

State Interagency Team Agenda

Thursday, March 28, 2024

2:00-3:30

Location: Microsoft Teams

Facilitator: Cheryle Wilcox

Notetaker: Beth Sausville

1. Invest in retention and recruitment efforts to address workforce challenges to be able to provide necessary and quality services to children and families.
2. Advocate for parity with private insurance for children and youth enrolled in commercial insurance plans, so they can access the appropriate residential level of care needed.
3. Support alternative housing options that support families by encouraging more affordable/diverse/mixed socioeconomic/multigenerational living options.
4. Increase supports in the community for children and youth, and ensure we have a higher level of care in Vermont for children with complex needs (such as co-occurring, developmental disabilities, medical issues) to decrease the number of children sent out of state for treatment.

Present: Cheryle Wilcox, Kerri Duquette- Hoffman, Amy Lincoln Moore, Dana Robson, Karen Price, Renee Weeks, Deb Forreth, Beth Sausville, Sandi Yandow, Maria White, Laurel Omland, Danielle Bragg

Regrets:

Guest – Gillie Hopkins, FSD

Updates:

Alicia – talked about their new Secretary of AOE and the back lash and today's Gov's response to this. He is supporting the appointment and encouraging others to do so.

Cheryle – Commissioner Krompf leaving, position under recruitment, LIT connections yesterday, notes should be finalized soon, working with the legislature on PRTF, working its way through the legislature. RFGA coming out for the Parent Rep activities. Block grant funds currently through DMH but looking to other Depts and Divisions to step up going forward.

Dana – IHCBS and need for eligibility determinations, gave authority to DA's but taking it back at State level, have been training folks, not affecting services, some anxiety, folks can call with questions

Maria – important updates coming, poverty changes around Act 76, Karen Bielawski Branch is retiring, recruiting for PAT program, CDD updates, on CCFAP ACT 76 and it is an attachment document we can add to the notes for all to look over. Not the Expert on CCFAP so if you have questions about it Maria willing

to ask and bring it back later.

<https://outside.vermont.gov/dept/DCF/Shared%20Documents/CDD/Act76/Act-76-Status-Report.pdf>

Renee – Anyone new to Medicaid they do screening and connection to resources, can connect to community services, looking at age-appropriate screening tools to use, will be adding a process for children, will coordinate with others, no one tool being used currently across the state. Willing to answer questions around the hotel program. The changes with the BAA extends those currently there until 6/30, other changes as well. Adverse weather condition ended for most 3/15. Eligibility can be based on the weather. Lots of families who have been living in hotels for years and the impact on children; priority to get them housing. Shared this link: <https://kingdomcounty.org/bess-obrien-films/just-getting-by>

Danielle - Commissioner position open since January, no viable candidates, DVHA oversees benefit for Medicaid, DA's have been stopping those services, VT Medicaid changes health care pharmacy benefits, working on this issue,

Karen – change in coverage with VFN, Suzanne will also provide services to Morrisville and Middlebury.

Deb – hired a new care consultant -Stacia Cheney, Franklin Cty, NW corner of the State, CSHN also hiring – great candidate pool

Sandi/Amy – nothing new, Twin Valley varsity coaches hosting an event – Globetrotter type event – VFF sponsoring some tickets – fun event for families – May 20

Beth – Talked about the temporary secure treatment facility and timing, along with an update on temp staffing sites, Special Response Team (now Child and Adolescent Transitional Staffing team - CATS), update on Windham crisis stabilization program

Went through some of the SOC report.