

## Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group (CYBHWG) – Workforce & Rates (W&R) Subgroup

September 20, 2023

### Glossary of Terms

CCBHC: Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic

CYBHWG: Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group

HCA: Health Care Authority

WISe: Wraparound with Intensive Services

### Meeting Agenda

- Review of the list of priorities and have discussion on refinement for 09/22 CYBHWG presentations
- Discuss next steps

### List of priorities reviewed:

| Prioritized Ideas   | Description  |
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| Reduce administrative complexities in the Wraparound with Intensive Services (WISe) program | To create parity in clinical auditing practices between physical health and behavioral health providers, direct HCA to create three claims-based, quality-focused, age-appropriate outcome measures for WISe providers. This would require transition from the Quality Improvement Review Tool (QIRT), any contractually mandated Managed Care Organization (MCO) individual chart review evaluation, and other process-based auditing practices which don't drive outcomes. |
| Public access to behavioral health data   | Create a free, publicly accessible, auto-updated centralized data repository using linked administrative data to create visualizations for a wide variety of non-technical end-users, such as policy-makers, program administrators, private philanthropists, public agency staff, service providers, and advocates.   |
| Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) bridge funding                         | To ensure successful completion of implementation of a statewide CCBHC model, the state should support and sustain the current CCBHC expansion grant programs by providing bridge funding to current CCBHCs in Washington during the statewide planning process.   |
| Reducing the Education Debt Burden (Conditional Scholarships,                               | Increase the number and diversity of people in the behavioral health workforce by: 1) Amending the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) so that Washington Health Corps' Behavioral Health Program can be used   |

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| <p>Loan Repayment and Career Supports)</p>                                      | <p>for conditional scholarships as well as loan repayment; 2) Requiring an evaluation of the Washington Health Corps’ portfolio of programs to better understand outcomes and determine if the Corps is meeting its statutory goal of encouraging more healthcare professionals to work in underserved areas; 3) Funding career supports for behavioral health professionals in Washington state.</p>  |
| <p>HB 1724 Stipend Program for recent graduates in behavioral health fields</p> | <p>Allocate funds to the Department of Health for the stipend program that was established per HB 1724 in the 2023 Legislative session. Among other strategies to make it easier for people with the appropriate education and experience to attain licensure, this bill stipends for supports to reduce additional financial burdens on recent graduates related to getting licensed and employed in community behavioral health. Funding will ensure the program goes into effect and allow the state to retain individuals in the field to better meet demand and address the workforce shortage.</p> |
| <p>Cultural Wellness Expert designation</p>                                     | <p>Conduct a feasibility study (either through a legislative allocation or through HCA) of introducing “cultural wellness experts” into the clinical service array of community mental health agencies. This will inform two parallel policy efforts: 1) The Washington Council for Behavioral Health’s anticipated recommendation for a teaching clinic rate for the 2025 legislative session; and 2) The HCA CMS state plan amendment part two in 2024.</p>  |

**Discussion Summary**

1. The purpose of this subgroup meeting was for the issue leads to go through the details of each of the recommendations generated in order to prepare for the short presentations to the larger CYBHWG on Friday, September 22. The subgroup gave feedback on refinement of the presentations.
2. The leads decided it would be useful to send out a survey to the entire subgroup to gain feedback on the proposed recommendations for further refinement ahead of the October 11 submission deadline to HCA. Behavioral Health Catalyst agreed to generate the feedback survey and send it out to the members.

**Next Meeting: October 4, 10 - 11:00 am**

- Review developed recommendations and feedback received
- Review legislative timeline, subgroup deadlines and determine next steps