

**PENNSYLVANIA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COUNCIL**

<b>Date</b>	Tuesday, August 20, 2024
<b>Time</b>	Meeting starts at 1:00 pm
<b>Location</b>	Virtual – please see meeting invite for MS Teams link
<b>Purpose/Focus</b>	9th Council Meeting: Child and Adolescent Wellbeing and Addressing Gaps in Care
<b>Facilitators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair of Council, Secretary of the Governor’s Office of Policy &amp; Planning, Akbar Hossain</li> <li>• Executive Director, Behavioral Health Council, Dr. Chris Finello</li> <li>• Deputy Secretary, Department of Human Services, OMHSAS, Jennifer Smith</li> <li>• Deputy Secretary, Department of Human Services, Office of Medical Assistance Programs, Sally A. Kozak, MHA, RN</li> <li>• Director, Office of Safe Schools, Pennsylvania Department of Education, Dr. Scott Kuren</li> <li>• Office of Safe Schools, Pennsylvania Department of Education, Dr. Dana Milakovic</li> <li>• Director, Office of Research, Evaluation, &amp; Strategic Policy Development, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Kirsten Kenyon</li> <li>• Psychiatrist-in-Chief &amp; Chair of the Department of Child &amp; Adolescent Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Children’s Hospital of Pennsylvania, Dr. Tami Benton</li> <li>• Executive Director, Children’s First, Donna Cooper, MPA, MIM</li> <li>• Special Assistant, Complex Needs Planning, Dept. of Human Services, Jonathan McVey</li> </ul>
<b>Attendees</b>	<p><b>Commonwealth Representatives:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Secretary of Policy and Planning, Akbar Hossain</li> <li>2. Secretary of the Department of Human Services, Dr. Valerie Arkoosh</li> <li>3. Secretary of the Department of Health, Dr. Debra Bogen</li> <li>4. Commissioner of Pennsylvania Insurance Department, Michael Humphreys</li> <li>5. Secretary of the Department of Aging, Jason Kavulich</li> <li>6. Secretary of the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, Dr. Latika Davis-Jones</li> <li>7. Special Assistant to the Secretary, Cathy Hall, MPA, on behalf of Secretary of the Department of Education, Dr. Khalid Mumin</li> <li>8. Special Assistant to the Adjutant General, Mr. Richard Hamp, on behalf of Adjutant General of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Maj. Gen. Mark J. Schindler</li> <li>9. Policy and Legislative Affairs Office Director, Major Patrick Beaver, on behalf of Commissioner of Pennsylvania State Police, Colonel Christopher Paris</li> <li>10. Secretary of the Department of Corrections, Dr. Laurel Harry</li> <li>11. Secretary of the Department of State, Al Schmidt</li> <li>12. Exec. Dir. Rural Dev. Council, Western Reg. Dir. PA Dept. of Agriculture, Mr. Mark Critz on behalf of Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Russell Redding</li> <li>13. Director, Office of Research, Evaluation, &amp; Strategic Policy Development, Kirsten Kenyon on behalf of Executive Director, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Michael Pennington</li> <li>14. Bureau Director, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, PA Dept. of Labor and Industry, Denise Verchimak, on behalf of Secretary of the Department of Labor, Nancy Walker</li> <li>15. Digital Services Director at the Governor’s Office, Sadie Smiles on behalf of Director of Digital Strategy at the Governor’s Office, Annie Newman</li> <li>16. Pennsylvania Attorney General’s Safe2Say Something Program Director, Brittney Kline</li> <li>17. Deputy Secretary, Department of Human Services, OMHSAS, Jennifer Smith</li> </ol> <p><b>Representatives with lived or living experiences and family members:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18. Robert Hamilton, MPPM - Westmoreland DHS Director; Formerly homeless veteran and person in long-term recovery</li> <li>19. Kate Favata - Community Engagement Manager, Crossroads, Treatment Advocate</li> <li>20. Jennifer Wilt - Parent of a loved one with mental illness, President NAMI of Cumberland &amp; Perry Co.</li> </ol> <p><b>County Representatives:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>21. Tina Clymer, County Mental Health Office, Carbon, Monroe, and Pike counties</li> </ol>

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	<p>22. Dr. Tamra Williams, County Mental Health Office from Montgomery County</p> <p>23. Ryan Hogan, Single County Authority from Luzerne County</p> <p>24. Kristin Varner, Single County Authority from Dauphin County</p> <p>25. Lynn Deardorff, Area Agency on Aging from Adams County</p> <p>26. Dr. Shannah Gillam, Area Agency on Aging from Allegheny County</p> <p><b>Clinical Representatives:</b></p> <p>27. Dr. Amy Kim, an expert in child and family behavioral healthcare</p> <p>28. Dr. Margaret Jarvis, an expert in addiction medicine and substance use disorder treatments</p> <p>29. Dr. Jack Todd Wahrenberger, an expert in primary healthcare</p> <p>30. Dr. Wendy Ross, an expert in treating individuals with co-occurring IDD &amp; autism with mental illness</p> <p><b>Legislative Representatives from the General Assembly:</b></p> <p>31. Representative Mike Schlossberg (D)</p> <p>32. Representative Jim Struzzi (R)</p> <p>33. Senator Maria Collett (D)</p> <p>34. Senator Michele Brooks (R)</p>
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	<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Facilitator</b>	<b>Time</b>
1.	Call to Order	Secretary Hossain	1:00 pm – 1:10 pm
2.	Presentations on Child and Adolescent Wellbeing and Addressing Gaps in Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deputy Secretary, Department of Human Services, OMHSAS, Jennifer Smith</li> <li>• Deputy Secretary, Department of Human Services, Office of Medical Assistance Programs, Sally A. Kozak, MHA, RN</li> <li>• Director, Office of Safe Schools, Pennsylvania Department of Education, Dr. Scott Kuren</li> <li>• Office of Safe Schools, Pennsylvania Department of Education, Dr. Dana Milakovic</li> <li>• Director, Office of Research, Evaluation, &amp; Strategic Policy Development, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Kirsten Kenyon</li> <li>• Psychiatrist-in-Chief &amp; Chair of the Department of Child &amp; Adolescent Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Children’s Hospital of Pennsylvania, Dr. Tami Benton</li> <li>• Executive Director, Children’s First, Donna Cooper, MPA, MIM</li> <li>• Special Assistant, Complex Needs Planning, Dept. of Human Services, Jonathan McVey</li> </ul>	1:10 pm – 2:10 pm
3.	Facilitated Discussion	<p>Dr. Chris Finello</p> <p><b>Questions for discussion:</b></p> <p>1. We hear a lot of concerns around timely care and the right kind of care. <b>What should be done to reduce wait times for initial mental health assessments and follow-up care for children and adolescents across the state?</b></p> <p>2. We heard about the importance of integrating behavioral health care in settings that are most used by children, such as schools and pediatric appointments, to ensure the right care is provided at the right time of need. <b>What is needed for integration with primary care, school systems,</b></p>	2:10 pm – 2:40 pm

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		<p><b>and social services to create a holistic and seamless care experience for children and adolescents?</b></p> <p>3. After hearing all the presentations today: <b>Where does the Council see gaps in care, practices and lack of collaboration that should be highlighted here?</b></p> <p>4. <b>Is there a model of care with better evidence in other states or countries that can be implemented here in PA?</b></p>	
4.	Wrap-Up/Closing Remarks	Secretary Hossain	2:40 pm – 2:45 pm

**Future meetings will be scheduled on the third Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm.**

September 17, 2024 (IN PERSON)  
October 15, 2024

November 19, 2024  
December 17, 2024 (IN PERSON)