

West Virginia (WV) Commission to Study Residential Placement of Children and the Kids Thrive Collaborative (KTC) Meeting

Date: Thursday, December 5, 2024
Time and Location: 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. / Virtual Only
Meeting Information: Zoom link: <https://berrydunn.zoom.us/j/95184649169>
 Dial-in: (646) 876-9923; Meeting ID: 951 8464 9169

Agenda Items

Item #	Topic and Description	Responsible
1	Welcome	Deputy Secretary Cammie Chapman
2	Commission to Study Residential Placements of Children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of September 2024 Meeting Notes Commission Legislature Responsibility and Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GOAL 1: Transformational Collaborative Outcomes Management (TCOM) §49-2-125 (e)(3) GOAL 2: Provider Input at Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) and Court §49-2-125(d)(4) GOAL 3: Implementation of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) 	Deputy Secretary Chapman Linda Gibson Brenda Hoylman Jacob Green
3	Bureau for Medical Services (BMS) Chapter 502 Policy Update	Laura Radcliff
4	BMS Chapter 503F Public Comment Period	Cynthia Parsons
5	Certified Comprehensive Behavioral Health Centers (CCBHCs) Update	Cynthia Parsons
6	Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)	Andrea Ramsey-Mitchell
7	Updates from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)	Beth Kurtz, DOJ
8	Meeting Conclusion	Deputy Secretary Chapman

Meeting Notes

Item #	Topic and Description
1	Welcome
2	Commission to Study Residential Placements of Children <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There were no objections to the September 2024 meeting notes.
	Commission Legislature Responsibility and Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none">• GOAL 1: TCOM §49-2-125 (e)(3)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Linda Gibson provided the following updates.○ TCOM tools are widely used in West Virginia (WV) as well as nationally and internationally.○ The three main tools used by the TCOM team are the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS), Family Advocacy Support Tool (FAST), and Adult Needs and Strengths Assessment (ANSA).○ Marshall University (MU) trains Child Protective Services (CPS) workers, Youth Services (YS) workers, Wraparound Facilitators (WFs), and the community on the use and understanding of the listed tools.○ Advanced trainers receive extra training to meet requirements.○ MU monitors and tracks certification of the tools.○ MU provides technical assistance (TA) for virtual sessions.○ MU does CANS and discharge plans for children who are placed out of state.○ MU works with National Wraparound Implementation Center (NWIC) to develop individual sessions.○ MU will conduct fidelity reviews beginning in January 2025.○ MU, along with the Department of Human Services (DoHS), had a team attend an international TCOM conference. The topics presented on were the following: predicting runaway behavior in runaway youth, and effective casework in WV using the FAST and TA sessions.○ MU is developing ANSA training.○ Additional information regarding the above initiatives can be found in the five-year plan and commissions report.○ The fidelity report and latent class analysis can be found on the Kids Thrive website.○ Linda believes the mental health school initiative is using FAST.

Item #

Topic and Description

- **GOAL 2: Provider Input at Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) and Court §49-2-125(d)(4)**
 - Brenda Hoylman provided the following update.
 - Brenda's team is working through how to best use the data, as much is anecdotal.
 - Work on the MDT project is currently on hold, as it is expected that many new judges will come on board in 2025.
 - Many in-person trainings are scheduled for 2025.
 - Each area of the state handles their MDT process differently.
 - Feedback regarding the MDT process can be sent to Brenda.
 - Cindy Largent Hill highlighted the variation of MDTs across the state, which makes it difficult to evaluate effectiveness.
 - Cammie Chapman suggested developing a subcommittee to work through survey questions to help ensure they are meaningful.
 - Cindy suggested further analyzing MDT attendance and potentially identifying other markers of success.
 - The group discussed MDTs held outside the courtroom.
 - Brenda and Cindy will further discuss this topic and options for moving forward after the first of the year.
 - Anyone interested in joining the conversation should reach out to Brenda.
 - Elizabeth Hardy, Raymond Hall, Asia Gray, Kathy Szafran, and Jennifer Ervin are interested in joining this workgroup.

- **GOAL 3: Implementation of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)**

- Jacob Green provided the following updates.
- Since ESSA inception, over 300 foster care students have been served.
- The program works to address educational/transition barriers and train parents.
- A form is being developed for DoHS workers which aims to improve communication between the Department of Education (DOE) and DoHS.
- There are ongoing issues with students moving mid-year and spaces in certain desired programs are not available.
- The group discussed scenarios where youth are moved toward the end of the school year.
 - These decisions should be individualized to help ensure the child's best interests are priority.
 - Laura Hunt said data shows youth are often held in placement for up to three to four months to finish the school year/program curriculum. This is not best practice.
 - Cynthia Persily highlighted the importance of making individualized decisions for children, balanced with what the data shows is needed.
 - It is important for youth entering into residential intervention that they are well informed on which classes they take and which credits may transfer.

3**BMS Chapter 502 Policy Update**

- Cynthia Parsons provided the following updates.
- Chapter 502 policy update included key changes to Wraparound facilitation.
- WF has two separate levels of services for children with moderate and high-intensity levels of care. Both services have a per-member-per-month (PMPM) unit instead of the previous 15-minute unit. The goal of this change was to provide comprehensive support and coordination to better address the complex needs of each child.
- Language was strengthened related to coordination and responsibilities for children and families.
- Mobile crisis services were removed as they are now available under Chapter 503.
- Aetna held provider training in September 2024.
- Anyone interested in Children with Serious Emotional Disorders (CSED) billing training can reach out to Cynthia Parsons or Laura Radcliff.

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4 BMS Chapter 503F Public Comment Period

- Cynthia Parsons provided the following updates.
- BMS Chapter 503F is available for public comment through December 21, 2024.
- Policy was updated to add level III.V services.
- References to the Bureau for Children and Families (BCF) were changed to Bureau for Social Services (BSS).
- References to the Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) were changed to DoHS.

5 CCBHCs Update

- Cynthia Parsons provided the following updates.
- CCBHCs are now a nationally recognized provider type.
- Currently, there are six CCBHCs in the state. DoHS will draft a map to demonstrate the six clinics and the areas served.
- CCBHCs serve children and adults.
- CCBHCs must have an Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) team and provide CSED waiver services.
- DoHS is tracking data to help ensure families are not being turned away by CCBHCs and are given access to care.
- DoHS will work to develop a map outlining where the state's CCBHCs are located.
- Linda plans to reach out to Cynthia regarding families with significant needs who are having issues accessing services.
 - Cynthia highlighted the potential for families to reapply for services if they have been denied in the past.
- Nick Stuchell provided the following link to comprehensive behavioral health centers (not specific to CCBHCs).
 - [Comprehensive Behavioral Health Center Map](#)
- WV is unique in that children's services are required in CCBHCs, showing that DoHS is dedicated to building out their children's mental health system.
- Additional questions can be sent to Cynthia at Cynthia.A.Parsons@wv.gov.

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6 FFPSA

- Andrea Ramsey-Mitchell provided the following updates.
- FFPSA was signed into law in 2018, with a goal of keeping children safe with their families and reducing the need for foster care.
- The act allows federal funding of certain services provided to families.
- WV’s Title IV-E Prevention Plan was approved in 2019.
- Services included in WV’s state plan are:
 - Functional Family Therapy
 - Healthy Families America
 - Parents as Teachers
 - These services are provided by Family Support Centers, Socially Necessary Services (SNS) providers, and providers who provide in-home visitation.
- WV has a low claiming rate on FFPSA services.
- A workgroup has been developed to amend the current plan.
- The workgroup’s areas of focus include:
 - Identifying barriers that lead to low claiming
 - Expanding provider capacity
 - Adding Triple P parenting services
 - Developing a community pathway
- Some providers included in the workgroups have lived experience.
 - One participant suggested including people with lived experience in the workgroup.

7 Updates from the DOJ

- Beth Kurtz highlighted the DOJ’s partnership with WV.
- Questions or concerns can be emailed to Beth.
- The partnership with the DOJ is expected to continue into 2025.
- More information can be found on the Kids Thrive Collaborative website:
 - [DOJ Partnership](#)

8 Meeting Conclusion