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# Youth Justice Oversight Committee

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## Behavioral Health Work Group Minutes (September 24, 2024)

### I. MEETING DETAILS

September 24, 2024 from 10am-12pm ET

IGCS Harrison Hall, Room 15

Minutes By: Nick Parker, Staff

### II. ATTENDEES

Members present in-person:

- Becker, Amber – Division of Mental Health & Addiction (FSSA)
- Baumer, Keena – Indiana Medicaid (FSSA)
- Blackmon, Sirrilla – Division of Mental Health & Addiction (FSSA) (Co-Chair)
- Dolehanty, Hon. Darrin – Senior Judge (Co-Chair)
- Fisher, Rachael – Riley Children's Hospital
- Frantz, Zoe – Indiana Council of Community Mental Health Centers
- Gouty, Ref. Anah – Lawrence County Circuit Court (Juvenile)
- Harlan-York, Jessica – Division of Disability & Rehabilitative Services (FSSA)
- Maqsood, Sadia – Indiana Office of Court Services
- Wieneke, Joel – Indiana Public Defender Council

Members present electronically:

- N/A

Members absent:

- Dwenger, Dr. Deanna – Indiana Department of Correction
- Frazer, Rebekah – Indiana Department of Education
- James, Waylon – Indiana Department of Child Services
- George, Kory – Wayne County Probation

Staff present:

- Parker, Nick – Indiana Office of Court Services
- Pickett, Mindy – Indiana Office of Court Services

Guests or speakers present:

- Dunn, Leslie – Indiana Office of Court Services

### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from August 2024 meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

### **IV. GROUP DISCUSSION**

- Benchcard Discussion
  - There was a general consensus that the benchcard project could be transformed into a guidance document/tool for agencies, like probation officers and DCS service consultants. This would generally satisfy the workgroup's goal to help local counties "develop and adopt a plan and policies regarding the use of court ordered diagnostic or psychological assessments."
  - The workgroup went around the room and shared their ideas/concerns about transforming the benchcard. They overall liked the format of the 2-column tool and think its scope/usage could be broadened in this manner.
  - Since probation/others gather this information anyway, this tool could be a helpful way to get everyone on the same page. The information is there (in the collateral information), but this gets it out front and increases communication about items like testing, evaluations, history, trauma, medications, etc.
  - This could also be a way to help probation share information about resources, as they are best suited to have that information.
  - After discussion, the workgroup landed on having the benchcard/tool serve both purposes of (1) standardizing items that all stakeholders look to and end up being considered for whether to order a D&E; and (2) to help a judge, as the final authority on this, to determine if a D&E should be ordered.
  - Proposed next steps included:
    - Changing the purpose statement and making the language in the benchcard broader to accommodate the notion that it is a guidance document for almost everybody, including judges.

- Making it clear that this tool is a general guideline and best practice document.
  - Seeking input from the DCS and probation members of the group to ensure that it is useful.
- Education and training on how to use this form/tool.
  - Perhaps YJOC would want to work together on a one-day summit to include other workgroups in that process. This could possibly include the Behavioral Health Office (Brittany Kelly).
- Potential standard order for judicial officers.
- Look at counties that are doing particularly well at this procedure and find out what is working to guide the implementation of this form – a potential pilot program could help figure this out further.
- Clinical Process Sub-Group
  - Next steps include:
    - Standardized definitions.
    - Outline to help providers help with D&E (not a mandate).
- CMS/Medicaid Update
  - Plan update is coming – it was supposed to be January 2025, but it is slowing down. Tentative plan amendment to show CMS is forthcoming.
  - There are workgroups planning for this right now. The national association of Medicaid providers is having a national conference. Our member will report back on what she learns from CMS on reimbursement.
- Telehealth Discussion
  - Group mission is to expand the use of telehealth for mental health services and diagnostic/psychological assessments.
  - The purpose of the speaker is to build up our knowledge base and help us provide recommendations on next steps.
  - Potential speakers:
    - Mehta, Dr. Crystal (DYS).
    - Fisher and Franz – will send recommendations to the chairs.
  - The workgroup should send their questions to Nick and Mindy. The questions will be anonymized and prepared for the speaker in November.
  - There are numerous articles on telehealth available on the internet that can assist workgroup members on getting up to speed.

## **V. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Thursday, November 14 (IGCS Conference Room 2) from 10am-12pm ET

MINUTES APPROVED BY COMMITTEE ON NOVEMBER 14, 2024.