

# State Interagency Team Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 25, 2024

2:00-3:30

**Location:** Microsoft Teams

**Facilitator:** Beth Sausville

**Notetaker:** Laurel Omland

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:** Beth Sausville, Deb Forrett, Danielle Bragg, Karen Price, Alicia Hanrahan, Amy Lincoln Moore, Laurel Omland, Dana Robson, Ken Hammond, Melanie D’Amico, Sandi Yadow, Renee Weeks, Kheya Ganguly

**Regrets:** Cheryle Wilcox, Olivia Gaudreau, Maria White,

Agenda Item	Discussion Notes
<b>Reviewing updates from last month any major updates we all need to know about related to our System of Care</b> ( <i>staffing changes, new programming, policy changes, fiscal, workforce challenges and planning, legislative outcomes</i> )	<p><b>Karen (VFN):</b> new grant for parent support role in Act 264 process statewide starting 7/1/2024. How is hiring going? Have 3 in role or in process of entering role. Will be extending job offer soon, at that time will have all positions covered.</p> <p><b>Alicia (AOE):</b> Discussion of extraordinary special ed costs, 712 students whose ed programming (residential, indep school, alt placement, related transportation) is above AOE threshold – relooking at this process. Secretary Saunders collecting data and doing listening tours to understand the issue. Federal monitoring of AOE Title funds, includes funds related to students in DCF custody.</p> <p><b>Renee (AHS):</b> Deputy Secretary Todd Deloz is leaving role and Kristen McLure stepping in as interim Deputy Secretary. New Director of Health Care Integration, Brendan Kraus.</p> <p><b>Danielle (DVHA):</b> no Commissioner yet, likely someone to start in Sept. Payment Reform team working on value-based payments for ABA benefit; completed YR1 for CY2023, providers will receive payment amounts for their model. 1<sup>st</sup> year is incentive, can earn additional funds; future years will be withhold to be earned.</p>

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	<p><b>Laurel /Dana (DMH):</b> Sam Sweet is now DMH Deputy Commissioner; in hiring process for MH Services Director. Focus on suicide prevention (new material pending for 988) and disordered eating (training for MH clinicians</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://vermontbiz.com/news/2024/july/16/department-mental-health-offer-eating-disorders-training-vermont-clinicians">https://vermontbiz.com/news/2024/july/16/department-mental-health-offer-eating-disorders-training-vermont-clinicians</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Application Form</a></li> </ul> <p>New(ish) Children’s MH Care Manager, Gillie Hopkins, came to us from DCF-FSD.</p> <p><b>Melanie/Beth (DCF)</b> – Red Clover treatment program in Middlesex to open sometime in Sept, interim. Opened Return House program in July for 18+ youth aging out of DCF custody; 1 youth currently there; formerly run by DOC. Relaunched QRTP implementation workgroups (Qualified Residential Treatment Programs), follow IV-E legislation; considering how to implement QRTP in VT system; open multi-disciplinary workgroup (DCF-FSD, DMH, other state Depts, providers, advocates). Just had several federal audits/reviews.</p> <p><b>Deb (VDH):</b> have projects ongoing, nothing new, re: family engagement, Team based care, curriculum advisory committee</p> <p><b>Amy (VFFCMH):</b> building out family support</p> <p><b>Tony (VDH-DSU):</b> policies for opioid center opening in Burlington, most activities more adult-focused.</p>
<p><b>LIT Extravaganza Planning</b></p> <p><b>Wednesday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> in Waterbury</b></p>	<p>Last month brought info to Act 264 Board for input.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A quick flash survey question about what teams would like to see at the LIT Extravaganza!</li> <li>2. Going back to basics about CSPs and Act 264 due to a lot of staff turnover.</li> <li>3. Discussion of how meeting facilitation impacts effectiveness of the CSP meetings and planning.</li> <li>4. Training video – VFF overview of CSPs and SIT video of meeting facilitation.</li> <li>5. Lead off the day with a summary of CSPs and Act 264 to level the playing field for everyone – whether it is one of the videos or a speaker.</li> <li>6. Working toward consistency across regions. Currently there are many differences across regions depending on size and how long staff have been in their positions.</li> <li>7. The vision and the hope of the law is (a) coming together in family/student centered collaboration, as well as (b) looking at improving the system of care. All the different roles of various participants tend to lend to one focus or the other. How do we help them balance the two and clarify the two functions?</li> </ol>

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	<p>Developed survey questions, haven't looked at feedback yet. Will collate for next month's SIT meeting.</p> <p>If going back to basics, let's make sure people are trained and at the table, including attending LIT Extravaganza.</p> <p>Alicia: A lot of Special Ed directors will be new this coming school year. They may not know what this event is and that they should plan to attend – AOE (@Alicia 😊) could push out the Save the Date/ Registration info to that group with some additional context to encourage them to attend.</p> <p>Dana suggests welcoming the DA Developmental Services teams to send a representative to LIT Extravaganza as more of them are being asked to lead CSPs and there has also been turnover in those positions. @Melanie F.</p> <p>Dana noted also seeing some with medical complexity, wondered about inviting local CSHN coordinators. @Deb F agreed.</p> <p>Include addressing <i>Who should be at the table?</i> Consider doing affiliate groups again with the state rep supporting the discussion. Are you invited to CSPs, what are your needs, ...</p> <p>How could we also elevate <u>family voice</u> at the LIT Extravaganza?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Invite family to attend and share story.</li> <li>- Could record stories from families – de-identify, off camera, etc.</li> <li>- Be wary of fishbowl experience for family.</li> <li>- Compensate any family who contributes</li> <li>- Support family to develop their story in a way that can be helpful for them, not just the system.</li> <li>- Needs to be clear what is the purpose of sharing the story? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o What helped it be successful</li> <li>o Want to avoid discussion going off the rails.</li> <li>o What is message want to get across.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Not currently involved in process – too raw.</li> <li>- Prepare family, manage well</li> <li>- Need to identify soon if we want to do this. Identify a family whose situation is resolved, ask if interested? Could put this out to LIT Coordinators. Could have different modalities of how to share story – if someone wants to write, record, or attend.</li> <li>- Could ask parent reps about what they have seen in CSP meetings that facilitated the process – via survey?</li> <li>- <b>Create 5-6 touchpoints of how CSP process can be an empowering experience for a family.</b></li> </ul>

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	<p>➔ What message do we want to focus on for family voice at this year's LIT extravaganza? We could tackle something this year related to <i>Back to Basics</i> – Have Parent Support Reps talk about how to have family's voice elevated in CSP meeting, role of parent support, communication with family before/during/after the CSP.</p> <p>➔ Then plan for more in-depth focus next year with family voice, identifying family(ies) to contribute.</p> <p>Do Beth &amp; Cheryle need additional folks to help plan, given time frame?!  - Dana, Karen Price, Deb F.</p>
<p><b>System of Care Report Discussion</b></p>	<p>Look at the System of Care Report thinking about the LIT Extravaganza and how we could use it that day?</p> <p>Thinking about why does this report matter to me?? How does this impact my work and why should this matter?</p> <p>How do we make this meaningful and useful?</p>