



## Children's Mental Health Plan

### Steering Committee - Meeting #4

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

**11:00a – 12:30p**

#### Minutes

Attendees by Zoom: Kristine Argue-Mason (Early Intervention Co-Chair), Regina Crider (Treatment Co-Chair), Andrea Durbin (Social Determinants of Health Co-Chair), Julie Hamos (System Expert), Niya Kelly (Social Determinants of Health Co-Chair), Julianna McHale (ICMHP Program Coordinator), Jennie Pinkwater (Early Intervention Co-Chair), Barbara Shaw (System Expert), Sameer Vohra (ICMHP Interim Chair), Amanda Walsh (ICMHP Director), Carol White (WSS Consultant), Marlita White (Promotion and Prevention Co-Chair), Kuliva Wilburn (WSS Consultant)

#### I. **Welcome**

Sameer welcomed the Steering Committee and explained there will be an updated planning timeline to both provide more time to planning with the co-chairs as well as gathering community input. He asked for feedback from the committee about this proposal and Kristine expressed support for this proposal, also confirmed by Julie and Barbara. There was no disagreement.

#### II. **Updated Process and Steering Committee Engagement**

Kuliva discussed the updated process, which elevates community input from the beginning. Julie asked if initial recommendations would take place before the first workgroup meeting. Kuliva answered yes and that the priority would be to engage the community and workgroups initially with a survey. Amanda added the importance of capturing all of those individuals who could not be included in the workgroups through a community input process at the beginning and end of the process.

- **Level setting** – The group discussed the need for definitions for terms used in the process, including reminders for the expectations of the various workgroups, to better allow all workgroup members and the community at large to understand the scope.

- **Community definition** – The group discussed how we might define community. Amanda said we haven't formally defined it, but are thinking about it broadly to incorporate youth and family with lived experience, providers, educators, advocates, and others that work to support children and families.
- **Lived experience engagement** - Regina said families are typically an after-thought and noted that cultural aspects should be represented in community engagement as well. Niya said typically, advocates and researchers can be tied to their creation and present an already drafted plan to those with lived experience instead of making sure to engage with them first. The group agreed we should incorporate a holistic approach. We also need to balance the expertise of those who have worked in the field with lived experience, including having experts step back to listen to that lived experience.
- **Compensation for youth/family** – Marlita added that we should compensate them for their time since most workgroup members are doing this as part of their employment. Niya said that it should not just be gift cards. We could utilize the systems of care framework and give appropriate credit to families and youth. Marlita suggested using Tango Rewards. The group also discussed the challenges with operationalizing this piece and being prepared to find alternative ways to engage and also acknowledge why we couldn't utilize some options.
- **ICMHP website** – Marlita suggested adding a recording of committee member perspectives or an introduction from the Partnership to welcome invited members of the workgroups before taking the survey to get them familiar with our goals and to spark emotion. She also suggest we leverage a social media strategy with the survey and determine a sample size. The next meeting Kuliva said we could suggest operational ideas for what this could look like. Marlita also suggested a space on the landing page where these conversations could be captured, not just on the homepage.
- **Café/talk circles** – Niya asked how we present different forums for discussion and gather spaces. Sameer said we need to build trust within communities however, this is not where ICMHP's expertise is, so we are open to hearing suggestions of organizations that do. Marlita suggested inviting people to a series of discussions. Healthy Chicago did this and invited people to sign on as a community member to receive payment and participate in a series of conversations. Kristine added that we should meet parents where they are at. Pre-K screenings are a great opportunity or places of worship to gather information from them that really matters.
- **Additional partnerships** - Regina said she knows of organizations down state and the low-hanging fruit could be managed care organizations that have leadership councils. These are in every region across the state with access to families. Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation would also be another great organization for

inclusion since they partner with systems of care grants. Niya suggested the Chicago Board of Equity who invite individuals from various neighborhoods. Andi suggested the human services workforce could aid with the survey since they in the frontlines and represent the communities we serve. Regina added that a flyer might not be enough to incentivize people to take a survey and that families prioritize what is important to them. Amanda said we should also think through how to lift the significance of lived experience with the Plan even within the Partnership board.

III. **Landscape Analysis Feedback**

Julie reminded the group that there are a few slides of the current children’s mental health system with the inverted pyramid reference from HFS, which highlights the dollars going to psychiatric hospitals that we need to include. We also need to highlight the current initiatives underway such as social emotional learning, 1915 I, NB, and DCFS kids moving into managed care. We need to at least include a bullet point for these items. Amanda expressed that the goal is to avoid duplicative efforts and to avoid creating additional silos. Andrea stated there is a clear connection between the lack of investment to match the needs and shared “[A Fiscal Scan of Illinois Public Investments in Children and Youth, Ages 8-25.](#)”

IV. **Next Steps**

Kuliva stated within the next two weeks, the committee will receive a Doodle Poll link to schedule the next Steering Committee meetings.