



State of Wisconsin

**Wisconsin Council on Mental Health**  
mhc.wisconsin.gov

**Meeting of the Legislative and Policy Committee**  
**November 8, 2018 from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm**  
**1 West Wilson Street, Conference Room 630, Madison, Wisconsin and Via Conference Call**

**Members of the Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC) in Attendance:** Crystal Hester, Phil Robinson, Mike Lappen, Mary Neubauer, Justin Odulana, Shel Gross, Kathie Knoble-Iverson, Barbara Beckert, Joanne Juhnke, Chris Wirth

**Guests in Attendance:** Brian Michel, Marc Herstand, Linda Hall (via teleconference)

**Department of Health Services (DHS) Staff in Attendance:** Ryan Stachoviak, Joyce Allen, Kenya Bright

**MINUTES**

**1. Call Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC) Meeting to Order**

*Review and approval of the minutes of October 11, 2018*

**J. Juhnke moved to approve the minutes of October 11, 2018.**

**M. Neubauer seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried, minutes approved.**

*Announcements*

J. Juhnke announced that the Wisconsin Family Ties (WFT) Changing Lives Gala will be held on November 30<sup>th</sup> in Madison. B. Beckert announced Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW) is developing a voting survey for people with disabilities to collect information regarding voting in the recent election. M. Neubauer announced an advanced Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training that will be held at MATC South in Oak Creek. M. Lappen provided updates regarding Milwaukee County. The County has received approval for moving forward on an acute mental health hospital. Work continues on reimagining the county's crisis system as well. M. O'Shasky announced a community soup discussion will be held in Adams County.

*Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) Updates*

The next WCMH meeting will be held November 14<sup>th</sup>. The Council plans to discuss the recovery thermometer, the Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG), and DHS contracting procedures.

*Public Comment*

No public comment was made.

## **2. Discussion and Review of Committee Membership and Leadership**

C. Hester discussed avenues for the LPC to recruit new members to the committee. P. Robinson announced that he will be stepping down as the Children and Youth Committee (CYC) representative to the LPC. The CYC will identify a new representative. Members discussed various groups and organizations that may important partners to bring on as members on the LPC. In particular the LPC would like to have more youth involvement or the involvement of people who work with youth. B. Beckert suggested the LPC include geographic diversity as a membership goal. J. Odulana discussed the two meeting membership guideline and asked whether it was helping or hindering involvement and recruitment.

Members discussed the importance of having mentoring for new members in onboarding procedures. P. Robinson suggested the group think about the annual cycles, including the legislative cycles. Being able to present this information to members may allow people to better map out the amount of time that LPC membership will require. The LPC will update and send out the committee's recruitment flyer.

The LPC also will need people to take on various leadership roles on the committee including the co-chair role, substitute meeting chairs, bill tracking, serving as a point of contact with the DHS Secretary's Office, and the scheduling of legislative meetings.

B. Beckert offered to be the point of contact in coordinating meetings with the DHS Secretary's Office. M. Neubauer offered to take on the task of coordinating legislative meetings. J. Juhnke and C. Wirth offered that they may know people who may be interested in getting involved with the LPC with bill tracking.

## **3. Legislative and Policy Updates, Discussion, and Action**

Members of the LPC discussed updates to the budget priority planning document including proposals on services for people who are Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing (DHOH), children and youth, and housing and transportation.

The current priority area on transportation includes a proposal for an increase in transit and specialists transit funding. Included in the housing budget proposal is funding for a state shelter subsidy grant. J. Odulana encouraged the document be edited so that it is written in the present tense rather than past tense.

Proposals for services for people who are DHOH include the creation of a state level office on DHOH direct mental health services. This proposal is modeled off of other states. The office is proposed for inclusion in DCTS. K. Knoble-Iverson expressed concerns over having a centralized state entity for DHOH mental health services that may not be able to adequately serve all areas of the state. Telehealth services would be a means to increase access across the state. Members discussed pros and cons of the proposal as written including benefits of having a state position versus a contracted entity. M. O'Shasky discussed areas for consideration related to criminal justice. P. Robinson provided updates regarding the Department of Public Instruction budget request. L. Hall discussed and voiced support for the mental health consultation code.

Members of the LPC discussed recent meetings with DHS leadership. Many questions remain on the transition to the Evers administration. Members of the LPC hope to meet with the Evers transition team. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) did approve the Medicaid waiver for childless adults.

#### **4. Division of Care and Treatment Services Updates**

J. Allen provided an update on the 2019 MHBG budget. The BPTR plans to maintain the areas of increased funding with the overall increase in the MHBG. An additional investment of roughly \$800,000 is planned to improve Wisconsin's crisis system. Data from the Suicide Prevention Hotline indicate that only 30 percent of calls that were received from Wisconsin were answered by people in Wisconsin. Wisconsin is being encouraged to look at how to better addressing these crisis calls and how the state can improve the response to crisis calls. The BPTR plans to hold further discussions on this proposal.

In response to the recent flooding in Wisconsin a Federal disaster declaration was made on October 18<sup>th</sup>. This opens up opportunities for Wisconsin to apply for funding for the Crisis Counseling Program. Nine counties are eligible for this service based on the declaration. The BPTR is in the process of collaborating with Wisconsin Emergency Management to apply for these funds. An organization would be subcontracted to provide this service.

The Veterans Peer Run Respite funding opportunity is once again open and the BPTR is accepting applications. Applications for the Certified Peer Specialist advisory committee are due November 9<sup>th</sup>. It is anticipated that the first meeting will be held December 6<sup>th</sup>. The Menominee peer run respite will be reopening in the near future, operated by SOAR case management.

#### **5. Agenda Items for the December 2018 Committee Meeting**

Members of the LPC noted the following items for discussion at the upcoming meeting: continued discussion of the budget priorities, membership, and S. Gross' last LPC meeting.

#### **6. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 3:08 pm.