

Adult Mental Health Initiatives Reform Advisory Workgroup

Details

When: April 10, 2024 at 1:00-2:15 pm

Microsoft TEAMS only. This was not an in-person meeting.

Agenda

- Welcome
- Introductions and Meeting Guidelines
- Funding Formula Recap
- Ideas and Recommendations for Formula Recalibration Drivers
- Preparations for May's final Meeting

Meeting Summary

Welcome

- Pam Sanchez welcomes the group

Introductions and Meeting Guidelines

- Members put their names, AMHI affiliation and preferred pronouns into the chat for all to see
- Facilitator Lea reviewed meeting guidelines

Funding Formula Recap – Mike Schoeberl, Actuary

- Mike reviewed slides from the previous meeting explaining how budgets were calculated
- Question via chat: Will there be any adjustments to the CSP funds which fund the same activities?
- Pam: no, it's separate funding.

Ideas and Recommendations for Formula Recalibration Drivers - Members

- Recalibration Parameters
- Historic relative distribution for funding had remained consistent in the past
 - Pam adds that one of the implications of the new statute is to protect the AMHI funding to ensure AMHIs didn't lose funds and to protect future funding
- Formula: contains 3 primary elements
 - Data: underlying information for input into the model such as census data

- Options and Choices: how to prioritize different components, how much weight on data points
 - Calculation Engine: having the data, choices and methodology to develop the calculation; the formula generates the distribution
- In the absence of additional money, if recalibration occurs, some AMHIs would get more money but some would get less
- No current plans to modify the formula but DHS expects to revisit the formula and assumptions within the next 10 years
- Think about things that could change over time and provide feedback for components that could be considered for formula modifications AND changes or events that could trigger updates to distributions
- AMHI Recalibration Parameters
 - Review of slide
- Member Feedback
- Member: Our AMHI covers 10 counties; Mayo announced a very large expansion which makes the need higher in the county, understand this is outside the formula
 - Pam: we want to pay attention to changes, anything around mental health we should look at how it affects AMHI's spending, costs, etc. How could this regional data that could affect the state formula be captured?
 - Member: Population will likely increase for staffing alone
 - Member via chat: To clarify, Mayo Clinic has announced a \$5 billion investment in their Destination Medical Center expansion over the next five years.
- Member: Our AMHI is seeing increased acuity and severity, including more civil commitments and co-occurring disorders requiring more intensive intervention; how does the formula take this into account?
 - Pam: AMHI eligibility still requires a SPMI diagnosis; believes from experience that AMHI will not be the answer to all mental health issues facing communities across the state as there is blended funding; anything we can bring forward to show what is helpful for AMHI; there are opportunities with that information
- Member: Is there a factor that takes acuity into account?
 - Mike: Yes. On the SDOH, co-morbidity is factored into the increase, including an assumed acuity for Medicaid vs Medicare, health risk
- Member: If there is a recalibration, we cannot count on an influx of money, want to be sure if there is a change in funding that as much lead time as possible is given to all AMHIs; should allow time and potentially use a staggered distribution; everyone is experiencing more acuity, more and more individuals with high levels of need
 - Pam: DHS won't do any of this without you (The AMHIs); would include all stakeholders in the process
- Member: When we look at timeframes for recalibration, look for a consistent period of time to know when budgets might change; if the formula is going to change altogether I recommend convening another work group
 - Pam: we are not planning to recalibrate anytime soon; want to move away from being stagnant; DHS knows AMHIs need consistency for planning; DHS will look at census numbers and determine what impact the new numbers would make; DHS has big picture and statewide considerations in mind and it will have to be a meaningful change

- Member via chat: Good point! We're seeing an increase this time, but next we may not; AMHIs need a year+ notice to "sunset" programs or downsize spending
- Member: My AMHI recently went to a mobile crisis model; if the composition changes in the future, then DHS would use the new per capita and apply per county?
 - Pam: it would likely impact only the AMHI region that is restructuring
- Member: Increased funding comes with its own challenges to get programs and services up and running. If dollars are unspent at the end of the grant, will that be viewed negatively?
 - Pam: No, not at all. There is no expectation that you can flip a switch and spend up to your new amount
- Member: Will we have options to put funds into BRASS codes if we don't know the provider yet? What is the flexibility of the application?
 - Pam: when you're proposing the budget you're welcome to add funds as a placeholder and input the Provider later
- Member via chat: Can we have an "unallocated" line if we are not 100% sure exactly where to allocate all of the funds initially?
 - Pam: The AMHI team is working to adjust the application to meet the needs of the AMHIs; The team will come to an agreement on how to reflect that request within the application
- Member question via chat: At our next meeting, could we potentially set aside time to discuss new initiatives AMHIs are considering with additional funds?
 - Pam added thumbs up (yes) to this chat
- Member: appreciates the flexibility of DHS
 - Pam: we can discuss how you want to continue these collaborations
- Member question via chat: Are there any determined recalibration drivers?
 - Pam: no, but we know that it can't be stagnant for another 30 years

May's Meeting

- Next meeting is May 8th 1:00 – 2:30
- AMHI Statewide Quarterly meetings; there are options to add some partner-related agenda topics
- Pam added they are currently filling out the allocation spreadsheets to post on countylink website; new amounts and regular CSP amounts are being completed by DHS in the spreadsheet that will become public by June 30, 2024