

REGIONAL MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING

Date: November 20, 2020

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Zoom Attendees: Margret Graham (LDN CSB), Lyn Tomlinson (FFX CSB), Carol Layer (ALX CSB), Lisa Madron (PWC CSB), Betsy Strawderman (PWC CSB), Jean Post (NVRPO), Randy Buckland (NVRPO), Robyn Fontaine (NVRPO), Jamie Elize (DBHDS), Tara Belfast-Hurd (DBHDS), Judith Korf (Parent), Maimmona Bah-Duckenfield (Arl CSB)

DD Group: Phil Caldwell (ALX CSB), Evan Jones (FFX CSB), La Voyce, Kevin Lafin (FFX CSB), Heather Norton (DBHDS), La Voyce Reid (ARL CSB), Elizabeth SanPedro (ALX CSB)

Independent Housing representatives: Jeannie Cummins (DBHDS), Janna Wiener (DBHDS), Kristin Yavorsky (DBHDS)

Recorder: Xiuping Cheung (NVRPO)

Call to Order: Margret Graham (LDN CSB) called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. The group was welcomed, and introductions were made.

Handouts: Agenda, RMG meeting minutes (October 2020), ID/DD Focus Questions, Regional Utilization Management Report, Regional Budget

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	REC/ACTIONS	RESPON-SIBLE PARTY	F/U DATE
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Graham facilitated introductions and welcomed the group. • Minutes from the October meeting were approved. 			
Independent Housing – DOJ Targets	<p>DBHDS representatives joined and discussed independent housing – DOJ targets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representatives shared that the data that is being used is from WaMS, it is inclusive of adults age 18 years and older in the DOJ population on waiver and waiver waitlist. The target is 10% of national average populations within the waiver and waiver waitlist. To have the most accurate information, “living situation” section in WaMS must be completed. • Suggestion from J. Cummins is to select and train some Support Coordinators as “Housing Experts” so that they can be a resource for other Support Coordinators. Jeannie was open to a suggestion to develop a tip sheet/talking points as a resource for Support Coordinators in having conversations with parents and legal guardians as they are sometimes seen as a barrier in transitioning individuals into independent housing. • Housing Department has been reviewing the data and suggested that it provides some learning opportunities. The group encouraged DBHDS to bring these learning opportunities to the VA CSB and to explore presenting them at a conference. This would provide all CSBs with an opportunity to review the data and discuss best practices. 			

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<p>ID/DD Focus Questions</p>	<p><u>ASSESSMENT FORMS</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Risk Awareness Training (RAT): It was indicated that the new RAT would be available for use beginning to Nov. 1; however, it has not been received. Can you provide an update on the status and plan for implementing the revised tool? Additionally, it was indicated the RAT would take the place of the annual SIS risk assessment. What is the status of receiving official notification of this change? Answer: The revised RAT was shared with the entire DS Council on November 6th and is to be implemented no later than December 1st. The Annual RAT will replace the annual SIS Risk Assessment, but the SIS assessment will still need to be completed every three years. 2. OnSite Tool: It was indicated that the new OnSite Tool would be available for use beginning to Nov. 1; however, it has not been received. Can you provide an update on the status and plan for implementing the revised tool? Are there plans to add this assessment tool in WAMS to allow the option for direct entry? Answer: the new OnSite tool was shared with the Developmental Services Council on November 6th and is to be implemented no later than December 1st. There are no immediate plans to add this tool to WaMS however this is being explored through DBHDS. 3. Crisis Risk Assessment Tool(CRAT): If Reach has determined an individuals is ineligible for their services, does the Support Coordinator need to continue completing the CRAT at each face-to- face visit? Answer: Yes, services is based on presentation. If individual is active with REACH, then face to face visit is not required. If they are not active for REACH, then this needs to be done, because eligibility can change. 4. General Question: Does DBHDS anticipate any additional assessments or forms that Support Coordinators need to complete in FY 21 in order to come in compliance with the DOJ Settlement Agreement? 			

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	<p>Answer: DBHDS has no intentions of launching any additional assessments currently. The plan for the next two years will be to identify where efforts can be streamlined to reduce redundancy.</p> <p>REVIEWS</p> <p>5. QSR (Quality Service Reviews)/HSAG (Health Services Advisory Group)</p> <p>Review: The first review is continuing while the second round was to begin Nov. 1.</p> <p>a. First Round Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What is the timeline for completion of the first round? ii. When and how will providers and CSBs receive feedback from HSAG regarding the first-round results including information about interviews and documentation review? <p>Answer: Timeline for first round questions is scheduled to be completed by November 30th. Written summary will be shared with CSBs in December. Each provider will receive their own report, all reports are required to be posted on the website, excluding very small providers due to HIPAA concerns. The summaries will include recommendations with an expectation that the CSB will respond to with a quality improvement plan.</p> <p>b. Second Round Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. When is it anticipated that the second round will begin? ii. Will DBHDS be making any changes to the process based on the feedback received from providers and CSBs regarding the QSR process? If so, can you give an update on changes? <p>Answer: Timeline for second round questions is schedule to be completed by January 7th. One of the major concerns is the need to</p>			

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	<p>password protect each document. HSAG is working on developing a secure SharePoint website to upload documents so that encryption will not be necessary. CSBs will not need to re-upload policies and procedures.</p> <p>6. NCI (National Core Interview): NCI interviews are starting and some of the same families are receiving requests for interviews. Families and support coordinators are confused about who is contacting the families and the purpose of the different interviews and audits. Can the Department provide information about reviews occurring and timelines to CSBs and provide in a format that can be shared with families?</p> <p>Answer: The interviews are being conducted by Virginia Commonwealth University Partnership for People with Disabilities and will continue through June 2021, timeline is unclear. H. Norton will follow up.</p> <p>7. SCQRs (Support Coordination Quarterly Review): We were told there will be changes to the questions during our look behind technical assistance sessions. Will there be an opportunity for the VACSB or DS council to participate in the revision process?</p> <p>Answer: The Department will be meeting on December 10th to review the revision. H. Norton invites Region 2's DS council to submit comments or suggestions to the Department on or prior to the December 10th, so it can be reviewed.</p> <p>8. General Question: With all the reviews, audits, and requests for information the Department has indicated they will be working on a more streamlined submission process. Can the DBHDS provide an update on plans?</p> <p>Answer: It is in the beginning stage of mapping the recurring document request to centralize information/data collection. No additional updates available.</p> <p>CUSTOMIZED RATES</p>			

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	<p>9. For FY 20 in Region 2, how many applications for rates were submitted and how many were approved for Residential Providers? For Day and Employment providers? What were some of the reasons for denial?</p> <p>Answer: There were 61 applications received in FY21 for Region 2, breakdowns for Residential and Day support were not available. Of the 61, 49 were approved and 12 were denied. Of the 12 denied, 8 were because the exceptional support needs were not demonstrated and 4 were because the requested supports can be provided within the current level/tier or using other services available to the individual within the Medicaid program. Part of the barrier for denial is because the data to support the needs were not provided to show the needs. H. Norton will provide further breakdown of this data.</p> <p><u>COVID IMPACTS</u></p> <p>COVID-19 is currently impacting and anticipated to have long-term impacts for individuals, families, staff, and providers.</p> <p>10. Impact on Individuals and Families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is DBHDS evaluating the impact of COVID-19 on individuals as part of the reviews being conducting by the department? b. If there are plans for service or provider development to address the on-going impacts such as financial, loss of skills and impact on families, please provide an update. <p>Answer: In terms of licensing and Human Rights, DBHDS is focusing on providers' compliance with human rights through collecting info on rates of exposure and following up on allegation on how individuals are being treated. DBHDS has set up a warm line to provide mental health support, but it is probably being under utilized for the DD population.</p> <p>The Department is open to receive recommendation, H. Norton suggested that the Region could work on exploring options and suggestion, she would take it to the committee</p>			

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	<p>11. Impact on Providers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. How is DBHDS evaluating both the short and long term impacts of COVID-19 for providers? b. What are the impacts the Department is finding? How many providers have closed due to COVID-19? c. If there are plans for provider development to address the on-going impacts such as financial, impact on staff and PPE supplies, please provide an update. <p>Answer: The group discussed individuals losing skills due to the Pandemic and day program closures. There was agreement that the magnitude of the loss of skills is yet to be determined and that data should guide any action steps. DBHDS is working with DMAS on the CARES Act funds and other resources to support providers.</p>			
<p>Regional Budget and UM Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R. Fontaine shared the Regional Budget summary with the group • J. Post shared the Regional UM report highlights with the group 			
<p>Round Robin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T. Belfast-Hurd on behalf of J. Elize: Adult census this morning 97.5%. Geri census this morning 104.6%. SWVMHI and SVMHI on temporary halt of admissions due to COVID. EHR- just completed 2nd wave in our hospitals (Catawba, ESH, NVMHI, and SEVTC). CSB liaisons have been given view/print access for the EHR at NVMHI. <p>New Assistant Commissioner for Facility Services – Walton F. Mitchell, III, is the new Assistant Commissioner for Facility Services (ACFS). Mr. Mitchell has served as the Interim ACFS since April 2020 and has supported the DBHDS with continuity of services within our 12 state facilities during this time. Mr. Mitchell was previously the facility director at Catawba Hospital in Catawba, Virginia.</p> <p>New Director at Piedmont Geriatric Hospital – Emma L. Lowry, Psy.D. is the new Facility Director/CEO of Piedmont Geriatric Hospital (PGH) in Burkeville. Dr. Lowry served as PGH’s Interim Facility Director. She has over 28 years of experience supporting individuals with serious mental illness, behavioral</p>			

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	<p>health issues, and developmental disabilities across five DBHDS facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PWC will be launch their correspondence on December 3rd. It consists of 3 teams, from Monday to Friday. • ARL has identified a location to build a new group home. Demolition will start January 4th of 2021. This group home is funded by the Department for individuals come out of the training center, one of the beds will be specifically assigned for the Region to use. 			

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m. The next meeting will be on December 18, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.



Recorder

11/20/2020

Date



Chair

11/20/2020

Date