



Meeting Minutes

Behavioral Health and Integration Strategies (BHIS) PIAC Subcommittee

Virtual Meeting

September 7, 2022, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

1. Introductions

Facilitators:

- Sue Williamson Colorado Children's Healthcare Access Program
- Matt Pfeifer Health Care Policy & Financing (Dept. Liaison)

Voting Members:

- Amanda Jones Community Reach Center
- Tom Keller Statewide PIAC
- Monique McCollum Parent of special needs children on Medicaid
- Nina Marinello Intermountain Health
- Deb Hutson Behavioral Health Administration
- Elizabeth Freudenthal Children's Hospital
- Charlie Davis Crossroads Turning Points
- Taylor Miranda Thompson Colorado Community Health Network

Other Attendees:

- Doug Muir Centura Health
- Ron Mitchell The Kempe Center
- Kacy Behrend Behavioral Health Administration
- Mona Allen Health Colorado, Inc.
- Jason Chippeaux Health Solutions
- Andrea Alvarez Health Solutions
- Christopher Anderson Health Care Policy & Financing
- Ashley Clement Northeast Health Partners
- Maureen Camey Rocky Mountain Health Plans



- Callie Kerr Health Care Policy & Financing
- Nancy Mace Health Care Policy & Financing
- Rodrick Prayer Health Care Policy & Financing
- Cris Matoush Rocky Mountain Health Plans
- Erin Herman Health Care Policy & Financing
- Joseph Anderson Colorado Access
- Suzanne Kinney Colorado Community Health Alliance
- Tina McCrory Health Colorado, Inc.

2. Housekeeping

Daniel Darting called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

Daniel calls the group to approve the August 2022 BHIS minutes. Amanda Jones motions to approve; Elizabeth Freudenthal seconds. There are no objections or abstentions. August meeting minutes are approved by voting members.

HCPF executive leadership update:

- Adela Flores-Brennan appointed Medicaid Director
- New Office of Medicaid and CHP+ Behavioral Health and Coverage
 - More detail can be found in [the September issue of HCPF's At A Glance newsletter](#)
 - An updated HCPF organizational chart will be shared with BHIS once available

Matt Pfeifer provided a COVID-19 update. The Public Health Emergency (PHE) has been extended to October 13, 2022. It is likely to be extended to January 2023.

- The Department continues to focus on vaccine outreach and work to address disparities. More information can be found at [covid19.colorado.gov](https://www.colorado.gov/covid19).
- HCPF is also focused on planning for the end of the Public Health Emergency: <https://hcpf.colorado.gov/phe-planning>.

Department of Corrections (DOC) Metric update: Behavioral Health Engagement for Members Releasing from State Prisons

- HCPF recently transitioned to a new process for RAEs/MCOs to submit claims which has delayed the metric calculations



- Data accuracy has been improving but some issues remain
- March 2022 rate appears likely to be 19.5-20%
- Monthly updates will continue
 - The FY22-23 target is final. The target is 22.08%.

3. HB22-1302: Integrated care model considerations (Rodrick Prayer, HCPF)

Overview of [HB22-1302 Health-care Practice Transformation](#)

- The focus is on care models for upcoming grant applications outlined in [the legislation](#). HCPF's implementation team is seeking feedback on what models of integrated care to consider when reviewing applicants.
- The funds need to be spent by December of 2024. HCPF will start awarding these grants in April 2023.
- Sue asks about how this initiative will be different than the previously completed [State Innovation Model \(SIM\) project](#).
 - Matt Pfeifer confirms that this is an integrated care initiative, like SIM, but we want to draw some distinctions between the SIM project and this initiative.
- Taylor Miranda Thompson asks how the grants will be awarded and who is eligible.
 - HCPF is open to feedback/recommendations on this question.
 - An advocate from Centura provides feedback that integrated care enhancement should be a focus. There are still significant health inequities in the model. There is a lot of siloed resources supporting counties. Advocates for a simplified process where people who need care navigation support have it, and that it is culturally competent. Health statistics show significant issues with inequity. Inflation is mentioned.
 - Additional needs mentioned around technical assistance for billing applicable codes.



- Sue echoes the need for different payment methodologies to support innovative deployment of a workforce to deliver the full continuum of services for Medicaid members.
- Matt mentions that sometimes that technical assistance around billing is challenging for legal reasons, from the HCPF perspective. Technical billing questions are not appropriate for the HCPF to weigh in on.
- Elizabeth Freudenthal advocates for the use of funds for services on the care continuum that are not available Fee for Service (FFS), for example care coordination. Smaller primary care practices might not have access to foundational/non-profit and entirely reliant on payers. The grants should consider how to build up sustainable infrastructure for care coordination.
- Rodrick confirms that there will be considerations for pediatric practices within the program. HCPF has until December 2026 to distribute the funds.
- Matt outlines potential considerations for the grant selections:
 - Sustainability
 - Cultural competency
 - Pediatrics
 - Disparities
- When we think of these grants and whether its specific models/approaches - what should we consider?
 - Kimberly Walter advocates for funds for consulting or practice transformation. Rather than just making these grants funding for them to hire or implement services have a portion of it going to education for practices. This was a lesson in SIM that sustainability is critical. The program should also consider consortiums, teachings, and learning collaboratives, which lead to more sustainability.
- Sue Williamson urges the Department to learn from SIM and how the practice transformation coaches spent so much time doing assessments



and counting widgets; the administrative burden was so time consuming. The program needs to be concise, efficient, and rapidly implementable.

- Taylor Miranda Thompson reiterates that workforce is a challenge in all settings. These grants are an opportunity for innovation.
- The Request for Proposals (RFP) for the grant program will be posted in January of 2023.
 - HCPF is looking for external stakeholders for the steering committee; reach out to Rodrick Prayer (Rodrick.Prayer@state.co.us) if you are interested in participating in the steering committee.

4. Follow up from last meeting (Matt Pfeifer)

- Update from Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) statewide care coordination workgroup:
 - Deb Hutson (BHA) gives advance notice of an upcoming report to be published by the BHA which include outcomes and recommendations from the recently convened care coordination policy group. This BHIS group might want a presentation on this work.
- Matt Pfeifer promotes the value-based payment (VBP) stakeholder meeting hosted by HCPF on Friday September 9 at 1:00 pm.
 - VBPs are mandated by [legislation in SB19-222](#).
 - Daniel Darting encourages attendees to register and attend the meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 5, 2022. Matt Pfeifer acknowledged that the next meeting falls during the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur. If participants are unable to attend, please reach out to Matthew.Pfeifer@state.co.us who can provide a summary of the meeting and an opportunity for verbal feedback. A member encouraged the Department to include religious minorities in equity, diversity, and inclusion work. The meeting was adjourned.

