



CONSUMER ADVISORY PANEL MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, August 13, 2020 – 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM

Virtual, Teams Meeting or Call in

Phone #: 586-482-8124 Conference ID: 767 783 32#

Present: John W., Wendy W., Sharon H., Lynette B., Lucinda S., Lisa T., Shawnee T., SaRah

CMH: Karen Hobart, Alan Neushwander, Kathy Haas

1. Welcome and Introductions

- a. Review of the August 13, 2020 Agenda
- b. Review of the June 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2020 agenda and June 11, 2020 minutes were accepted as presented.

2. Member Stories –

a. Member Experiences

Mr. Hofman asks the group about experiences/difficulties/positives of social distancing and accessing services through telehealth.

- Having difficulty receiving materials for business due to COVID.
- Overall, telehealth services are going very well for members.
- Mr. Hofman comments that we are seeing a rise in services used. There is a continued push to use telehealth because it is a viable alternative for the continuum to health services.

3. COVID-19 Updates –

a. Regional Updates

i. Provider Network Stability

- We are receiving information from providers regarding other funding sources that they are utilizing, but more information for clarification is being asked from some of them. Our goal is to make sure that the provider network can make it through the pandemic.
- This is a long process due to rules that must be adhered to in providing extra funding because of federal funds that are also being used.

ii. Front Line Worker Pay Increase

- These additional funds are being sent out to providers by the CMHs.

4. Advocacy–

5000 Hakes Drive - Suite 500, Norton Shores, MI 49441-5574

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- a. PIHP/State Advocate Group Discussions
 - During meetings, the person-centered planning process is being discussed.
 - The advocates cancelled the last meeting.
5. Regional Updates –
 - a. MDHHS/LRE Contract
 - The contract negotiations were paused due to COVID, but we have begun meeting with MDHHS again.
 - Mr. Hofman comments that the evidence suggests that we are in a better financial position since the statewide funding formula was updated and regional revenue has increased. This also shows that the original assumption that poor administrative management was not the main issue of past deficits.
 - The discussion with MDHS has been more positive than in the past.
 - b. LRE/Beacon Health Options Contract
 - The LRE has been meeting with Board and CMH Boards to discuss how we will move forward with the Beacon Contract. The next step will be to begin the negotiation process with Beacon.
 - c. Mental Health System Redesign
 - There is not a plan in place. The health plans would like to privatize the mental health system but there is advocacy against this that has held it off.
 - Mr. Hofman will continue to update the group when more information is out.
6. SUD
 - a. Youth Data
 - Governor Whitmer constituted a law that will keep flavored liquids for e-cigs from being sold. There will be public hearing and Ms. VanDerKooi will send out information if this would be of interest to members in the group.
 - There was a published study that there is a link between e-cigs and COVID – Ms. VanDerKooi will send out a link.
 - There is not much happening with other legislation because of lame duck session
 - A member asks if anyone is collecting data on people taking themselves off of psychotropic medicines and using more marijuana? Ms. VanDerKooi comments that there has been an increase in this and there is discussion with Dr. Waller who is an addictionologist. We are also seeing a slight increase in the use of marijuana by youths since legalization.
7. Other Items of Interest or Announcements of Upcoming Events
 - There is discussion related to homelessness and what resources are available for these individuals. Ms. Haas (Allegan CMH) comments that the customer service there offers resources for homeless individuals. The CMH emergency line can also be utilized.

- There have been issues with some of the Consumer Advisory groups within the Region. Mr. Hofman will follow-up.
 - Mental Health Courts – Muskegon County and Allegan County have mental health courts. Has there been an increase in the use of services instead of sending back to jail? Ms. Haas comments that she has heard positive reports.
8. Messages/Reporter to LRE Board of Directors
 - Clarify the meaning of primary and secondary consumer.
 9. LRE Board Meeting –
August 20, 2020 – 1:00pm
Call-in information will be posted on the LRE website
 10. Upcoming CAP Meetings (2nd Thursdays of alternate months - 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm)
October 8, December 10
Please plan on virtual meetings until the end of the year.
 11. Other:

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS