



Quarterly Kids Thrive Collaborative Meeting

Date: Thursday, April 13, 2023

Time and Location: 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. ET / Virtual Only

Dial-In Information: 1-646-876-9923 / Meeting ID: 974 5032 9006

Web Conference: <https://berrydunn.zoom.us/j/97450329006>

Attendees: Carna Metheny-White, Annie Messinger, Melinda Strader-Mason, Andrea Richardson, Heather Collins, Rebecca Roth, Jennifer Lowther, Lori Bragg, Cammie Chapman, Gabe Conley, Kristi Ferrell, Lisa Roberts, Lisa McMullen, Gwen Davis, Debi Gillespie, Teresa Berg, Colleen Mowrey, Tammie Rizzio, Sherill Hoffman, Damon Cater, Julia Kesler, Carissa Davis, Cassandra Toliver, Brittany Compton, Jessica Fulkner, Jeff Pack, Roxanne Chaney, Beth Kurtz, Selena Hoyer, Deb Murphy, Elliott Birckhead, Laura Garner, Elisa Rosman, Brooke Boston, Jennifer Ervin, Lorie Bragg, Nikki Tennis, Gail Noullet, Cynthia Parsons, Logan Arnold, Amy Pike, Steve Tuck, Kendra Rogers, Terri Miller, Andrea Carroll, Caterina DeFazio, Roderick Rose, Lisa Ertl, Portia Smith, Courtney Rombow, Andrea Mitchell, Stephanie Williams, Courtney Hereford, Cindy Largent-Hill, Mia VanSant, Monica Ballard-Booth, Andrea Darr, Meghan Luce, Laura Hunt, Kelli Caseman, Wana Jin, Barb Broaddus, Tony Richards, Rachel Kinder, Marissa Sanders, Jeff Wiseman, Jacki Englehardt, Robin Renquest, Carolyn Canini, Laura Hawkins, Rebecca Gillam, Katrina Harmon, Mark Kennedy, Julianne Yacovone, Sarah Sanders, Michelle Dean, Brittany Gould, Linda Boyer, Lisa Costello, Brenda Hoylman, Pam Kaehler, Angie Hamilton Thomas, Karo Omodior

Agenda Items

Item #	Topic and Description	Responsible
	Welcome	Cammie Chapman
1	Legislative Update	Cammie Chapman
2	West Virginia (WV) Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) Semiannual Quality and Outcomes Report – January 2023	Laura Hunt
3	Children with Serious Emotional Disorder (CSED) Waiver Update	Laura Hunt
4	Bringing Our Children Home	Lorie Bragg
5	Qualified Independent Assessment (QIA) Process	Lorie Bragg
6	Discharge Planning Update	Lorie Bragg
7	30-Day Reauthorization Process Update	Brooke Boston

8	Transitioning Youth From Residential Mental Health Treatment Facilities (RMHTFs)	Lorie Bragg
9	Reducing the Reliance on Residential (R3) Stakeholders – Subgroups Update	Brooke Boston
10	Updates from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and Subject Matter Expert (SME)	Beth Kurtz (DOJ)/ Jennifer Lowther (SME)
	Meeting Conclusion	Cammie Chapman

Meeting Notes

Item #	Topic and Description
	Welcome
1	<p>Legislative Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cammie Chapman provided an overview from the legislative session. • House Bill 2006 implements a division within DHHR effective January 1, 2024. Bureaus/offices will be divided as follows. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Department of Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bureau for Public Health (BPH) ▪ Office of Emergency Medical Services ▪ Office of the Chief Medical Examiner ▪ Center for Threat Preparedness ▪ Health Care Authority ▪ Office of Inspector General ▪ Human Rights Commission ○ Department of Human Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bureau for Social Services (BSS) ▪ Bureau for Medical Services (BMS) ▪ Bureau for Child Support Enforcement ▪ Bureau for Family Assistance ▪ Bureau for Behavioral Health (BBH) ▪ Office of Drug Control Policy ○ Department Health Facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oversees DHHR-owned hospitals ○ Yet to be designated to a department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing ▪ Women’s Commission ▪ Developmental Disabilities Council ▪ JTM Catastrophic Illness Commission

- Family Protection Services Board
 - Commission to Study Residential Placement of Children
 - There will be an office of shared administration.
 - This is a positive change that will allow secretaries to have a narrower focus.
- House Bill 2018 permits Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) to attend multi-disciplinary team (MDT) meetings.
- House Bill 3061 expands authority of the Foster Care Ombudsman.
- Senate Bill 273 formally creates BSS, requires staffing allocations for Child Protective Services (CPS), requires reporting procedures for centralized intake, exempts BSS from the Division of Personnel, and requires certain statistics to be placed on the Child Welfare Data Dashboard.
- House Bill 3261 provides authority to hire certain retirees and individuals with an associate degree in a pilot program in Judicial Districts 23 and 14.
- House Bill 2016 allows Child-Placing Agencies (CPAs) to request birth certificates from Vital Statistics and clarifies confidentiality with referrals.
- H2875 allows for children to be placed with grandparents without home study.
- House Bill 2917 allows BSS to hire retired state workers.
- Senate Bill 647 provides a ceiling on certain substantiations of findings of abuse and neglect allegations.
- House Bill 3439 limits civil liability for child welfare agencies.

2 WV DHHR Semiannual Quality and Outcomes Report – January 2023

- Laura Hunt said this will be the third report and said DHHR is seeing positive change with implementation. The report can be found on the Kids Thrive website: kidsthive.wv.gov
- Please see attached slide deck titled “2023 Semi Annual Report Overview.”

3 CSED Waiver Update

- Laura said provider enrollment continues to be a focus. The number of agencies participating in the program has increased from 12 to 19 with an additional 10 agencies in the provider enrollment process.
- Please see attached slide deck titled “20230413 Kids Thrive Collaborative,” specifically slides titled “CSED Waiver Update.”

4 Bringing Our Children Home

- Lorie Bragg said DHHR plans to reduce the number of children placed in out-of-state (OOS) facilities. DHHR has met with other states for technical assistance (TA) to learn best practices. The team is working to identify service gaps to better serve youth.
- The goal is to reduce the number of OOS placements to 210 by end of year (EOY).
- Please see attached slide deck titled “20230413 Kids Thrive Collaborative,” specifically slides titled “Bringing our Children Home.”

5 QIA Process

- Lorie said DHHR has contracted with Kepro to conduct independent assessments

and recommend the level of service each child needs.

- Lorie said DHHR began training staff in August 2022 on making referrals to the (QIA) process. DHHR is on target to have staff trained by the end of May. The expectation is that all children entering residential care will have had an assessment.
- Please see attached slide deck titled “20230413 Kids Thrive Collaborative,” specifically slides titled “QIA Process Update.”

6 Discharge Planning Update

- Lorie said DHHR has been working with Aetna to review discharge barriers for children with a Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS)/Preschool and Early Childhood Functional Assessment Scale (PECFAS) score under 90. It is important that discharge plans are not only in place, but appropriate. Every month, during the reauthorization process, the team will review discharge plans.
- Please see attached slide deck titled “20230413 Kids Thrive Collaborative,” specifically slides titled “Discharge Planning Update.”

7 30-Day Reauthorization Process Update

- Brooke Boston said since October of 2022, providers have been completing monthly reevaluations for necessity with Aetna. At each reevaluation, the team reviews the discharge plans with a goal of moving children into a community-based setting as quickly as possible.
- Please see attached slide deck titled “20230413 Kids Thrive Collaborative,” specifically slides titled “30-Day Reauthorization Process Update.”

8 Transitioning Youth From RMHTFs

- Lorie said the team is focusing on children with a CAFAS/PECFAS under 90. She explained the primary discharge barriers identified.
- Please see attached slide deck titled “20230413 Kids Thrive Collaborative,” specifically slides titled “Transitioning Youth from RMHTFs.”

9 R3 Stakeholders – Subgroups Update

- Brooke said as part of residential redesign, DHHR aims to collaborate with providers. She said the following subgroups (composed of DHHR staff, BerryDunn staff, and stakeholders) have been meeting since October 2022.
 - Prudent Parenting
 - Family Connections
 - High-Acuity
 - Culture of Safety
 - MDT
- Please see attached slide deck titled “20230413 Kids Thrive Collaborative,” specifically slides titled “Subgroups Update.”

10 Updates from the DOJ and SME

- Beth Kurtz introduced herself and explained her role with the 2019 DOJ agreement.

- Beth asked that any follow-up questions be sent to her via email at beth.kurtz@usdoj.gov.
- Jennifer Lowther introduced herself and said her role is to lead the SME team. Jennifer can be reached via email at jlowther@ssw.umaryland.edu.

Meeting Conclusion