DAUPHIN COUNTY MH/ID PROGRAM BOARD
MEETING MINUTES AND PLANNER

MEETING DATE:  July 27, 2017

MEETING PLACE: CMU, 1100 South Cameron Street, Harrisburg

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members: Judy Vercher, Liz Pliszka, Barbara Biancone, Gregg Davis, Bonnie Rice, Glen Bartlett

Staff: Dan Eisenhauer, Rose Schultz, Frank Magel, Serge Grigoryan, Joe Whalen, Paul Geffert, Lynn Pascoa, Deb Louie, Renee Robison

Guests: Ben Johnson, Pressly Ridge

MEETING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

- Education Topic
- Administrator’s Report
- Committee Reports
- Fiscal Report
- Community Input

DECISIONS:

- Approval of May 27, 2017, Advisory Board minutes

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

- None at this time

NEXT MEETING DATE:
September 28, 2017, at Paxton Street Home, 2001 Paxton Street, Harrisburg. The agenda will include a presentation, as well as the Administrator’s Report and Committee Reports.
Welcome and Introductions
Judy Vercher called the meeting to order. Judy welcomed everyone in attendance, and introductions followed.

Approval of the May 27, 2017, Board Meeting Minutes
The motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes.

Administrator’s Report
A written administrator’s report was not distributed. However, Dan Eisenhauer noted the following:

The state budget spending plan has been approved, although the revenue part of it still has not been figured out. The main emphasis has been the expansion of gambling revenue.

Senate Bill 600 – this bill would institute copayments to force the work requirement for people on Medicaid, although most people are already working.

The 1st quarter payment for the block grant is supposed to come on July 28.

Presentation – Federal, State, and Dauphin County MH/ID Updates – Dan Eisenhauer
Dan distributed copies of the PowerPoint presentation. Highlights are below:

Healthcare AHCA

HR 1268 or the American Health Care Act (ACHA)

Current status: Passed House on May 4, 2017, referred to Senate

- Reduce federal deficit by 119 billion
- Reduce Medicaid funding by 834 billion by 2026
- Reduce healthcare subsidies paid to people who purchase insurance through exchanges by 276 billion
- Impact on uninsured people
  - Increase by 14 million in 2018
  - Increase by 19 million in 2020
  - Increase by 23 million in 2026
- CBO/JCT estimates that a total of 51 million people would be uninsured under age 65 vs 28 million under current law
- Market forces and state waiver options would also impact coverage and pricing for insurance. AHCA would allow state to apply for waivers to:
  - Eliminate essential health benefits – that is, not cover maternity care; Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol, Rehabilitation, Habilitation; child dental care, eliminate the current ban on lifetime limits. So, while premiums might decrease, out-of-pocket expenses would increase as consumers would have to pay for these non-covered services
Price insurance rates based on a person’s health (not by using current community health rating) if no continuous coverage, there would be increased costs for insurance and likely present difficulty for persons with pre-existing conditions

Impact to Dauphin County MH/ID

- Increase risk of homelessness
- Further reduces affordable housing options for people with disabilities and low to moderate income persons
- Puts several HealthChoices funded housing programs at risk because of reduced availability of housing choice vouchers
- Would hamper collaborative efforts between the Housing Authority of the County of Dauphin and MH/ID for projects like Sunflower Fields, Bridge Rental Subsidy, Shelter Plus Care, and the 811 project

Dauphin County MH/ID Initiatives

- Continue positive behavior interventions and supports grant implementation in the EI program
- Complete and implement the EI, CMU, and C&Y Memorandum of Understanding for EI and CYS involved children
- Continue ID Employment First initiatives including developing enhanced supported employment, continuing Project Search, continue engagement with employers and supported employment providers
- Provide technical assistance and support to ID providers to meet community participation requirements
- Develop strategies for increasing clinical capabilities and improved team processes to serve people diagnosed with MH/ID and/or Autism and ID
- Continue to develop Life Courses, helping families to be more informed about supporting people with disabilities, improving community connections, and developing natural supports
- Continue MH and school collaboration to improve MH services to students
- Continue implementation of First Episode Psychosis Grant (CAPSTONE)
- Maximize opportunities to improve affordable housing options
- Complete Stepping Up data analysis and begin policy development based on data
- Implement value based purchasing strategies in behavioral health

With the consistent cuts to MH/ID, Dan credited the staff with being creative and solving problems with less money. The question was asked if an editorial from the Board or members of the Board would be beneficial. Dan stated that an editorial that helps to educate people, for example, regarding Medicaid, would be helpful.

Committee Reports

Mental Health Committee – The minutes from the June 19, 2017, meeting were distributed.
Since the Adult MH and the Children’s MH Committees have merged, the focus has been to educate the members that come to the meeting and a PowerPoint presentation was viewed at this meeting.

Housing programs – the HUD 811 program has several requirements that applicants need to meet in order to be qualified for housing. They must need MH or ID services, have been diagnosed with Autism, or have a physical disability. From there, their need for housing is also prioritized based on their current living situation.

**Intellectual Disabilities Committee** – The minutes from the June 6, 2017, meeting were distributed. Liz Pliszka stated she did meet at another date and time with members of this committee and she has gotten a better perspective from families and caretakers about their frustration regarding the changes that have been made to submit the new CAO paperwork. She sent a memo to her supervisor regarding the concerns of families.

**Nominating Committee** – Dan will circulate the listing of categories of what Board members are still needed. It was noted that they do have to be a Dauphin County resident.

**Executive Committee** – No report.

**Fiscal Report**
Paul Geffert distributed the Budget vs. Expenses report by cost center. Paul stated that in the next 30 days all columns will be 100%. Dan stated the good news is we aren’t broke. It was noted that other insurance is paying outpatient and spending is 75% less. The fiscal year ended June 30. Paul is doing year-end cleanup at this time.

**Community Input and Other Comments**
None at this time.

**Adjournment**
There were no additional comments or announcements, and the meeting was adjourned.