

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**



**Coordinating Council on School Mental Health Meeting**

**July 30, 2018**

**64 New York Avenue, NE – Room 284**

**1:00pm-3:00pm**

**Facilitator:**

**Coordinating Council Members**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation/Designation</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Designee</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Ms. Maureen Akunwafor	DC Public School Teacher	Not Present		
Ms. Erica Barnes	Department of Behavioral Health	Present		
Dr. Lee Beers	Children's National Health System	Present		
Dr. Deitra Bryant-Mallory	District of Columbia Public Schools	Present		
Ms. Alyssa Conti	District of Columbia Public Charter School Teacher	Not Present		
Dr. Kafui Doe	Department of Health	Present		
Ms. Denise Dunbar	Department of Behavioral Health	Not Present		
Councilmember Vincent Gray	DC Council-Committee on Health	Not Present		
Ms. Sharra Greer	Children's Law Center	Present	Mr. Michael Villafranca	Present
Councilmember David Grosso	DC Council-Committee on Education	Not Present	Ms. Katrina Forrest	Present
Ms. Chalon Jones	Office of the Deputy Mayor of Education	Not Present		
Ms. Sarah Koreishi	Child and Family Services Administration	Present		
Mr. Michael Lamb	Non-Core Services Agency Provider	Not Present		

Mr. Mark LeVota	DC Behavioral Health Association	Present		
Dr. Taiwan Lovelace	Department of Behavioral Health	Present		
Mr. Nathan Luecking	Department of Behavioral Health	Not Present		
Mr. Michael Musante	Friends of Choice in Urban Schools (FOCUS)	Present		
Mr. Javon Oliver	Department of Health Care Finance	Present		
Dr. Chioma Oruh	DC Public School Parent	Present		
Ms. Michelle Palmer	Non-Core Services Agency	Not Present	Ms. Rebecca Roesch	Present
Ms. Barbara J. Parks	Department of Behavioral Health	Present		
Ms. Marisa Parrella	Core Services Agency	Not Present		
Mr. Scott Pearson	DC Public Charter School Board		Ms. Audrey Williams	Present
Ms. Juanita Price	Core Services Agency	Present by phone		
Dr. Olga Acosta Price	Milken Institute School of Public Health, GWU	Present		
Ms. Shanica Raiford	Youth Representative	Not Present		
Mr. Justin Ralston	DC Public School Principal	Present		
Dr. Tanya A. Royster	Department of Behavioral Health	Not Present		
Dr. Heidi Schumacher	Office of the State Superintendent of Education	Present		
Dr. Charneta Scott	Department of Behavioral Health	Present		
Ms. Colleen Sonosky	Department of Health Care Finance	Not Present	Ms. Serina Kavanaugh	Present by phone
Ms. Sakina Thompson	Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services	Present		
Mr. Michael Villafranca	Children's Law Center	Present		
Mr. Raymond Weeden	DC Public Charter School Principal Representative	Not Present		
Ms. Molly Whalen	DC Public Charter School Parent	Not Present		

**Additional District Government or DCPCSB Staff Present**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Office or Agency</b>
Ms. Cemone Bynum	Staff	Department of Behavioral Health
Ms. Tia Marie D. Brumsted	OSSE	Tia.brumsted@dc.gov
Ms. Kerriann Peart (on phone)	OSSE	Kerriann.peart@dc.gov
Mr. Harvier Miller-Daye	DC Council Intern	HMiller.Lu@mydcps.org

**Public Attendees**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency/Position</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>E-Mail</b>

**AGENDA**

**I. Welcome & Introductions**

Members of council and the public attendee introduced themselves and shared aspects of their organization’s work that might be beneficial to the group.

**II. Review of Agenda**

Ms. Sakina Thompson drew the attention of the members and the public to the provided agenda.

**III. Updates**

**A. RFA for Provider Grant Funding**

The Deadline for the RFA applications is August 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:45PM. The first FAQs document was posted on Wednesday to the OPGS website. There was a delay with getting the FAQs to the DBH website, however at this time, any member of your network who is looking for the document should be referred to the OPGS website until confirmation of posting to the DBH website. FAQs of the previous week are loaded to the website by Wednesday. Responses are also directly provided to the person who poses the question.

**B. Status of RFPs**

Dr. Scott received communication from the Office of Contracting and Procurement regarding the Community of Practice/Technical Assistance RFP and the Evaluation RFP. Refinements to the RFP evaluation criteria are being made to both draft documents.

Ms. Thompson also reminded the Coordinating Council that at the end of the Task Force, the Office of the Deputy Mayor of Health and Human Services reached out to the Lab @DC to see if they could assist with the evaluation and analysis of the crisis services. That was of great interest to the Task Force and we also knew that the funding for the evaluation was very minimal and even though that piece is in the RFP, Sakina is going to touch base with Jay Melder to touch base again with the Lab @DC regarding how we can partner with them. Sakina will report back with an update at the next CC meeting.

### **C. Status of Initial Resource Mapping**

The number of schools with completed interviews is fourteen

There are four schools that are in the process

There are thirty-five schools that have been contacted but not yet in the process

A recent update is that a few more schools have been reached.

Strategies and next steps for moving forward...

- Charter Schools – OSSE to reach out directly to each of the schools that have not responded
- DCPS will email Instructional Superintendents for each of the schools and request support in the process
- Ms. Parks will follow-up with how many of the remaining schools have a DBH clinician because obtaining assistance from the DBH clinicians was another strategy of moving the work forward
- Mr. Musante will connect with Dr. Schumacher after the meeting to further coordinate how FOCUS may be of support.

### **IV. Briefing on new CFSA Behavioral Health Model**

Ms. Sarah Koreishi provided a briefing on the CFSA behavioral health model. Over the past 6 months, CFSA has been brainstorming how better to connect children who are in foster care to mental health services. CFSA has a lot of support from DBH and over the years had some co-located staff who were onsite to help with making connections. CFSA had no problem enrolling children and connecting to services from Core Services Agencies and the Choice Provider Network, however there has been a lag time in receiving therapy from therapists. So, CFSA is trying to address the issue and specifically with those, who are most vulnerable coming in and newly removed from their families, to help them to be seen right away.

In response, CFSA built a model where they will be adding 3 therapists to CFSA staff for the Healthy Horizon's Assessment Center. This is the clinic where all health screenings occur for new children coming into care. Beginning in the Fall is the goal for the start of the work of the soon to be hired therapists. This is short-term and the goal is to mitigate as much stress as possible – triage, meet children where they are, develop a therapeutic plan, and help them with some sense of stability as they are being placed into foster homes and promote placement stability. Also working with DBH partners in the development of a scope of work for a long-term care provider. Contract with a long-term Medicaid provider for those children who need long-term care once reunified. Ms. Koreishi stated that CFSA is not trying to disrupt those children in care who are already receiving services. Given that the Choice Provider network has shrunk, CFSA wants to have another option. The intent is not to remove services from children who are already receiving services. Ms. Koreishi further stated that this is a good time to join the work of the Coordinating Council as CFSA explores longer-term supports for the children within the schools where they are and how to not be duplicative. Partnership is also needed for the In-home families.

The therapists are targeted to be hired at the beginning of the new fiscal year in October. For those children newly removed in the Fall, the children will have the opportunity to see the CFSA therapists in-house. For the longer-term care provider, the contract is hoped to be awarded in January, 2019. There is also a goal to look at children who have multiple placement disruptions and look at other ways to partner. CFSA is not trying to become a mental health provider, it is about trying to access services for the children. Mr. Musante requested trend data regarding where children are removed and the schools they attend. This may inform dollars being maximized where the need exists.

The Short-term services of the clinic are for 6 months and then a transfer to the long-term provider. There will also be a securing of a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner. The scope of the long-term provider will include the capacity to work with Birth families. Dr. Oruh highlighted concern regarding a missed opportunity when a provider is providing treatment services for the child yet not a part of the services

being provided in a holistic way. CFSA is seeking to provide services in the home setting rather than in the school setting. There is a focus on placement stability, building relationship, and building in context.

## **V. Committee Reports**

### **A. Family and Youth**

The parent letter is complete and has been signed by Dr. Royster and it's also in the process of being translated into the six required language access languages (Spanish, Amharic, French, Vietnamese, Mandarin, and Korean).

Guidance on how should letters go out to the Parents and thoughts about Communications/Messaging

- (DCPCS) When school starts, it is best to distribute then because the practice is to send letters to principals who then send letters out to parents
- Ms. Parks noted that Back to School Nights are good to use for communicating messages
- (OSSE) has touches for pushes of info to parents
- There is a need to develop a communications working group that includes expertise from DBH, EOM, and DME to inform the content for social media presence
- Dr. Bryant-Mallory noted the importance of incorporating messaging to school based teams because they may be the ones delivering the message about the expansion. The teams need support in their capacity to respond to questions.
- Dr. Schumacher noted the importance of consistency and expediency. Have the pushes leading back to a singular set of resources (i.e., a sentence on twitter and link to Dr. Royster's letter on the website – lead back to a single voice.

The Family and Youth committee will provide a best practice 1-pager on how to outreach to parents and youth; and ways to organize for the ongoing planning of schools to engage families and youth (e.g., listening sessions).

Explore what other professional organizations gov't and non-gov't for referral sources, partners, and sources for pushing out information.

#### **Healthyminds.dc.com**

Need to continue to grow the site and be responsive to what Family and Youth Need. Will work with the DBH Director of Communications around short-term and long-term refining of content. In response to conversation with the DBH Director of Communications, the Family and Youth committee will help Dr. Scott with key questions and she will assemble a small group of subject matter experts to develop the responses for posting on the website.

Next Meeting – Friday, August 10, 2018 1:30PM – 3:00PM

### **B. School & Provider Readiness**

Ms. Parks stated that the committee has been working a great deal on the initial document between the school and the CBO – looking at the DCPS document and the DBH document as guides. Looking at what schools need to know to be prepared to accept the provider and what providers need to know about schools. The document is close to being ready to finalize the recommendation by the next meeting. Ms. Parks noted exciting news that there is a date for an event to occur. She noted that the committee wanted a way to introduce the expansion to principals in a more collective, personal, and uniformed manner. In speaking with Audrey and Rachel about bringing principals and Heads of School together in

the 52 schools, the DC Public Charter schools have a date...Wednesday Sept 5<sup>th</sup> from 4:30PM to 6:00PM there will be 18 charters of 52 schools that will convene at DCPS headquarters...refreshments will be available. Talk about perhaps having live streaming for those who are unable to attend. DCPS will soon have a date. These will be the beginning of an introductory meeting of the schools with the selected Providers (given that the goal date for the selection of the providers is 8/17/18). This is an opportunity to build excitement and help schools begin to think about their school within the framework of the expansion of school mental health.

The committee will be recommending trainings for providers and supervisors (i.e., reflective supervision). The committee will also be working on standards of care in school mental health.

Dr. Price also inquired about and noted the importance of including the providers in the Evidence Based Trainings offered by the DBH Training Institute.

Next meeting – August 8<sup>th</sup> 9:30AM to 11:00AM

### **C. Implementation**

Dr. Bryant-Mallory stated that the Implementation committee met for the first time in person today and the bulk of the time was spent looking at four needs assessment tools that were thought to be the richest in terms of content. The committee will be finalizing based on electronic survey the two that they plan to bring to the Coordinating Council as recommendations. Additionally, the co-chairs of the Implementation committee have been exploring what needs to occur within the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the year. Recognition of some overlap between the tasks of the Implementation committee and the School and Provider Readiness committee. In terms of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the expansion, it involves on-boarding and implementation which includes the Needs Assessment, results of the Needs Assessment, *What do we now know*, and *Where do we go from here*.

Next meeting – August 13<sup>th</sup> Half-day session to make final recommendations on the Needs Assessment.

The committee will also promote the addition of training on referral processes, teaming, and best practices for collaboration.

#### **VI. Schedule for next weeks:**

There will be no meeting during the week of August 13<sup>th</sup> and this will give committees the opportunity to get a lot of work done.

The Data committee is organizing itself and beginning to look at what topics will be.

Mr. Musante congratulated the co-chairs of committees and everyone for their time commitment, cooperation, coordination, outreach, hearing other's ideas, and inputs.

#### **VII. Next steps:**

Please respond to the Doodle Poll regarding the scheduling of the next Coordinating Council meeting.

#### **VIII. Adjourn: 2:42PM**