

This meeting was not recorded. Five members are needed for a quorum.

2/12/2024

Adult State Program Standing Committee Minutes

FINAL

Present Members: Ann Cooper (she/her) (exc) Bruce Wilson Christopher Rotsettis (he/him) Dan Towle (he/him) (exc)

Lynne Cardozo (exc) Marla Simpson (she/they) Michael McAdoo Thelma Stoudt Zach Hughes (he/him)

DMH/State Staff: Lauren Welch (she/her) Eva Dayon (they/them) Trish Singer Katie Smith (she/her) Emily Hawes (she/her) Alison Krompf (she/her)

Public: Jessica Kantatan (she/her) Anne Donahue Eric Ruiz (Vermont Care Partners)

Agenda

- 12:30 SPSC Business: Introductions and Review Agenda, Statement on public comment, Announcements, Vote on minutes
- 1:00 Leadership Update: 2024 Legislative Goals with Commissioner Hawes and Deputy Commissioner Krompf
- 2:00 BREAK
- 2:10 Prep for Agency Designation visit from United Counseling Services
- 2:45 Closing meeting business and planning next meeting agenda

Agenda Item	Discussion (follow up items in yellow) Facilitator: Christopher Rotsettis
Opening Committee Business	Meeting convened at 12:35. Quorum was not met. Introductions were made. Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appointment terms are ending for the following members:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Lynne○ Marla○ Christopher○ Ann○ Zach○ Michael○ If you would like to continue as a member of the committee, please submit updated resumes to Lauren when you can. She will do the rest of the work.• Update: Administrative Rule on Agency Designation is in the 2nd Draft stage• VPS Listening Tour is coming up, so be on the lookout for more info.• Alyssum is still looking for more staff, especially night shift. Also looking to hire a new Executive Director.

This meeting was not recorded. Five members are needed for a quorum.

	<p>Quorum was met at around 12:45PM</p> <p>Marla motioned to accept January minutes with requested updates. Thelma seconded. Four in favor, on abstention. January minutes approved.</p>
<p>Leadership Update: 2024 Legislative Goals</p>	<p><i>Emily Hawes, DMH Commissioner</i> <i>Alison Krompf, DMH Deputy Commissioner</i></p> <p><u>Recent legislative testimony</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY25 budget • System snapshot for legislation passed last year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lot of support for mental health being high profile issue. ○ A lot of programs were passed last year (with a lot of money) • Processes for admission to a (as yet hypothetical) forensic facility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This is a healthcare concern rather than a public safety concern. ○ This won't be considered a hospital-level of care (ie. Level 1) ○ More like a secure step down? In lieu of being housed in Corrections. ○ Legislature is guided by DMH's emphasis on a need for a "clear path in and a clear path out." ○ Outcomes of the Forensic Work Group? Provided the foundation for a lot of the testimony and planning happening now <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evidence of therapeutic benefits ▪ Competency Restoration ▪ DAIL had a follow-up group to discuss specifically people with developmental disabilities. ○ Conversations are still happening around judicial terminology. "Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity" vs "Guilty but Mentally Ill." Because this is a judicial issue, it may take a while to see any changes. • Shifting language about mental health emergency response from "protocol" to "guidelines" • Competency restoration report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Legislature is discussing whether competency restoration is the preferred path for folks involved in the criminal justice system. • CCBHC is interested in how this will affect people on the ground and staffing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Steering Committee will meet soon to discuss renaming CCBHC and removing the term "behavioral health" ○ There is already a list of about 15 suggestions. ○ A committee member suggested "Community Quality Health and Wellness"

This meeting was not recorded. Five members are needed for a quorum.

- New funding opportunity for tuition reimbursement for mental health workers
- A little to early to determine is what rate increases will look like, although conversations are happening now in the legislature.

CCBHC

Designated Agencies chosen to participate in the Application for Demonstration State funding

- Clara Martin Center
- Rutland Mental Health

Agencies that have their own agency-level planning grants

- Clara Martin Center (has had grant for about 5 year, the oldest in the state)
- Rutland Mental Health
- Howard Center
- Health Care and Rehabilitation Services
- Northeast Kingdom Human Services

Ongoing UVM partnership has \$18 million earmark remaining from 2016 or 2017 \$40 million surplus

- Expanded emergency department at Central Vermont Medical Center
- Planning to renovate some rooms at CMVC
- Funding community programs about primary care integration
- Transgender care, eating disorder work, updating a UVM Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) machine, ketamine treatment
 - Emily or Lauren will check on the status of ECT facilities at UVM and CVMC.
 - Committee members had positive experiences with ECT.
 - Green Mountain Care Board will receive an updated ECT Report in April? Share with committee.
- Mental health urgent care in collaboration with Pathways, Howard Center, and Community Health Center.

Peer certification

- Legislature is focusing on Office of Professional Regulation's role in certification
 - Cleared committee, now in House Ways and Means.
 - Testimony also cleared up misapprehensions of people with lived experience supporting others
 - Education about difference between Recovery Coaches and Peer Supports.
 - Committee would like to be included in updates about testimony and legislative progress.
 - Can check committee websites to see updated agendas

This meeting was not recorded. Five members are needed for a quorum.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DMH will review final draft of training curriculum and code of ethics (devised in partnership with community and Wilda White Consulting) <p><u>Adult Secure Residential Facility</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DMH moved out of Middlesex about a year ago. Now sited in Essex at River Valley Therapeutic Residence. Some discussion of using Middlesex property for youth secure residential. <p><u>What is DMH missing with regard to policy and community support?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seclusion and restraint: committee member shared a trauma Emergency department diversion/alternatives: DMH is working on urgent care and mobile crisis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some urgent care models are peer-run Housing: expanding Pathways statewide, increase independent living housing contingency funds. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emily will check on which committee(s) is discussing housing How can Vermont be one of the healthiest states in the country while also having the worst homelessness per capita? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There has been a recent increase in people who are unhoused. Seeing more housing instability related to substance use. Note that these lists may be working from different datasets, so that can make comparison difficult. Reminder that there are lot of things that Vermont does better than other states such as access to health insurance and healthcare access. Also, Vermonters are generally more active. Vermont also provides the opportunity for community members to speak directly with our leaders. <p>Committee entered BREAK at 1:49.</p>
<p>Review: United Counseling Services Agency Designation materials</p>	<p>Committee reconvened at 2:02.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interested in the FAST model. How does it compare to other models in the state. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kudos for being able to see clients for same day support. Where is the color-coded table from the Designation Report? Not done yet. Lauren will send prior to March visit. Local Program Standing Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mixed reviews of family and group therapy Is committee participation encouraged by stipends? Staff satisfaction survey results

This meeting was not recorded. Five members are needed for a quorum.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mixed results: staff don't feel supported in their jobs/wouldn't recommend UCS for employment. ○ Also, why might there have been such a low response rate to the DMH surveys of adult staff? ● Strategic goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How has the goal of retaining staff for 2 years been working for UCS?
Public Comment	Eric offered to follow up with VCP Board to get committee members involved in review process.
Closing Meeting Business	<p>Ideas for next meeting (March 11, 2024)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SPSC Business ● Agency Designation: Q&A with United Counseling Services (90 minutes) ● Draft Letter to the Commissioner <p>Marla motioned to adjourn. Thelma seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned 2:31PM.</p>
Links	There are no hyperlinks in these minutes
Parking Lot	<p>Meet & greet with Mobile Crisis Director Jeremy Therrien (postpone to April with maybe a bit about 988 outcomes)? Chris Allen should have a draft of the Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan in early March, so maybe can join us in April too?</p> <p>Committee would like more opportunity to discuss housing. Ask the communications director of HomeShare to visit the committee to raise HomeShare's awareness of mental health and reduce stigma) Committee would like Chris Allen to return when he has more time to discuss Suicide Prevention in more depth.</p> <p>Other interests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Advanced directives (especially related to how they're enforced for mental health care) – possible visit from Legal Aid (look into Mental Health Law Project) or Disability Rights Vermont (planned for April???)

This meeting was not recorded. Five members are needed for a quorum.

UCS Agency Designation Combined Results Overview

Agency-wide Standards

Administrative Rule	Description	Meets Standard
4.1	Corporate Status	YES
4.5	Data and Information Systems	Pending – Brian will send by 2/16
4.6	Fiscal Management	YES
4.12	Accessibility	YES

Program-level Standards – Administrative, Clinical, and Quality

Administrative Rule	Description	Meets Standard	
		AMH	CYFS
4.2	Governance	YES	YES
4.3	Agency Organization and Administration	YES	YES
4.4	Consumer and Family Involvement	YES	YES
4.7	Comprehensive Service System	YES	YES
4.8	Quality Improvement and Outcomes	YES	YES
4.9	Consumer Support, Treatment and Records	NO*	YES
4.10	Personnel Practices	YES	YES
4.11	Training	YES	YES
4.13	Rights and Responsibilities of Recipients	YES	YES
4.14	Confidentiality	YES	YES
4.15	Grievance Procedures	YES	YES
4.16	Local System of Care Plan	YES	YES

*UCS has an active Corrective Action Plan to address documentation in CRT client records.