



State of Wisconsin

Wisconsin Council on Mental Health
mhc.wisconsin.gov

Meeting of the Legislative and Policy Committee
May 16, 2019
12:30 pm to 3:00 pm
1 West Wilson Street, Madison, Wisconsin and Via Conference Call

MINUTES

Members of the Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC): Crystal Hester, Kit Kerschensteiner, Jeanie Verschay, Justin Odulana, Chris Wirth, Alice Sykora, Mary Neubauer, Kimberlee Coronado (via teleconference)

Guests: Brenda Wesley

DHS Staff in attendance: Joyce Allen, Ryan Stachoviak, Joannette Robertson

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

Review and approval of the minutes of April 11, 2019

Members of the LPC reviewed the minutes, but did not take a vote to approve the minutes as the LPC did not have quorum.

Announcements: Opportunity for committee members to make general announcements

C. Hester discussed NAMI Wisconsin Advocacy Day. Roughly 150 advocates attended the event at the State Capitol. J. Odulana discussed attending the Joint Finance Committee session at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. M. Neubauer discussed updates regarding advocacy and press conferences regarding Medicaid Expansion. Medicaid expansion would address critical needs for mental health providers, the crisis system, and the expansion for mental health care. K. Coronado briefed the LPC on testimony she provided along with her son on Assembly Bill (AB) 80.

Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) Updates

The May 15 WCMH meeting was canceled due to low membership and a lack of items for the agenda.

Public Comment: The committee will accept comments from the public relating to any committee business

No public comment was made.

2. Discussion and Review of Committee Membership and Leadership

C. Hester discussed anticipated changes to the LPC roster. Hugh Davis and Deb Ramacher will be the primary and alternate representatives to the LPC from Wisconsin Family Ties.

3. Legislative and Policy Updates, Discussion, and Action

Budget Priority Planning

C. Hester discussed ongoing advocate meetings with DHS leadership. DHS leadership have invited Thai Vue from the Wisconsin United Coalition of Mutual Assistance Association, Inc. (WUCMAA), Dr. Patricia McManus, Brian Michel from MHA, and Brenda Wesley all to participate as well. DHS leadership is hoping to continue to add people to these meetings with an eye towards bringing together a diverse group. In particular they are looking for a representative from a member from the Latino community and the Deaf/Hard of Hearing community.

Members of the LPC discussed setting up meetings with members of Joint Finance. M. Neubauer volunteered to take the lead on scheduling these meetings. J. Odulana, J. Verschay, and C. Hester voiced interest in attending the meetings.

State Legislation and Review of LPC Bill Tracking and Bills to Review and Approve

A suicide prevention taskforce has been formed and is planning on holding a forum with some invited guests. Each hearing will focus on a different community. M. Neubauer noted that MHA at the national level is aware of the effort. C. Hester discussed the lethal violence protection order, due process, and the appropriate timeline for removing the firearm from the home. Members of the LPC provided updates on state legislation.

4. Division of Care and Treatment Services Updates

J. Allen and J. Robertson provided a briefing on crisis system improvements. The DCTS is currently looking at crisis systems across counties and trying to identify what is working well for counties and regions. One takeaway is that doing a formal crisis system assessment would be beneficial. The crisis system workgroup is now looking at what this process could look like and what questions should be asked to gain more information about the system. J. Allen provided update on the Gaps Analysis. The survey will be provided to the Council and the Council's committees. The Gaps Analysis researchers are working to reach groups and people that normally would not be reached. The DCTS is currently recruiting for a Deputy Bureau Director, a Performance Management Section Chief, a Program and Planning Analyst for Opioid Programs.

5. Agenda Items for the June 2019 Committee Meeting

The LPC will continue to discuss legislation and the budget process.

6. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 1:54 pm.