



Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group (CYBHWG)

September 5, 2024

[Watch on TVW](#)

Framing and Orientation

See TVW recording (10:04)

Highlights

- This meeting gave attendees the first look at the recommendations that the five subgroups are in process of developing, with an opportunity for members to ask questions, provide input and identify .
- Members have an opportunity in this meeting to ask questions to help understand the recommendations, provide any input to strengthen the recommendations, and identify intersections across the subgroup recommendations and with other work being undertaken by other.
- The forecast for the state budget shows funding may be less than originally predicted, and limited, leaving uncertainty in determining the level of funding to support the workgroup recommendations for the 2025 session.
- Since it is a fiscally tight year, this is a good year for policy asks.
- Even though, the budget is tight, children's behavioral health needs are so important to keep on the forefront.

Question

- Will there be an opportunity to engage with the transition team for the new government administration?

A - Yes, we hope that the work group will have an opportunity to bring the new administration up to speed. Briefing docs are being developed for the new administration, and there are efforts underway to brief them on the work. It is up to them to determine which, and what meetings or updates they would like to attend or receive.

Overarching recommendation discussion

See TVW recording (35:00), see page 7 for slide

Highlights

- Overarching recommendations are recommendations that are cross-cutting challenges that don't fall within the purview of one or two subgroups and have the potential for system-level impacts.
- Overarching recommendations may originate from Washington Thriving (Prenatal through 25 Strategic Plan efforts).
- Recommendations are determined by member consensus and included as an update in the annual report..



Subgroup presentation of draft recommendations

See TVW recording (38:03), see pages 8-12 for slides

Highlights

- Subgroups shared proposed draft recommendations with the meeting attendees; then took questions and sought feedback from appointed workgroup members.
- Subgroup leads will take the feedback given from members regarding proposed draft recommendations back to their subgroups to have the discussions needed to refine and finalize the recommendations for presentation and final vote on October 14th.
- Member feedback and questions help prepare subgroup leads to facilitate the needed discussion to bring as detailed and robust recommendations forward for final consideration in the final vote.

Behavioral Health Integration (BHI)

See TVW recording (38:03)

Draft Recommendations

- Implement a health plan assessment to fund Medicaid Mental Health (MH) counseling "professional fees" at Medicare rates
- Allow MH professionals to provide Behavioral Health (BH) supports to young children presenting symptoms that may not merit a diagnosis
- Ensure pediatric Community Health Workers (CHWs) can be a sustained and viable workforce
- Expand Research Units in Behavioral Intervention (RUBI) parent training program pilot

Prenatal through 5 Relational Health (P5RH)

See TVW recording (49:42)

Draft Recommendations

- Expand Early (birth to three) Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) slots
- Increase investment in Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health-Consultation (IECMH-C) (Holding Hope program)
- Expand the Complex Needs Funds for Child Care and ECEAP
- Increase family psychotherapy reimbursement rate
- Alternative-payment pathways & reimbursement for Prenatal-5 providers
- Sustainable funding for community providers supporting families following a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) stay and/or developmental delay diagnosis
- Expansion of Maternity Support Services (MSS)
- Financing Prenatal-5 initiatives through consumer tax

School-based Behavioral Health Suicide Prevention (SBBHSP)

See TVW recording (1:01:30)

Draft Recommendations

- Continue funding for Mental Health Literacy Coordinator
- Funding for School Districts
- Growing the BH workforce in schools
- Expansion of BH student assistant professionals (SAP) program
- Develop and publish a School Health Hub playbook
- Designate and fund a lead agency for school-based BH



Youth and Young Adult Continuum of Care (YYACC)

See TVW recording (1:25:50)

Draft Recommendations

- Expand access to peer support services
- Support expansion of recovery high schools
- Fund administration of Child Advocacy Programs (CAPS) and streamline pathway to First-Episode Psychosis care
- Expand the Bridge Residential housing program
- Increase and sustain funding for Youth Wellness Zones
- Extend the timeline of [House Bill 1580](#)
- Support the Autism Spectrum Disorder/Intellectual and developmental disabilities (ASD/IDDs) workforce serving youth and young adults

Workforce and Rates (W&R)

See TVW recording (1:43:51)

Draft Recommendations

- Ensure viable and appropriate implementation of the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) model
- Behavioral Health Teaching Clinic designation and enhancement rate
- Fund the supervisor stipend program
- Conditional scholarships
- Maintenance funding expansion for Partnership Access Line (PAL) & Referral Service
- Well-Being Specialist designation
- Fund youth-focused curriculum for Behavioral Health Support Specialist (BHSS)

Comments/Questions

- What is the focus for the BHSS curriculum (peer, mental health, behavioral health, Substance Use Disorder (SUD)?
A – Designed for providers. Providing brief interventions for support. What we are currently building for adult population, what we need is subject matter experts to focus on youth-based curriculum for similar types of issues or conditions. That is the focus of the work that needs to be done.

Public comment

See TVW recording (2:00:00)

Highlights

- 2 youth with lived experience commented on the positive impact the Recovery Academy High School in Seattle has had on their lives.
 - This school is important and saved my life; it is truly the reason I choose to get sober. Without this support and being away from the school did bring a relapse. I'm back at the school and going back to rehab. This school is so important for me and other kids.
- Community health workers play a key role in supporting and navigating systems for children, youth and families.



Thematic breakout group exercise

See TVW recording (2:13:30)

Prompts

Are there intersections between the recommendations related to this theme?

What important issues related to this theme *aren't* being addressed by the recommendations?

Some of these recommendations span across themes. Do you see ways in which we can maximize positive impact across multiple touchpoints of the WA BH system?

Theme 1: Care coordination/integration

Related recommendations

1. Ensure pediatric CHWs are a sustained and viable workforce
2. Allow MH professionals to provide BH supports to young children presenting symptoms that may not merit a diagnosis
3. Implement a health plan assessment to fund Medicaid MH counseling "professional fees" at Medicare rates
4. Expand RUBI parent training program
5. Support the ASD/IDD workforce serving youth and young adults
6. Ensure viable and appropriate implementation of the CCBHC model
7. Behavioral Health Teaching Clinic designation & enhancement rate
8. Fund the supervisor stipend program
9. Conditional scholarships
10. Fund youth-focused curriculum for Behavioral Health Support Specialists (BHSS)
11. Maintenance funding expansion for PAL & Referral Service
12. Lead agency for school-based behavioral health
13. Develop and publish a School Health Hub playbook
14. Expansion of BH student assistant professionals (SAP) program
15. Growing the BH workforce in schools
16. Increase investment in Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMH-C)
17. Increase family psychotherapy reimbursement rates
18. Sustainable funding for community providers supporting families following a NICU stay and/or developmental delay diagnosis
19. Expand the Complex Needs Funds for Child Care and ECEAP
20. Increase investment in Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMH-C) (Holding Hope Program)
21. Extend the timeline for House Bill 1580
22. Fund administration of CAPS and streamline pathway to First-Episode Psychosis care



Theme 2: Crisis and intensive services

Related recommendations

1. Extend the timeline of [House Bill 1580](#)
2. Expand access to peer support services
3. Fund administration of CAPS and streamline pathway to First-Episode Psychosis care
4. Expand the Bridge Residential housing program
5. Maintenance funding expansion for PAL & Referral Service
6. Increase family psychotherapy reimbursement rates

Theme 3: Perinatal and early childhood supports

Related recommendations

1. Expand RUBI parent training program pilot
2. Allow MH professionals to provide BH supports to young children presenting symptoms that may not merit a diagnosis
3. Ensure pediatric CHWs are a sustained and viable workforce
4. Expand Early (birth to three) ECEAP slots
5. Increase investment in Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMH-C) (Holding Hope Program)
6. Increase family psychotherapy reimbursement rates
7. Alternative-payment pathways and reimbursement for P5 professionals
8. Sustainable funding for community providers supporting families following a NICU stay and/or developmental delay diagnosis
9. Expansion of Maternity Support Services
10. Financing Prenatal-5 services through consumer tax
11. Expand the Complex Needs Funds for Child Care and ECEAP

Theme 4: Connection/integration with schools

Related recommendations

1. Increase and sustain funding for Youth Wellness Zones
2. Lead agency for school-based behavioral health
3. Develop and publish a School Health Hub playbook
4. Expansion of BH student assistant professionals (SAP) program
5. Growing the BH workforce in schools
6. Funding for School Districts
7. Expand the Complex Needs Funds for Child Care and ECEAP



Theme 5: SUD and recovery

Related recommendations

1. Support expansion of recovery high schools
2. Expand access to peer support services
3. Continue funding for Mental Health Literacy Coordinator
4. Expansion of BH student assistant professionals (SAP) program
5. Sustainable funding for community providers supporting families following a NICU stay and/or developmental delay diagnosis
6. Expansion of Maternity Support Services
7. Extend the timeline for House Bill 1580

Review System's Map

Chris Soderquist,

See TVW recording (2:16:52), see "mapping the children and youth behavioral health ecosystem" for more details

Highlights

- An overview of the system's map was given as a refresher with a conversation around how to use the map to identify where the levers are to pull to get the most impact for Washingtonians.
- The map does three things; 1) helps to expand boundaries; 2) finding leverage; and 3) identify potential unintended consequences.
- Office hours were requested with a decision to schedule for member opportunity prior to the next meeting, lending prospect to members to have their questions asked and to learn more about system leverage and incorporating systems thinking when considering 2025 recommendations.

10/14 voting and prioritization process

See TVW recording (2:54:30)

Highlight

- Categories for recommendations include:
 - **Overarching recommendations** are discussed and approved via consensus by members; this also includes WA Thriving (Prenatal through 25 Strategic Plan related recommendations)
 - **Legacy recommendations** consist of items that are recommendations that has been previously supported by the work group and we want to keep the support and momentum going for these efforts, which may include additional funding or further action.
 - Legacy items already have support or champions. We do need to confirm champions as we determine the legacy recommendations to move forward.
 - Legacy items will have dedicated section in the report after new priorities and other recommendations.
 - **New recommendations** are new requests from the work group that have not been suggested previously, have not been prioritized or have made no progress previously.

Overarching recs

- ▶ Recommendations that we all agree should be elevated.
 - Address cross-cutting challenges that don't fall within the purview of one or two subgroups,
 - Have the potential for system-level impact, and/or
 - Originate from Washington Thriving (the P-25 strategic planning effort)

We typically discuss and decide by consensus whether to advance these.

These will be submitted October 1 and included in your final pre-read before October 14th.

Behavioral Health Integration (BHI)

- ▶ Implement a health plan assessment to fund Medicaid MH counseling "professional fees" at Medicare rates
- ▶ Allow MH professionals to provide BH supports to young children presenting symptoms that may not merit a diagnosis
- ▶ Ensure pediatric CHWs are a sustained and viable workforce
- ▶ Expand RUBI parent training program pilot

TERMS:

- CHW: Community Health Worker
- RUBI program: Research Units in Behavioral Intervention (RUBI) Autism & Intellectual Disability training program for parents

Prenatal through Age 5 Relational Health (P5RH)

- ▶ Expand Early (birth to three) ECEAP program slots
- ▶ Increase investment in IECMH-C (Holding Hope program)
- ▶ Expand the Complex Needs Funds for Child Care and ECEAP
- ▶ Increase family psychotherapy reimbursement rate
- ▶ Alternative-payment pathways & reimbursement for P-5 providers
- ▶ Sustainable funding for community providers supporting families following a NICU stay and/or developmental delay diagnosis
- ▶ Expansion of Maternity Support Services (MSS)
- ▶ Financing P-5 initiatives through consumer tax

TERMS:

- Early ECEAP: (0-3) Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP)
- IECMH-C: Infant & Early Childhood MH Consultation
- NICU: Neonatal intensive care unit

School-Based Behavioral Health and Suicide Prevention (SBBHSP)

- ▶ Continue funding for Mental Health Literacy Coordinator
- ▶ Funding for School Districts
- ▶ Growing the BH workforce in schools
- ▶ Expansion of BH student assistant professionals (SAP) program
- ▶ Develop and publish a School Health Hub playbook
- ▶ Designate and fund a lead agency for school-based BH

Youth and Young Adult Continuum of Care (YYACC)

- ▶ Expand access to peer support services
- ▶ Support expansion of recovery high schools
- ▶ Fund administration of CAPS and streamline pathway to First-Episode Psychosis care
- ▶ Expand the Bridge Residential housing program
- ▶ Increase and sustain funding for Youth Wellness Zones
- ▶ Extend the timeline of House Bill 1580
- ▶ Support the ASD/IDD workforce serving youth and young adults

TERMS:

- CAPS: Central Assessment of Psychosis Services
- ASD/IDD: Autism-Spectrum Disorder/Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities

Workforce and Rates (W&R)

- ▶ Ensure viable and appropriate implementation of the CCBHC model
- ▶ Behavioral Health Teaching Clinic designation and enhancement rate
- ▶ Fund the supervisor stipend program
- ▶ Conditional scholarships
- ▶ Maintenance funding expansion for PAL & Referral Service
- ▶ Well-Being Specialist designation
- ▶ Fund youth-focused curriculum for BHSS

TERMS:

- CCBHC: Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic
- PAL: Partnership Access Line
- BHSS: Behavioral Health Support Specialists