



MINUTES OF THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOSPITAL ENGAGEMENT FORUM

Virtual attendance only

August 13, 2021
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order

Sandra Grossman called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. Introductions

The following were in attendance:

Triciann Romero (SCL Health), Addison McGill (HealthONE), Christen Rodenburg (UCHealth), Christine Lanham (Behavioral Health & Wellness Campus), Steve Coen (Beacon, RAE 2 & 4), Michelle Estrada (Denver Health), Valerie Baughman (Parkview Health System), Tom Masterson (San Luis Valley Health), Elizabeth Freudenthal (Children's Hospital Colorado), Ashleigh Phillips (Centura Health), Kim Cassidy (CCHA, RAE 6 & 7), Amanda Thompson (Denver Health), Lauren Snyder (Mental Health Colorado), Sandra Grossman (HCPF), Melissa Eddleman (HCPF), Cristen Bates (HCPF), Doug Muir (Centura Health), Kari Snelson (Northeast Health Partners, RAE 2), Lila Cummings (Colorado Hospital Association), Amy Luu (HCPF)

3. 27-65 tiered designation

Lauren Snyder, with Mental Health Colorado, presented on this topic. Mental Health Colorado has been working collaboratively with the Office of Behavioral Health on a revision of 27-65 and they plan to introduce legislation in 2022 with feedback and recommendations received through the stakeholder process. A part of the recommendations is around tiered designation. The recommendations are around having a designation for providers, to distinguish the training and expertise needed to provide services for individuals on an inpatient short/long-term certification, an outpatient certification designation, and having a base M1 hold designation, that will be required for ED's within the safety net.

The 27-65 Tiered Designation visual was presented and discussed. Level 3 and 4 are optional designations for Crisis Stabilization Units, Acute Treatment Units, Walk-In Centers and Emergency Departments (EDs). The hope is to tie these to payment structures within HCPF that would equate to quality. Level 5 would be a

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required base designation for all hospital EDs and/or crisis system where there would be a requirement to initiate and/or accept a person for a 72-hour M1 hold. This base designation is meant to be more technical assistance (TA) focused and is not meant to be onerous or overly burdensome on facilities. They've heard feedback that there is a challenge with enforcing patient rights, discharge requirements and other administrative tasks associated with M-1 holds. There would be a lot of TA from the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) to support facilities in meeting the requirements of 27-65-105, the governing legislation for Colorado's system of care and involuntary treatment for mental health. They imagine moving the oversight and all of 27-65 under the purview of the BHA. For the Level 2 outpatient designation certification, it is wanted to create a new designation specific for outpatient community providers who hold outpatient certifications. Lastly, it is wanted to update current designation standards for inpatient short/long-term certification facilities for the short/long-term designation tier.

Feedback and questions were solicited from the group. The following responses were noted. For SB 19-222, the idea is that a comprehensive safety net provider would be required to accept outpatient certifications, and therefore Community Mental Health Centers that elect to be a comprehensive safety net provider would be required to have the level 2 designation. The hope is that levels 3 and 4 optional designations would come with improved funding models to have ED staff trained in de-escalation and trauma-informed care to assist individuals who are in crisis. The goal is to have requirements be specific to EDs and not the hospital, as a whole. There is more follow up to be done with OBH and CDPHE. The requirements for the base designation has yet to be decided and the goal is to have it be a collaborative process. There was a thought shared that states have been advancing incentive payments for health care as there is the health quality incentive payments. The timeframe of implementing the tiered designation would not occur prior to July 1, 2024, as SB 19-222 would need to go into effect first. It was suggested to separate the two goals of defining the structure of the BHA and aligning it with 27-65, and the ask and politics of the tiered system and what it would look like to engage all levels of providers. Meeting attendees requested additional time to review and to discuss the topic with their teams.

Any additional questions and feedback may be sent to Lauren Snyder. A link was shared for information on 27-65 stakeholder meetings (<https://www.mentalhealthcolorado.org/emergency-mental-health-procedures/>).

4. Behavioral health DRG vs per diem payments

This topic will be presented at a later time.



5. Closing remarks/Housekeeping

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 12, 2021.

Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request for persons with disabilities. Please notify the Sandra Grossman at sandra.grossman@state.co.us or the 504/ADA Coordinator hcpf504ada@state.co.us at least one week prior to the meeting.

