RSA:126-A:13
Health and Human Service Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2017 @ 11AM
Room 205, LOB

Members Present: Reps F. Kotowski, J. MacKay, C. McMahon, F. Byron, and Sens. J. Reagan and M. Fuller Clark

Absent: Rep. D. LeBrun

Guests: Department Heads

Rep MacKay motioned to approve 4-14-17 meeting minutes, Rep. Byron Seconded. Minutes unanimously approved.

(1) Katja Fox, Director, Division of Behavioral Health, and Attorney Raymond Perry, DBH, Department of Health and Human Services presented an update on the Mental Health Agreement. Sen. Fuller-Clark asked the status of funding and staffing to meet the service requirements. Ms. Fox advised the Budget contains $6 million to fund the programs requirements however the rates of pay and hiring of staff is a continuing challenge.

(2) Mary Beth Eldredge, Board Chair, and Jeff Loughlin, Executive Director, NHHIO. Provided detailed report on the progress being made in upgrading communication methods and improving behavioral heath and primary care co-ordination.

(3) Colonel Richard Oberman, Deputy State Surgeon of the NH National Guard. Spoke on behalf of SB 298 (2014) *Permanent Commission on Post-traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury Annual Report.* The Colonel provided an update on the work being done for those who suffer with PTSD. He is working to compile/collect added data on veterans care in NH which has over 100,000 vets but has had only 1500 responses from recent surveys. Continued analysis needs to be done before proposing future action strategies and the Colonel is committed to this work.

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(4) Terry Smith, Director, Division of Family Assistance (DFA), and Lynn Wilder, Administrator, DFA provided a report on the status of the Welfare to Work program which is an important part of the Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) report.

(5) Atty. Tricia Lucas, Senior Advisor, Office of Medicaid Services, provided a report on the Telehealth program enacted within SB 112 in 2015. The Dartmouth Hitchcock existing model for Telehealth is the benchmark for the growth of this program going forward which formally started in July of 2016.

(6) DHHS Commissioner Jeffrey Meyers provided an overview and detailed comments on the Dashboard Report provided to the Committee. Additional discussion included progress on HB400 which funds 40 community/residential beds for mental health and also addressing emergency admission beds as well and the status of the DD waitlist. The Commissioner was also in strong support of an Oversight Commission of DCYF along with establishing an implementation team for HB 400.

The next meeting has been scheduled for June 23, 2017 at 11AM

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35PM

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Charles E. McMahon

*Testimonies and supporting documents are available for review in the Committee File.