Children's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (CBHAC)
Minutes – Friday, December 6, 2024

Attendance:

A. Steinberg, Aimee Gelinas, Alexandrino Rivera, Amy Grenier, Amy Hilario, Andrea Richardson, April Mayo, BangaloreS, Brenetta Henry, Briannali Rivera, Cara Klaneski, Carmen Almodovar, Chastity Leak, Christian Rodriguez, Connie M Estanislau, Consuelo V - Spanish Interpreter, Cynthia Cruz, Derrick Shelton, Diana Perry, donald vail, Dorothy Cimmino, Dreau Foster, Drew Lavallee, Ellender Mathis, Elsa Cordova, Emily Farina, Emuna Patterson, Erica Aldieri, Gab Hall, Gina Bisogno, Ginny Gerena, Gloria, Graciela, Janessa Stawitz, Janissa Vidal, Jennifer Abbatemarco, Jenny Bridges, Jess Greenwood, John Cotten, Joyce Meyerholz, jsimilien, Karen Delane, Kate Bohannan, Kathy Nguyen, Kayla Pantoja, Keisha Martin Velez, Keishla Sanchez, Kelly Waterhouse, Kristin, Kristin, Kristin Graham, Kymani Scarlett, Lindsay Kyle, Lisa Palazzo, Liz Sitler, Lois Berkowitz, Lorna Thomas-Farquharson, Maguena Deslandes, Manisha Srivastava, Maria Brereton, Mariel Concepción, Martin Geertsma, Maureen ONeill Davis, Melissa Gillies, Michelle Queen, Michelle Rodriguez, Mikhela Hull, Mai Kader, Benita Toussaint, Neiima Edwards, Neva Caldwell, Olivia Newman, Patrick McCormack, Paul Guerrero, Penny Lemery, Pinkneys, Quiana Mayo, rcaro, Renee Wright, Ronnie Vollano, Rosa V Alvis Alvarado, Rossie, Sabra Mayo, Sadaf, Sandra Rivera, Sandra Williams, Sarah Gibson, Sebastian Spencer, Sergio Alvarez, Shi-maine Holmes, Shirley Ellis-West, Solai Demorest, Stephanie Joanis, Steve, Tania Santana, Tara Wilczynski, Tarsha Calloway, Teresa, T'Kai Howard, Tyrone & Christy Calloway, UCA Managers, V Thaxter, Xavier Williams, Zach Nailon, and four phone numbers

Welcome and Introductions

- CBHAC's mission, purpose and priority areas were reviewed

Review of 2022-2025 Priority Areas

1. Pediatric primary care and behavioral health care integration
2. Disparities and access to cultural appropriate care
3. Access to comprehensive array of services and support

CBHAC Committee Members Monthly Recap (November 2024)

- Review and approval of October meeting minutes
- Discussion regarding joint meeting with Children's Behavioral Health Plan Implementation Advisory Board (CBHPIAB)

Agency Updates

1. **Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) –Jenn Abbatemarco**
   - No update
2. **Department of Education (DOE)– Kate Bohannan**
   - Three-part webinar series concluded with an average of 120 registered between all session
   - The three sessions were promoting social/emotional wellness, preparing for cold and flu season, and a community approach to suicide prevention
   - Translation of the webinar videos should be completed shortly and will be available on the CSDE website
   - The State Department of Education has officially joined the Supervisory group for the Connect IV grant and the goal of the grant is to connect schools to mental health supports and services
   - **Q**: Is SDE being proactive about planning based on the new federal administration threats to cut services for students in 2025? **A**: It is early to tell but as of now there is no plan to diminish any state funding. SDE is prepared to respond.

- **Q:** What are the goals of the CONNECT grant and what are the goals? **A:** CONNECT team has presented at CBHAC before but they will be asked to come and update on the goals
- **Q:** Is SDE prepping for the new administration's threats to American students and their immigrant families? **A:** Both the Director of Equity and Languages as well as our School Climate Consultant have been having conversations with districts and superintendents and leadership across the state about this matter

3. **Court Support Services Division (CSSD) –Carmen Hernandez**
   - No update
4. **Department of Social Services (DSS) – Connie Estanislau**
   - No update
5. **Department of Children and Families (DCF)– Stephanie Bozak**
   - No update

6. **Office of Early Childhood (OEC)- Lorna Thomas-Farquharson**
   - OECs Home visiting department, 3rd Annual conference 12/6/24 and will focus on Connection and Collaboration
   - At the conclusion of the conference, the annual home visitor distinguished award will be given out to six regions within CT, the winners chosen by the Parent Cabinet members from OEC
   - January Webinar is currently being planned
   - OEC shared various family engagement efforts they have: Parent's Cabinet, Two Gen and Parent Ambassadors to help inform their work

Monthly Presentation- Racial Justice Initiative by Maguena Deslandes & Stephen Rodriguez, Urban Community Alliance (UCA)
-see handout

Community Announcements

- A request was made to review voting membership so that CBHAC participants know who is representing the family voice
- CBHAC governance will plan to add to a future meeting agenda

Next meeting January 3rd, 2024 (WILL BE VIRTUAL OR IN-PERSON-both options available) at Carelon- 500 Enterprise Dr, Hartford Room- 3rd floor, Rocky Hill, CT 06067