

FYI Fridays

DBH Updates and Policy Guidance

March 15, 2019

1. **State Budget Update** – The FY 2019 Supplemental budget was marked up by Senate with no items needing to go to conference committee. The FY2020 House Committee Substitute should go to House floor for debate after Spring Break! The House Committee substitute is the budget committee’s recommendation that they will take to the full House body after spring break. Amendments may be added to the bill during that process. Once approved, the budget will go to the Senate for approval.
2. **Federal Budget Update** – *(Info taken from the NASMHPD Weekly Update)* Although details will not be available until early next week, the proposed Fiscal Year 2020 budget President Trump sent to Congress on March 11 would increase funding for the Mental Health Block Grant from \$710 million—the level funded by Congress in FY 2019—to \$723 million. At the same time, the Trump Administration would reduce funding for Mental Health Programs of Regional and National Significance (PRNS) by \$30 million below FY 2019 levels, of which \$12 million would be the elimination of the Mental Health Prevention and Public Health Fund. Additional information on what PRNS programs are being cut will be available early next week.

Children’s Mental Health Services would be funded at the FY 2019 level of \$125 million, and the budget includes an increase of \$15 million, for a total of \$133 million, to expand access to school-based programs, including school safety programs such as Project AWARE, Healthy Transitions, and Mental Health First Aid. The increase in funding for school-based programs would target rural communities through telehealth models, behavioral health aides, and linkages to services. The program would also develop trainings within schools for school personnel to better recognize the signs and symptoms of mental illness in students.

Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness would be funded at the FY2019 level of \$65 million. But funding for Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI) would be cut by almost two-thirds, from \$36 million to \$14 million.

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics would once again be eligible for \$150 million in facility grants.

On the substance use disorder treatment side, the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block grant would again be funded at the FY 2019 level of \$1.858 billion, and the budget once again would provide a separate \$1.5 billion for grants to states to address the opioid epidemic.

But, as with the Mental Health PRNS, Substance Abuse PRNS would be reduced, by \$31 million. In each case, the PRNS programs would retain funding of \$430 million. The budget says the Administration is providing \$74 million for suicide prevention programs, but it is unclear how those moneys will be allocated on a line-item basis. The Suicide Lifeline received a \$4.5 million increase in FY 2019 to \$12 million. However, with approximately 29 percent of funding for state mental health programs derived from Federal Medicaid funding, the budget’s proposal to cut \$1.48 trillion from the Medicaid program would likely put access to mental health programs at significant risk.

That reduction would result in part from a proposal to allow states to receive block grants with per capita caps for funding Medicaid services (in return for greater state flexibility), with annual inflation rates at the Consumer Price Index for All Consumers (CPI-U), rather than receiving the Federal Financial Participation (FFP) matching payments currently made to states. Savings would also be achieved through a reconfiguration of payments to Medicaid providers, eliminating supplemental payments above costs under the Upper Payment Limits, and \$130 million in savings would result from the imposition of work requirements for Medicaid enrollees, an optional enrollee requirement thus far approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for seven states under Medicaid waivers. In addition, the long-scheduled but thus far delayed reductions in disproportionate share hospital (DSH)

payments mandated under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) would provide \$25.9 billion of the Medicaid cuts, as those DSH reductions begin being imposed this year. In the ACA exchanges, the budget proposes to reduce by half the subsidies through premium tax credits received by low-income enrollees to pay premiums.

3. **SOAR: Helping Those That Experience Mental Illness and Homelessness** - Keep SSI/DI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) in your service array! Did you know SOAR offers a free online course in using their process and staff members taking the course can receive 20 CEUs for completing the online course? Course attendees can sign up for a weekly cohort as they work through the course and get assistance from area SOAR Leaders. <http://www.soarworks.prainc.com/> A recent look at twelve (12) successful SOAR cases from one agency, shows Medicaid billing three months prior to and three months after clients were awarded benefits, totaled \$104,054.00! Currently SOAR applications in MO show a 62% approval rate for the initial application with an average of 130 days from protected filing date to the award decision! CPRC and most PATH programs are able to bill Community Support Services and the SOARA and SOARC Procedure Codes from the Psychiatric Services Catalog. If you have any questions about SOAR, please contact Brooke Dawson (brooke.dawson@dmh.mo.gov).
4. **Peer Support Grandfathering Period Ending Soon** - To those formerly holding the Certified Missouri Peer Specialist Credential (CMPS), please be aware that the grandfathering period is ending soon! In March 2018, the Missouri Credentialing Board (MCB) in partnership with the Missouri Department of Mental Health created the new Certified Peer Specialist (CPS) credential. This credential replaced the two previous Peer Credentials, the Missouri Recovery Support Specialist – Peer (MRSS-P) and the Certified Missouri Peer Specialist (CMPS). Those holding the MRSS-P and CMPS were provided an opportunity to grandfather into the new CPS credential. Since March 2018, continuous attempts have been made to provide an informational form to those holding the CMPS to complete and return to the MCB so that new CPS certificates could be issued. **The opportunity to return the informational form will end on April 30, 2019.** If you know of an individual who held the CMPS, please ensure they have returned the attached informational form by April 30, 2019 to avoid missing the grandfathering deadline. For more information or any questions, please contact the Missouri Credentialing Board office at 573-616-2300. [Informational Form](#)
5. **New SAMHSA Publication Available on MAT/Criminal Justice** - [Medication-Assisted Treatment \(MAT\) in the Criminal Justice System: Brief Guidance to the States](#) The opioid epidemic has significantly penetrated the criminal justice (CJ) system. This brief provides guidance to state governments on increasing the availability of evidence-based MAT in CJ settings. By including the CJ system as a path to treatment, states may see an increase in access to, and retention in treatment, and lower rates of overdoses, re-offending, and re-incarcerations. In this brief, states are provided an overview of the issue, the challenges to incorporating MAT, key considerations for establishing MAT in CJ settings, and existing standards/guidelines. Inventory#: PEP19-MATBRIEFCJS [Download the Brief Guidance](#)

Training Opportunities and Resources

1. **Addressing the Public Health Epidemic of Premature Mortality in People with SMI: Evolving Roles for Mental Health Clinicians** - **March 22, 11am to 12 pm (CST)** Learn about a multilevel, public health approach to addressing comorbid medical problems in individuals who have serious mental illness, along with specific ways that clinicians can help improve their lives and lifespans. **Register NOW**
2. **Traumatic Stress: Relationships and Resiliency** – sponsored by UMSL/MIMH, this day conference will be held **March 28, 2019**, at the Doubletree Hotel in Chesterfield. Will feature Dawn Schiller, an expert survivor-leader in the anti-trafficking, domestic violence and sexual assault movements. <https://traumaticstressconference.com/>
3. **Fostering Organizational Change to Promote Uptake of Evidence-Based Practices: Lessons and Tools** - **March 28 2-3pm (CST)** Examines evidence-based quality improvement methods and tools you can use to close gaps in quality, including discussion of a recent large-scale study to improve employment outcomes for those with serious mental illness. **Register NOW**

4. **Region 7 Recovery Stakeholders Learning Community** – Next session is **March 28 from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm**. The topic is “Recovery Community Centers” presented by David Stoecker and Chad Sabora. This free, monthly Learning Community provides a networking bridge for recovery stakeholders within the four states in Region 7 (MO, KS, IA, NE). [REGISTER NOW!](#)
5. **Missouri Forensic Conference** – This event will be held **April 3-5, 2019**, at the Capitol Plaza Hotel and Convention Center in Jefferson City. Wednesday is a pre-conference session regarding courtroom testimony. <http://cvent.com/d/6b5tf>
6. **Suicide Prevention Seminar** –To be held **April 9, 2019, from 10 am to noon** on the OTC Springfield Campus, Lincoln Hall 211. Speaker is Lauren Moyer. Call (417) 447-2651 or <http://foundation.otc.edu/events>
7. **MO Infant & Early Childhood MH Summit** – This FREE event will be held Friday, **April 12, 2019, from 9 am to 4 pm**, at the Hilton Garden Inn Conference Center at 3200 Vandiver Drive in Columbia. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-missouri-infant-and-early-childhood-mental-health-summit-registration-56681728576>
8. **Opioid Crisis Management Team (OCMT) Training** – Join this free half-day training on managing the opioid crisis and the Medication First model in the state of Missouri as part of Missouri's State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis (Opioid STR/SOR) grant (<https://protect2.fireeye.com/url?k=8fa2f686-d3e36e8c-8fa03a4c-0cc47a6d17ce-3fad460fa6951725&u=http://www.missouriopioidstr.org/>). This training will be held at 1346 N. Bishop Avenue in Rolla on **Thursday, April 18 from 1 – 5pm**. Register here: <http://www.cvent.com/d/r6q7sy>
9. **MO Children’s Trauma Network Training Summit** - We will be focusing on various topics throughout the training summit, which will include but are not limited to suicide, parent engagement, substance use, trauma, attachment, resiliency, sexual behaviors, education, public policy/advocacy and so much more! Holiday Inn and Expo Center at 2200 Interstate 70 Dr. SW in Columbia, **April 30 – May 1, 2019**. [Click Here](#)
10. **More info coming soon on:**
 - a. **MCB Ethics** (April dates) <https://missouricb.com/>
 - b. **Addiction Science Conference: Med First Model** (May 10) Click [here](#) for more info
 - c. **2019 Statewide Peer Leadership Summit** (May 28-29) **To Register >> [CLICK HERE](#)**
 - d. **DMH’s Spring Training Institute** (May 30-31) [click here for more information and to register](#)
 - e. **Zero Suicide Academy** (June 5-6) <http://zerosuicideinstitute.com/zerosuicideacademy>

Look for updates on different topics/initiatives next Friday!