

Meeting Minutes

P.A. 100-1024 Mental Health Parity Working Group
December 11, 2020
11: A.M.-12:00 P.M.

Locations:
CALL-IN ONLY

Call-in Information:
1-312-535-8110
Code: 177 505 9194

I. Welcome

Erica Weyhenmeyer welcomed staff, members, and guests to the Mental Health Parity Working Group Meeting. Weyhenmeyer thanked all parties for making themselves available and providing critical expertise regarding substance use and mental health parity.

II. Introductions

Weyhenmeyer asked members and guests to introduce themselves.

Members in Attendance:

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

Members Aaron Winters & Gregory Lee have left their positions, replacement work is beginning.

Guests in Attendance:

Aetna
BCBS of IL
Epstein Beck Green
Humana

Illinois Med Society
Kennedy Forum
Quartz Health Plan
Shaddock and Associates
United Healthcare

Agency Staff Present:

Kati Hinshaw/HFS

III. Minutes

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

Samantha Olds-Frey motioned to approve the minutes.

Gerald DeLoss seconded the motion.

There were no objections from members.

The minutes were approved.

IV. Update on the creation of the implementation guidance for Phase I.

Laura Minzer advised they recently sent around some materials for the group. For the implementation guidance was not included with those documents at this time. Both AHIP and the Illinois life and health insurance council members have been reviewing the draft. A word version of the Phase I NQTL template was provided to the group as agreed upon. The word document is abbreviated as the members spoke on this issue, the goal would be to implement the components in the guidance in more detail. The guidance is in progress.

David Shollcut, plan is to split out the instructions from the templates themselves for ease of use, as the instructions get more detailed. Also developed a calendar for proposal as an overall timeline for finalizing these and other materials. Laura added that the goal for the instructions on Phase I are a priority and would like to have these completed by the January meeting.

V. Preliminary discussion on Phase II through Phase IV template development.

Laura Minzer discussed that in concept that the list of the NQTLs and the phases would be separated out, initially into four Phases, with a July 1, 2021 for Phase I, July 2022 for Phase II, with Phases III & IV with a TBD. However, with the NWTLs dealing with other utilization that it makes better sense to combine originally Phase II & III into one Phase and updated to Phase II with a implementation of July 1, 2022. Phase IV would change to Phase III with a implementation of July 1, 2023.

Samantha Olds-Frey added that the thought process was that the providers and the advocate organizations wanting a 3-year time frame, so looking at the information it makes the most sense to combine those Phases.

David Applegate noted that in an ideal world that the timeframe would be shorter than 3 years but with that said they would like to hear the input of the departments on this issue, as HFS and DOI will be the ones reviewing these submissions, and it would be important to receive their input.

Erica Weyhenmeyer mentioned that DOI would defer to the members about the timeline but can discuss internally.

Katie Hinshaw from HFS advised she will discuss internally.

Laura had one final note that the calendar included expectations through May and map out the work remaining.

VI. Next Steps

Agenda for the next meeting can remain the same.

VII. Adjourn

Weyhenmeyer announced that next meeting will be held on January 29, 2021, from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM via WebEx. Robert Mendonza from HFS will be facilitating the meeting.