

## CYBHWG Workforce and Rates subgroup

May 18, 2022

**Leads:** Representative Mari Leavitt, Hugh Ewart, Laurie Lippold

### HB 1504-Modifying the Workforce Education Investment Act

Todd Jensen, *Health Care Authority (HCA)*

See page 4 for slides

#### Highlights

- Intent of the mental health providers pilot program is to provide incentive pay for individuals serving as clinical supervisors within the community.

#### Discussion Q / A

- Have the pilot sites already been determined?
  - Yes, the pilot sites are already determined. We are currently working with the Accountable Communities of Health (ACH); they are the ones determining which providers are included; the providers have some flexibility in how the money is spent.
- I do not see Pierce Co. as a site, did they apply and if not, do you know why?
  - No, they did not apply, and not aware of the reason. Can report back on the site selection process.

### Possible Workforce Board activities

Nova Gattman, *Workforce Board*

#### Highlights

- Two legislative mandates:
  - Convene a behavioral health workforce advisory committee with a report due to the legislature by December 2022, and
  - Work with WA STEM and UW Center for Health workforce studies to identify the educational pipeline of behavioral health providers and the expected employer demand.
- Behavioral health workforce advisory committee is working toward an early summer convening.
- Reviewing the list of recommendations from 2016 to see how things are going, what's been done, and what is not finished.
- Once the review is completed, we will be creating a visual of the progress made and collaborating with key stakeholders on unfinished work.
- WA STEM will be creating a dashboard to identify workforce pipeline at the secondary and post-secondary level.
- Workforce Board is working with the [Sentinel Network](#) to collect information on health employers' needs.
- Defining and highlighting employer's needs is driving the conversations around pathway prep for top occupations, such as internships.

#### Chat

- [Washington STEM survey](#) to better understand the education pipeline for behavioral health.

## Access Survey

### Highlights

- 174 responses from providers.
- 207 responses from families and youth.
- Currently determining the best way to analyze and present the data.

## Washington Mental Health Counselor Association update

Sara Stewart, *Washington Mental Health Counselor Association*

### Highlights

- Meeting June 14, 2022, to talk about barriers to licensure.
- Soliciting feedback participation for June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting from:
  - Licensed Mental Health Counselors
  - Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists
  - Licensed Clinical Social Workers
  - Individuals with clinical supervision experience in each of the clinical licensure categories
  - Employers in the clinical licensure categories
  - Representatives from community behavioral health agencies including supervisors
  - Associate level members from each of the clinical licenses
  - Students
  - Representatives from the Department of Health and HCA
- Currently working on having mental health counselors join the State Compact. The compact would allow a licensed professional to move to any state in the Compact and have their license recognized.
- The compact will improve license consistency between states.

### Discussion Q / A

- Does the Compact only cover mental health counselors, or can it be applied to other professionals (e.g., social worker, marriage, and family therapist, etc.)?
  - Yes, it currently covers only mental health counselors.

## Peer credentialing/certification update

### Highlights

- Two issues to tackle:
  - Allowing commercial insurance to bill for peer services and allowing people with commercial coverage to access peer services, and
  - Allowing peers to work in settings other than community behavioral health.
- [Title 18 RCW](#) outlines allowable services each provider type can bill for.
- If peers are not included in Title 18, commercial carriers cannot be reimbursed for their services.
- It is still a priority to get peers added to Title 18.
- Proposal for future meeting: Bring leaders from the peer community to speak about the merits of the proposal and what it means to the peer community and the behavioral health workforce (Rep. Davis).

## Workforce issues for 2023

- Improve access and quality of services for all.
- Applicable needs or priorities in a school setting, behavioral health agency, private practice, or primary care setting.
- Incentivize mental health counselors so they do not go straight into private practice.
- Value payment planning.

## Other/Next Steps

- Sara Stewart to share a future update – possibly July meeting.
- Todd Jensen to share a future update – Possibly have a report out from a pilot program.
- Bring back ideas for possible 2023 issues.
- Next meeting is on June 1<sup>st</sup> from 10 to 11 a.m.

## Attendees:

Kevin Black, Legislative staff  
Marci Bloomquist, Community Health Plan of Washington (CHPW)  
Rachel Burke, Health Care Authority (HCA)  
Tina Burrell, HCA  
Donna Christensen  
Diana Cockrell, HCA  
Paul Davis, HCA  
Hawa Elias, CHPW  
Nova Gattman, Workforce Training Board (WTB)  
Dr. Robert Hilt, Seattle Children's Hospital  
Avreayl Jacobson, King County Behavioral Health and Recovery  
Mark James, Rod's House  
Todd Jensen, HCA  
Barb Jones, Office of Insurance Commissioner (OIC)  
Terry Lee, CHPW  
Joe LeRoy, HopeSparks

Laurie Lippold, Partners for Our Children  
Cameron Long, Legislative staff  
Melody McKee, University of Washington (UW)  
Joan Miller, Washington Council for Behavioral Health  
Jennifer Morgan, Molina Healthcare  
Julia O'Connor, Washington Council for Behavioral Health  
Kari Samuel, HCA  
Sheryl Schwartz, HCA  
Susan Skillman, UW  
Sara Stewart, WA Mental Health Counselors Association  
Andy Tucker, Children's Home Society of Washington  
Sarah Walker, UW  
Cindi Wiek, HCA  
Kristin Wiggins, Perigee Fund & Prenatal through 5 subgroup  
Kimberly Wright, HCA

# 2021 HB 1504

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Modifying the workforce education  
investment act

# Overview of HB 1504

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- ▶ From the 2021 HB 1504 The Health Care Authority was tasked with creating a behavioral health workforce pilot program and training grants for community mental health providers
- ▶ The pilot program's intent is to provide incentive pay for individuals serving as clinical supervisors within community behavioral health agencies, state hospitals, and other facilities operated by the department of social and health services.

# Overview of HB 1504

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- ▶ The desired outcomes of the pilot program include increased internships and entry opportunities for new clinicians through recruitment and retention of supervisors.
- ▶ The pilot program covers three sites serving primarily Medicaid clients in both eastern and western Washington
  - ▶ One of the pilot sites must specialist in the delivery of behavioral health services for Medicaid enrolled children
  - ▶ One of the sites must offer substance use disorder treatment services

# Pilot program report

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- ▶ HCA will use information from the pilot program to report in fall 2023 on:
  - ▶ descriptions of the mechanism for incentivizing supervisor pay and other strategies used at each of the sites;
  - ▶ The number of supervisors that received bonus pay at each site;
  - ▶ The number of students or prelicensure clinicians that received supervision at each site;
  - ▶ The number of supervision hours provided at each site;
  - ▶ Initial reporting on the number of students or prelicensure clinicians who received supervision through the pilot programs that moved into a permanent position with the pilot program or another community behavioral health program in Washington state at the end of their supervision;
  - ▶ Identification of options for establishing enhancement of supervisor pay through managed care organization payments to behavioral health providers; and
  - ▶ Recommendations of individual site policy and practice implications for statewide implementation.

# Implementation update

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- ▶ Currently HCA has 4 contracts out
  - ▶ Great Columbia ACH, North Central ACH, North Sound ACH, and Southwest ACH
  - ▶ North Sound ACH is doing the Training Grants program that is to train and mentor clinicians serving children and youth
  - ▶ Great Columbia is providing Substance Use Disorder treatment services
  - ▶ Southwest, Greater Columbia, and North Central are doing the pilot program that is to provide incentive pay for supervisors and interns



# HCA Contact Information

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