# Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group – Youth & Young Adult Continuum of Care Subgroup

#### January 11, 2024

## **Glossary of Terms**

HCA: Washington State Health Care Authority W&R: CYBHWG Workforce and Rates subgroup WISe: Wraparound with Intensive Services Washington

## **Meeting Topics**

- Updates to important behavioral health bills and YYACC recommendations
- Continue brainstorming opportunities for session advocacy
- Behavioral Health Catalyst introduces technology for continuous collaboration

## **Discussion Summary**

- 1. YYACC recommendation and session updates:
  - a. YYACC recommendations that moved forward with CYBHWG support:
    - i. Deliver and sustain funding for BH360 (formerly Parent Portal)
    - ii. Ensure equitable access to and realize the intended outcomes of intensive programs serving youth and young adults with the most complex behavioral health needs (jointly with the W&R subgroup)
      - 1. W&R and YYACC leads have been working together to create a robust proposal that incorporates shared priorities.
      - 2. The initial proposal included directing a taskforce to evaluate administrative burdens of program provisions, as well as program efficacy for PACT, HOST, WISe, and New Journeys.
    - iii. After continued conversations with HCA, the leads decided to parse the combined recommendation.
      - 1. W&R is going to work in conjunction with HCA around reducing administrative burdens in WISe.
      - 2. The intensive services taskforce has been condensed to solely focus on PACT and we are looking to include a focused proviso specific to the taskforce.
        - a. There were concerns over the budget ask and HCA ability to look comprehensively at all four program areas in a singular task force.
        - b. HCA had already included PACT in their <u>2024 agency</u> <u>decision package</u>, which is included in the governor's budget. We will continue to advocate throughout session to make sure the gap is filled, and the full amount requested in the decision package is funded.

- 3. HCA and CYBHWG are looking to address the full slate of intensive services specifically through the strategic planning process as well, pursuing some of the broader questions around intensive services and transitional age youth, in addition to what's happening in the legislature this year.
- b. In addition to these items, Representative Eslick will be championing another recommendation put forward by W&R on the use of conditional scholarships in the behavioral health workforce
  - i. This recommendation is to ensure funds are able to be applied to conditional scholarships in behavioral health, creating parity with loan repayment programs and physical health workforce models.
  - ii. Will bolster recruitment and retainment of behavioral health professionals
  - iii. Representative Eslick is working on developing a proviso for administering conditional scholarships
- c. Funding is extremely limited this session
  - Of the approximately 2000 bills being introduced this session, only about 340 will be passed.
- d. Representative Eslick serves on the bipartisan House Human Services, Youth and Early Learning Committee. The Committee considers a broad array of issues and services affecting children and families, including early learning; child care; economic assistance programs; developmental disabilities; child and youth development; child welfare services; children's mental health; at- risk and homeless youth; and juvenile justice.
  - i. The Committee schedules, agendas, and live streams can be viewed <u>here</u>.
- 2. Opportunities for session advocacy
  - a. In response to last meeting's brainstorming session, and some of the gaps that arose, Behavioral Health Catalyst created a repository of advocacy and educational resources specific to YYACC priorities for participants to engage with on an ongoing basis.
    - i. This repository also includes a collaborative tool, JamBoard, where participants can have a space to continuously collaborate on YYACC priorities inside and outside of what is brought forward as recommendations for session.
    - ii. The JamBoard also has space for ongoing feedback from participants for leads to consider.
    - iii. Behavioral Health Catalyst staff walked the group through how to utilize and contribute to the various features of the new collaborative tool and repository.

## **Next Steps:**

• Monthly meetings January-March for session and advocacy updates.

#### Next Meeting: February 15