

# **SAA Summit**

## **June 5, 2020**

### **Members and Guests Present (via Skype):**

- CSAA: Matt Furlong, Crystal Evans
- WSAA: Tyler Steinebach, Stacey Wheeler, Denelle Pappier
- ESAA: Bruce Peterson, Brent Morris
- *Guests:* Dennis Nyland - Mental Health Ombudsman; Rena Steyaert – Executive Director for Mental Disabilities Board of Visitors

**AMDD Staff:** Jami Hansen - AMDD Liaison; Bobbi Perkins - AMDD Bureau Chief; Mary Collins - Interim Behavioral Health Supervisor; Alisha Mehdi - AMDD VISTA

### **Welcome/ Check In**

- Dennis Nyland and Rena Steyaert will be joining SAA meetings moving forward

### **Approval of Last Meeting Minutes**

- No questions or concerns
- **Stacey: Motion to approve minutes. Tyler seconded. Approval - no further discussion.**

### **New Business: Restructure**

- **Discussion**
  - Stacey spoke with Claire L., who has since changed her vote from 6 to 1 SAA's.
  - Matt: Non-profits traditionally do not fund board members – SAA needs to know for sure that stipends will be allowable. Insurance coverage for Board Officers is also important. Receiving consultation by the fiduciary would be helpful.
    - There is misinformation about the SAA status – non-profit/unincorporated/ etc. - not all Service Areas are registered on Secretary of State website. The legal team will ensure that
    - Getting these entity questions settled is priority for first Single SAA meeting
  - Brent: The Signature Page marks “mental health” - should we be using “behavioral health” language instead in this and all documents?
    - Yes – that language was taken from old SAA documents.
  - Brent: Per law, SAA leadership is required to have lived experience on the board. Are we losing voice of consumers/ loved ones by consolidating the boards?
    - Jami: Utilizing LAC's will bring more voice to leadership, and there are no limitations on who can attend meetings – public comment occurs at every meeting and is encouraged. We hope to bring in more peers through Jim Hajny's grant work with LAC's.

- Bruce: The Local Chair role, if they are persistent/consistent, will get more input from their region.
  - Tyler: How will funding get to LAC's? Who will the funding route through? It would be nice to offer money to communities
    - The money saved by not having three in-person meetings will be allocated by the Board. The goal is to allocate funding to every county and offer mini-grants, which would be approved by the statewide board on a quarterly basis.
    - Creating a pre-budget process would also help guide the board in decision-making (AMDD would not participate)
  - Tyler: Choosing one because of strengthening LAC's. It is important to take care to prevent losing community and consumer voice.
    - Brent: The Monday Morning meeting is an example of AMDD staff and SAA/LAC communication. Having fewer communities each will also help with this
  - Stacey: Leftover meeting money (not spent on food/ mileage/ etc.) has traditionally gone to communities. This year, with less in-person meetings, 4X as much money is going to communities.
  - **Stacey: Motion to move forward with Single SAA Board as described in the PowerPoint, and strongly supporting LAC's in process. Brent – seconded.**
    - **Matt would like to add priority of consumer participation in steps of moving forward, and have the decision be Service Area Authority driven first and foremost. Additions accepted – Stacey. Crystal – Seconded.**
    - **No opposition – Motion carries with 100% vote for. No further discussion.**
- **Next steps:**
  - Chairs and Co-Chairs – sign “signature page” to approve the transition on behalf of their service areas.
  - This is a decision to be made by Service Area Authorities and Local Advisory Councils. The Department supports this and will present it to DPHHS leadership.
  - Jami, Bobbi, and Alisha will present this plan, (with signatures, surveys, and a 1-Page) to Zoe Barnard - AMDD Administrator

### AMDD Information Sharing

- **Mary Collins - Interim Behavioral Health Supervisor, Program Manager**
  - Three recent pots of money that have been released for crisis:
    - **County-Tribal Matching Grant (CTMG) first release** - RFP'd last fall, awarded to 9 communities. **Mobile Crisis Unit Grant first release** - RFP'd last fall, awarded to 1 community. Contracts go through next June.
      - **County Tribal Matching Grant re-release (combined, braided funding source):** up to \$40,000 made available to all counties and

tribes not funded by prior release of CTMG. Contracts go through next June.

- So far, AMDD has funded 46 counties and 7 tribes
- Funding categories: community coordination, information sharing, housing, increased behavioral health capacity, telehealth, training, PPE
  - Many innovative projects have been funded
- **Mobile Crisis RFP was re-released May 29**
  - **Pre-proposal conference June 9 at 10am**
  - **Applied for, and received, a \$2 Million Grant from SAMHSA for direct services.**
    - About \$130,000 will go to each county funded through the original
    - **Contracts will go through next August**
- **Bobbi: Get on Interested Parties List (and have LAC's get involved) to provide input to rule changes**
- **Questions**
  - Brent: Many of the Medicaid telemedicine rules have shifted in light of COVID – will these rule changes continue once COVID slows down?
    - No guidance has been released yet. Bobbi knows that SAMHSA is pushing for states to continue offering telehealth, but what exactly that will look like hasn't been decided.
- **Rena/ Dennis – More calls have occurred, especially for children. Will try to make face-to-face contact with SAA's, LAC's, etc. moving forward**
  - **Questions**
    - Brent: Dennis is a great person to have involved.

### Public Comment

- No public comment.

### SAA Reports

- **CSAA - Matt**
  - **General:** Discussed re-structure. Expecting 20 for Congress - scheduled virtually for June 26, Matt Kuntz and Jim Hajny will be speaking.
  - **Strength:** A grant was awarded to implement updated statewide coverage of CONNECT and 211
  - **Barrier:** Not meeting in person
  - **Funding:**
    - Discussed AMDD COVID grant funding, collected and submitted recommendations
    - Not utilizing mini-grants right now, need to figure out how to allocate remaining funds by October
- **WSAA - Stacey**

- **Strength:** Denelle has been managing grant process, grants are out. Had good participation in committee meetings during the height of COVID.
- **Barrier:** Challenges getting a quorum recently, even meeting virtually (only executive board has been present). Haven't been able to get much done. Internet outages have been tricky.
- **Funding:** Encourages Medicaid to keep videoconferencing/ telephone ability reimbursable for all levels of practitioners – WSAA has seen some great results for that. Not needing to travel reduces barriers for low-income clients.
- **ESAA - Brent**
  - **Strength:** Working with AMDD at Monday Morning Meetings have been good. New secretary – Amanda. Conference call meetings have had good participation.
  - **Barrier:** Accessibility is the biggest hurdle - need more providers. Not much of an LAC presence.
  - **Funding:**
    - Mini-grants: Yellowstone, Sheridan, Daniels, Valley
    - Secured CTMG re-release funds (\$40,000) in several communities – telehealth is a major strength. Worry about outside providers pushing state providers out, but overall, it has been much more accessible.
    - Lawrence has advocated for VA funding in the NE region

### Old Business - Contract

- Crystal and Bruce provided edits from their areas. Bobbi and Jami provided additions.
- Question: Will the restructure be a rule change, or have to go through Legislature?
  - No ARM's regarding service areas
  - MCA language is flexible
- **Section 1: Parties**
  - No notes
- **Section 2: Purpose**
  - No notes
- **Section 3: Term of Contract**
  - **A**
    - Q - Crystal: How will renewals take place with timelines?
      - AMDD has more staff, and program timelines have been shifted to get contracts out the door in a timely manner.
    - Q - Matt: Can we get a clause to include funding stipends in case contracting process is delayed?
      - Bobbi included note to ask fiscal team about this.
  - **B**
    - Q - Crystal: In the past, this section had a plan for the upcoming year.
      - Note made to look into this
  - **C**

- Comment - Brent: this will be easier to follow with a single secretary in the re-structure
  - **D**
    - No Comment
- **Section 4: Services to be Provided**
  - Bobbi will make note to clarify BHAC and MHOAC
  - Will change to mental health --> behavioral health and adult --> all services.
    - Crystal: Does this group oversee youth services?
    - Matt: This group should be broad to include all ages
  - **B.**
    - Edited criteria
    - Edited 6. Funds cannot be used to help established government or non-profit entities with their established treatment, training, or ongoing functions --> Funds are to be prioritized to support LAC and may support other behavioral health needs, if appropriate. Non-LAC entities must establish how grant funds will address identified gaps in behavioral health needs
  - **C**
    - Edited BHAC --> MHOAC
  - **D**
    - The SAA secretary will maintain the website
    - If the Department establishes/ manages a page, it will likely be clunky and there will be more restrictions
    - The Department could help fund the page, but the board would manage it
    - How will travel be funded? Historically, the Department funded travel because the contracts were delayed.
      - Reimbursement, similar to how it has been operating
  - **E**
    - No comments
  - **F**
    - Addition – “or virtually”
  - **G**
    - Matt – Will the Department provide support for this process? There needs to be more clarity about timelines.
    - Edits: including State Health Improvement Plan, SAMHSA’s Components of Recovery, review every 3 years
  - **H, I, J, K**
    - No comments
  - **L, M, N**
    - This is boilerplate language
    - No comments
- **Section 5: Considerations and Payments**
  - Language will be checked for B.

- C. Needs to be removed
- 2. Dates and amounts will need to be updated
  - Jami and Bobbi will talk to contract team about upfront payments, scheduling of payments
- 4. Travel money – including state-sponsored SAA meeting (e.g. summits, BHAC)
  - Matt: Important to consider travel for LAC development. Bobbi: SAA Board should develop a proposed budget for the Department to consider. Other sources of funding could be considered
  - Stacey: Could they receive gas cards versus mileage? Bobbi: unsure about flexibility with state-sponsored travel

**Other notes**

- Monday Morning Meetings will continue
- Jami will update SAA's on the meeting with Zoe, and next steps for the transition

**Meeting Adjourned @ 1:00pm**