

Meeting Minutes

P.A. 100-1024 Mental Health Parity Working Group
September 25, 2020
10:00 A.M.-11:00 A.M.

Locations:
CALL-IN ONLY

Call-in Information:
1-312-535-8110
Code: 133 168 6723

I. Welcome

Kate Morthland welcomed staff, members, and guests to the Mental Health Parity Working Group Meeting. Morthland thanked all parties for making themselves available and providing critical expertise regarding substance use and mental health parity. Morthland went over guidelines while moving forward on a technological platform.

II. Introductions

Morthland asked members and guests to introduce themselves.

Members in Attendance:

Britton Carlson
Tina Cortez
Robert Edstrom
Gregory Lee
Nancy Wohlhart
Laura Minzer
Aaron Winters
Lia Daniels
Gerald DeLoss
Cheryl Potts
Samantha Olds-Frey

Guests in Attendance:

David Applegate/ Kennedy Forum
Patrick Besler/ HCSC
Kim Maish/ Cigna
Dan Hohl/ Illinois State Medical Society
Meryl Sosa/ Illinois Psychiatric Society

Larry Lewis/ Aetna
David Sholcutt/ Epstein Beck Green
United Healthcare
Quartz
Jay Shattuck/ Humana
INS Companies

Agency Staff Present:
Robert Mendonza HFS

III. Minutes

Morthland asked members to review the minutes from the past meeting in attached to the agenda for any edits or revisions.

There was a suggested edit to add Tim Clement's organization to his name.
Lia Daniels motioned to approve the minutes with the suggested edit.
Samantha Olds-Frey seconded the motion.
There were no objections from members.
The minutes were approved.

IV. Feedback on NQTL and Peer to Peer Discussion

Morthland mentioned at the previous meeting that the Group decided as a next step that the Working Group members report to the 9/25 meeting with feedback in an attempt to resolve the NQTL and peer to peer issues.

Morthland opened the discussion up to the group.

David Applegate mentioned that after the last meeting the Parity Working Group members provided 19 NQTLs (similar to New York) as a recommendation for Illinois. Applegate explained that these NQTLs are intended as a universe and is not intended as a reporting obligation for a 12-month approach.

Laura Minzer stated that she appreciates the phase in requirements of the reporting. She explained that within the list of 19 NQTLs, there are those that were identified in previous conversations for a first round of reporting. The other NQTLs based off of NY's list, carriers found that they are rarely applied. Minzer suggested that these specific NQTLs need ongoing conversations to further define the segmented NQTLs.

Samantha Olds-Frey stated that the Group needs to finalize the first-round template now and look at phase two and three later. If the Group tries to finalize all NQTLs now, this could slow the reporting process and could possibly delay initial reporting.

Applegate appreciated the feedback from the plans. Applegate expressed that the advocates do not favor a piece meal approach to only finalizing the initial round NQTLs

at this time. The advocates would like to agree on a universe first, then a phase, and then a timeline of reporting. Jud DeLoss and Cheryl Potts agreed with Applegate's suggestion.

Olds-Frey mentioned that the plans do not have an objection. However, completing a template for all NQTLs will push back reporting. She wanted to make that clear to the Group that this could be a longer outcome.

David Sholcutt recommended that the group agree to general concepts, rather than finalized NQTLs.

Minzer mentioned addressing the peer to peer piece. Minzer thanked the Group for providing clearer parameters on peer to peer. Minzer is taking the explanation back to her members for feedback.

Potts suggested making a formalized motion to move forward with the 19 NQTLs.

Minzer and Olds-Frey suggested a more formal recommendation to be placed on the table before the vote.

There was a conversation between DeLoss, Minzer, Potts, and Olds-Frey on what the formalized document would include. The formalized document should include the universe of NQTLs, a phase approach in with adjusted formalized template, and an understanding of the peer to peer objective. The Working Group will address the document at the next meeting and make a formal motion to move forward.

V. Discussion

All discussion points were covered in the previous discussion. Working Group members had no additional discussion points to add.

VI. Next Steps

Morthland mentioned that Erica Weyhenmeyer will be taking over as the DOI facilitator while she is on leave.

After the Working Group provided feedback, Morthland agreed to send out a supplemental availability poll to members for additional meetings. Morthland plans to post a supplemental schedule to the DOI website.

The Working Group will return to the next meeting with a formalized document that will include the universe of NQTLs, a phase approach in with an adjusted formalized template, and an understanding of the peer to peer objective. The Working Group will address the document at the next meeting and make a formal motion to move forward.

VII. Adjourn

Morthland announced that next meeting will be held on October 16, 2020 from 10:00 AM from 11:00PM via WebEx. Robert from HFS will be facilitating the meeting.

This meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM.