



## Family and Community Readiness Committee Meeting Behavioral Health Consortium

<b>Date:</b> 1/13/25	<b>Location:</b> Virtual Meeting
<b>Time:</b> 9:00am-10:00am	<b>ID:</b> 894 8544 1639
	<b>PC:</b> 503283

**Attendees:** Chair Wade Jones, Dana Holz, Jenn Ford, Tynietta Congo Wright, Jodi Karabin, Patricia Field, Liam Schofield, Aja Ajavon, Calvin Davis Jr., Megan McNamara Williams, Liz Booth, Wes Ingram, Jill Fredel, Ava Carcirieri, Alex

**Staff:** Laura Rapp, Renee Beaman, Riley Feinour

### Topics 1: Welcome and Introductions

#### *Presenter –Chair Wade Jones*

- Chair Wade Jones called the meeting to order.
- Wade Jones greeted and welcomed attendees.

### Topic 2: Review and Approve Minutes

**MOTION:** Chair Wade Jones called for a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meetings.

- Megan McNamara Williams motioned to approve the minutes from the previous meetings.
- Dana Holz seconded the motion.
- Minutes approved.

### Topic 3: Announcement: Departure of Co-Chair Erin Mitchell

#### *Presenters – Chair Wade Jones*

- Erin Mitchell had to step down as co-chair due to her new position.
- Wade Jones will continue to act as Chair of the committee until a new co-chair is located.

### Topic 4: BHC Updates

#### *Presenters – Alexia Wolf & Laura Rapp*

- POSDC Related Updates
  - Social Contract is currently developing a grantmaking manual that includes an updated scoring rubric and eligibility requirements.
  - A new POSDC grant application should open in early 2025.
  - The next POSDC Full Commission Meeting is February 3, 2025, from 1:00 to 3:00. Location: Zoom and Delaware Tech-Stanton Campus, B123 Conference Room.
  - Daphne Warner is serving as interim director.
- 2024 Year in Review
  - 165+ Committee meetings, listening sessions, health fairs, and unity dinners.

- 41+ Local, state, and federal elected official partnerships.
- 4,000+ Event participants, attendees, and supporters.
- 30+ Law enforcement, clergy, Black, Hispanic, LGBTQ+, veterans, labor and business partnerships.
- 100+ Media partners, vendors, and volunteers.
- 2024 Quarterly BHC Meetings
  - 4 Quarterly BHC Meetings
  - 78 Average number of attendees
  - Topics included.
    - Voted and approved 3-month bridge funding for existing awardees from phases 1A and 1B, 1.9 million in funding.
    - DOC's presentation on the Statistical Analysis Center Annual Recidivism report.
    - Updates from OSOC and AAC
    - DSAMH's DTRN 360 demonstration
    - Unity Dinner presentation
    - DPBHS's substance use needs assessment overview.
- BHC Committee Meetings
  - 45 BHC Committee meetings held in 2024.
  - 51 new committee members joined in 2024.
- 2024 Select Statewide Community and Stakeholder Engagement
  - Convened table-top exercise with fifty key stakeholders focused on behavioral health and the availability in treatment, gaps in treatment, and promising advances in treatment to align our efforts in continuing to drive meaningful advancements across communities.
  - Coordinated Delaware's collegiate recovery leaders with the goal of fostering communication and collaboration in support students and making connections across institutions of higher education across Delaware.
  - Quarterly community listening sessions facilitated by local leaders in each county to foster social connection, make recovery visible and welcoming, and ensure a continuous feedback loop between these groups and BHC committee work.
- Relevant Notes from listening sessions
  - The CTAC session facilitator highlighted the following feedback from attendees (adults and children). They are soliciting input.
  - Provide access to transportation that comes closer to the Hope Center and more frequently.
  - Need housing collaboration between owners from vacant housing that can support families going through the transition of recovery from mental health treatment and or drug treatment. Acquire additional facilities like the Days Inn building on Christiana Rode in Newark for transitional housing.
  - A lack of activities for the children in the Hope Center or in the communities causes great anxiety.
- The Education and Prevention Committee added a fourth goal to advocate for sustainable primary prevention funding.
- The next BHC Quarterly meeting date is to be determined but will be held in February.

## **Topic 5: Goal 1: PAD Implementation Update**

*Presenter—Chair Wade Jones*

- The intention is to have a scope of work-based conversations with a partner who will assist in leading the implementation.
- The committee will provide input to ensure there are no missing components involving the implementation.
- Chair Wade Jones discussed utilizing partners that have the capacity to assist with the implementation.

## Topic 6: New Goal Discussion

### *Presenter—Chair Wade Jones*

- 1. Housing Focused Goal
  - Enhance access to housing and promote housing stability for the Behavioral Health Community. Pursuing this goal can improve the well-being and outcomes of the behavioral health community and address an identified ongoing need in Delaware.
- Previous strategies identified for the goal.
  - Assessment of providers.
  - Increase behavioral health provider knowledge of housing options.
  - Increase the public's access and awareness of housing opportunities for the behavioral health community.
- 2. The Governor's Challenge
  - The Governor's Challenge to prevent suicide among service members, veterans, and their families is a BHC initiative.
  - It is currently not housed within any specific BHC committee and could be nested under the committee.
- 3. Listening Session Identified Activities 2023
  - Intensify outreach and resource promotion efforts at community events, online, outreach, and materials developed for specific communities.
  - Promotion of and easier access to services like affordable housing, vocational training, GED/school support, parenting skills, legal services, and financial literacy.
  - Increase workforce that provides navigation and coordination-related support.
  - Programs for youth on life skills.
  - Hold more events that bring the community together,
  - Training community members on identifying and responding to mental health challenges and topics like stigma.
  - Changes to county codes to allow for more recovery housing.
  - Developing policies and guidelines on best practices for serving the LGBTQ+ community in Recovery Houses.
- 4. Behavioral Health Consortium & Prescription Opioid Settlement Distribution Commission Tabletop Treatment Exercise
  - The BHC and POSDC hosted a tabletop exercise on access and availability of treatment, gaps, and advances in treatment.
  - Participants identified addressing the Social Determinants of Health by shifting to a housing-first model and providing funds for basic housing needs and transportation.
  - Decisions around access to services were recommended, including creating a hub or a center where a person can receive multiple services.

- Supporting transportation was another identified decision to address access to services.
- 5. DE Drug Overdose Fatality Review Commission Recommendations
  - The Delaware Drug Overdose Fatality Review Commission Annual Report included five recommendations, three of which connect with the FCR charge.
  - Recommendation 3: Promote community education for families and outreach services for witnesses to overdoses, with high priority given to known drug users.
  - Recommendation 4: Create a coordinated, comprehensive, systemwide effort to address housing insecure, housing unstable, and unhoused individuals in Delaware.
  - Recommendation 5: Broaden efforts in Narcan and fentanyl test strip distribution.
- 6. Original FCR Objectives 2018
  - Collaborate with the Family Services Cabinet Council on behavioral-health-related programs.
  - Evaluate current efforts, review evidence, and offer educational programs to support families with a loved one in active addiction, with mental illness, or with behavioral issues.
  - Create a resource line for family members and caregivers that clearly outlines critical information such as providers, insurance information, and potential cost.
  - With a focus of younger people, identify arts, sports, culture, and recreation opportunities for community members.
  - Address issues around limited access to transportation.
  - Explore and provide holistic health-based programs.
  - Address and improve the safety and affordability of housing for individuals in recovery.
  - Identify the hard-to-identify populations to reach families with risk conditions for mental and behavioral health challenges.
- Jenn Ford discussed selecting a goal that is top priority and can be achievable.
- Megan McNamara Williams noted that there is a common theme in the goal ideas around housing.
- Dana Holz mentioned that it can be helpful to break down housing into population served or problem identified.
- Dana Holz also mentioned that the community engagement piece was another common theme and allocating funds for events could be a goal and the Governor's Challenge can be maintained as a possible goal.

## Topic 7: Public Comment

Aja Ajavon enjoyed hearing about the work the committee is doing and looks forward to being a part of the committee.

Calvin Davis Jr. expressed that he has insight that can be an addition to the committee.

Liam Schofield discussed that the nonprofit organization he works for is working on a pilot that addresses housing needs and the organization would be interested in collaborating.

Tynietta Congo Wright discussed a meet and greet event her nonprofit organization, JACC, is hosting on January 18<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 3:00.

Wes Ingram agreed there is a common theme around housing.

Jill Fredel noted the need for housing is has a broad age range.

The next Family and Community Readiness Committee Meeting is **Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

**Adjourn:** 9:43 am

DRAFT