



South Shore Community Partners in Prevention

South Shore Community Partners in Prevention (CHNA 23) Wednesday, May 11, 2022 8:55 A.M. to 10:15 A.M. Zoom Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Michael Jackman, SSCPP Chair, Congressman Keating's Office; Jen Cantwell, Plymouth County DA's Office; Lindsay Reik, Social Outreach Worker, Town of Plymouth Center for Active Living; Alexis Spencer, Healthy Families; Karen Peterson, BID Plymouth; Cindy Anders, NAMI Plymouth; Rhiannon Thai, PPS Nurse Case Manager; Erin Morley, Assistant Director Coordinated Care Network; Colleen Kennedy-Mello, Program Manager, Southeast Tobacco Free Community Partnership - SevenHills Foundation; Sue Giovanetti, CEO, Plymouth Area Coalition for the Homeless; Jenn Hoadley, Alzheimer's Association; Sheila Flaherty, NAMI Plymouth Area; Linda Gabruk, School of Social Work, Bridgewater State University; Barbara DeCunzo, of NAMI Plymouth Area/BAMSI Brockton RCC; Catarina Lima, Regional Director of Independent Living Services at DEAF, Inc. SE and Cape Regions; Vicky Butler, Program Director for Plymouth County Outreach and steering committee member; Malissa Kenney, Healthy Plymouth and Cape Cod Collaborative Arts Network; Dora Teague, Case Management Coordinator, South Shore Community Action Council; Joan Bryant, Plymouth NAMI Board; Maureen Doherty, Community Case Management at BID-Plymouth; Kathleen Considine, CHNA Steering Committee, NAMI Plymouth Area; Buddy Baker Smith, DMH Southeast Director; Kerry Conlon, Harbor Health; Liz Weiner, OCES; Alexis Spencer, Healthy Families; Kim Scotland, SSCPP Coordinator/ United Way of Greater Plymouth County

Mike Jackman, SSCPP Chair kicked off the meeting at 9:00am. All provided self-introduction in the chat.

All in attendance voted to approve the April meeting minutes.

Upcoming SSCPP Events were promoted:

May 12th "My Year of Living Mindfully" Film Discussion & Panel at the Duxbury Library. The event is offered both in person and on Zoom. Check out the recording [here](#).

June 8th Health Literacy Awards & SSCPP Annual Meeting: SSCPP is excited to host our June meeting in-person at the Plymouth Library. We will meet at our usual meeting time, 8:45am at the Otto Felhow room. Will have elections for members and officers for the steering committee. The steering committee meets first Thursday of the month before the general meetings. If anyone is interested in

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joining, please reach out to Kim or Mike via chna23@gmail.com. We are also excited to give out the health literacy awards at the June meeting!

Major Topic: Update on DMH's Roadmap through Behavioral Health

Presented by: Buddy Baker-Smith, Southeast Area Director at Massachusetts Department of Mental Health

- Mike introduced Buddy and Theresa Silva who is the Plymouth DMH Site Director.
- Buddy shared a progress report. The Roadmap is a major restructuring of community outpatient services.
- 988 Helpline will help with ease of access and emergency department diversion services.
- The concept of "front door" is very important in the roadmap. It makes it easy to get services when in need. The goal is to make it easy for behavioral health and substance use treatment with a low threshold to get across the door. Discussed readily available outpatient evaluation and treatment in the community and primary care. Community Behavioral Health Centers (CBHCs) BHCs are the entry point.
- Working with primary care providers is also a big part of this effort to increase the competency and access in the primary care world to assess BH conditions. CBHCs are community-based alternatives to the emergency department and create a stronger 24/7 community-based crisis response system that reduces reliance on the ED for BH crises. For example, police may bring someone experiencing a mental health crisis to a center rather than the ED. This should create significant positive outcomes to treat folks without hospitalizing them.
- When state helpline is in place, a person can call in a crisis and be helped via phone but also have call transferred to local community based help center.
- Presently, since last April, MA Health and DMH worked on the specification to procure this centers. Proposals have been received and have just started reviewing the proposals. DMH is represented on the review process. Received 9 proposals for our area (southeast area). Plan is to have centers operational as of Jan 1, 2023. Centralized phone line for state is a key feature for access. Phone line is expected to go live same time as centers. In the meantime the states 211 line is being used.
- The new centralized phone/chat line will enable people to easily find available providers and services that meet their needs. 988 is the national crisis help line and will go into effect in July of 2022. It connects folks in every state to certified providers for crisis and suicide prevention.
- Do not have to be a DMH client or have an active app. for DMH services.
- Want to target folks who visit ED often and provide direct referrals to a service provider. Services start at ED and then there is follow up support for immediate needs and assistance with connecting to long-term community services.
- Buddy provided a COVID update. The first 6-8 months of the pandemic were an enormous scramble as BH is not an infection control kind of service. After 8 or so months, started to get settled on practice and identify what supplies/equipment were needed as well as how to manage admissions/discharges safety.

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- Trajectory is very similar to the community but better managed and controlled. The greatest incidents of COVID are in the staff and it is based on exposures in their personal lives. This can create short-term staffing issues.
- Now, looking at how to manage services with a long term covid context. One change is starting to create levels of response so we can move restrictions up in peak times and down when transmission levels are low. Each Monday they review the CDC county transmission rates and have defined a level of precaution. Sites are emailed with the level of operation. Relates to social distancing, shared eating, etc. This rhythm is what we hope the future of providing services looks like.
- In the three acute centers they operate, since April 2020 to now, the number of COVID positive inpatients is less than 20 people! That is extraordinary as there are over 200 admissions in these programs. Have not had issues with big outbreaks.
- The only good thing that has come out of covid is understanding how to use telehealth. Telehealth is with us to stay but with video for visual visits. Want to limit the portion of phone contact only. Part of this is how to get technology into the client's hands as well. Buddy feels person to person is the best thing, but telehealth is next best thing.
- Opened for Q & A.

The floor was opened for any announcements. Next meeting is on June 8th at the Plymouth Public Library.

Adjourned at 10:15am.

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