services will begin Fall 2019.

MAT medications – In 2015, Magellan initiated a Medication Assisted Treatment Initiative. There are two objectives: 1) Increase the utilization of MAT for members with substance use disorder, and 2) Decrease hospital admission and readmissions by increasing community tenure using MAT. Magellan has found MAT medications to be underutilized, but a highly effective approach to keeping individuals working and living in their communities of choice. Providers reported potential changes at the CMS level related to changes to studying MAT to be medication only and that treatment isn't required (as in the case of a primary care doctor prescribing MAT medications only through physician waivers). Providers were asking for options for reimbursement under PH care vs behavioral health. Note: SB 675 is an Act providing for certification of buprenorphine office-based prescribers; limiting the use of buprenorphine; and imposing powers and duties on the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs. This bill addresses the issues surrounding cash clinics for MAT medications. Tom stressed the importance of working with the Opioid Centers of Excellence. Additional information about the Centers of Excellence and Opioid Resources are available on Magellan's website <https://www.magellanoftpa.com/for-members/community/opioid-resources-and-support/> Tom also promoted Neighborhood Health Centers of the Lehigh Valley ECHO Hub (Hub and Spoke case conference calls – CEUs are offered). Past monthly conferences/lunch and learn events are available for download/review <http://www.nhclv.org/echo/>

Clinical Dept. – Carl Kist

- Magellan is implementing text messaging of appointment reminders to HealthChoices members after a recent hospitalization. Text message reminders with the appointment date, appointment time when available, provider, and location of the first appointment. Magellan does not charge any fees to send texts, but the data plan might do so. A text messaging consent form is required. Please discuss the benefits with HealthChoices members, and please support the consent process. <https://www.magellanoftpa.com/for-members/member-resources/getting-care/>
- Magellan MYLIFE youth created Jared Box initiative, collecting toys to be distributed to kids in hospital units in the Lehigh Valley. Here is more information about Jared, and Jared's Box <http://www.thejaredbox.com/pages/index.html> Here is more information about Magellan's MYLIFE group <https://www.magellanoftpa.com/for-members/community/my-life/>

John Lees- (Reporting as Magellan's Member and Family Advocate)

- **BHRS Family Education Video Series:** A training/video series for families which aims to describe "BHRS 101" has been completed. Eleven videos are created for families. All are short, about two minutes in length. Magellan, Lehigh and Northampton County HealthChoices programs are requesting provider support in helping get this information out to families. <https://www.magellanoftpa.com/for-members/county-info/lehigh-county/bhrs-family-educational-videos/>

VI. Lehigh County: Updates / Reinvestment / Issues – Liz Fox reported on reinvestment project ideas generated and asked for committee voting/rank order the proposals received. Ranking forms were distributed for committee feedback.

Matt Bauder discussed the implications of capitation delays coming into the County; essentially four months of capitation payments will be delayed and will restrict available cash flow in 2020. The implication is that the County moved some of the available reinvestment dollars over to risk and contingency accounts to assure health delivery is maintained in 2020 without payment disruption. Therefore, it is essential to rank the reinvestment projects which have come in and know that \$ targeted must be highly focused and relevant to the HealthChoices program.

Matt informed the CHA that Lehigh County has decided to opt out of the assisted outpatient treatment initiative.

Veronica Lefurgy – Provided an update about Lehigh County’s Integrated Services Dept.

VII. Northampton County – Northampton County: Updates / Reinvestment / Issues – Kristy Bernard was introduced as the new HealthChoices Administrator. Robyn Barbosa is now serving in the role of Deputy Mental Health Administrator. Three updates to Reinvestment plans: 1) Northampton Housing Reinvestment Plan is extended for two years, through 2022; 2) Northampton County will now offer respite services for youth through reinvestment. The provider is Access Services. Information is available here: <https://www.accessservices.org/services/respice/>; 3) extension for 2:1 TSS pilot.

Northampton County is working with Magellan on the roll out of school-based outpatient services.

Robyn thanked the CHA for advocacy in defense of the behavioral health carve out.

Robyn promoted Northampton County’s Suicide Prevention Task Force. Please visit <https://www.preventsuicidepa.org/task-force-county-init/northampton/> and email swandalowski@northamptoncounty.org to get involved.

Other – Committee Structure for Community Healthcare Alliance.

Kim Benner has resigned her position as Adult Provider Representative to the Provider Advisory Committee. This member also serves as the provider representative at Lehigh and Northampton County’s HealthChoices Advisory Board. A replacement for Kim is sought. Please email interest to Tom, Matt, or Kristy.

Meeting Schedule

Next Meeting: Will be rescheduled to accommodate for RCPA Annual Conference in Hershey. **Update: Rescheduled to October 2nd at 2 p.m. – Lehigh Valley ACT**