Health and Human Services Oversight Committee Agenda Items for Regular Meeting
Friday, November 13, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.
Remote Meeting

1. Welcome and Right to Know – Rep. Weber welcomed members and read the notice of RSA 91A requirements for remote meeting. Roll call indicated those present as: Reps. Campion, Nordgren, Weber; Sens. Fuller-Clark and Rosenwald. Sen. Bradley and Reps. Mackay and McMahon were absent. The meeting was halted at 10:15 as a member of the public had difficulty accessing the meeting. Chair Weber reconvened the meeting at 10:32.

2. Approval of draft minutes from the October 23, 2020 remote meeting.
Sen. Fuller-Clark moved, and Sen. Rosenwald seconded a motion to approve the minutes. The roll call indicated approval by Sens. Rosenwald and Fuller-Clark; Reps. Campion, Nordgren and Weber.

3. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Annual Report – Lindsey B. Courtney, Esquire, Executive Director, Mark J. Cioffi, Planning Analyst, and Michelle Ricco Jonas, BS CPM, PDMP Program Manager, New Hampshire Office of Professional Licensure and Certification. (Annual Report, July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020)

Mr. Cioffi reviewed the PDMP Annual Report. Key points included:

By the end of SFY 2020 the following had occurred: (slide # 9)

- 10,044 of New Hampshire-licensed controlled substance prescribers had a PDMP account.
- 4,667 delegates had a PDMP account.
- The total number of accounts increased 6% from SFY 2019 to SFY 2020. (only increased 3% from SFY 2018 to SFY 2019)
- Patient Information Requests increased 14%.
- Overall, 40% of all registered users were actively utilizing the PDMP, compared to only a third in SFY 2019.
- 40% of registered users were delegates who made 74% of the queries on behalf of their sponsored practitioners.
- There has been a decrease in opioid prescriptions and an increase in amphetamine prescriptions – which raises the question of whether the population is moving to a different drug of misuse?
- Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT):
    - Use has increased for Medicaid providers; decreased for commercial payors.
    - MAT meds are excluded from the count of opioid prescriptions ○ There is some confusion re: adequacy of MAT providers by location. F/U – Mr. Cioffi will clarify information about mismatch b/t location of clinics, patients and prescribers- in January meeting.

Ms. Courtney described operational efforts r/t PDPM, as follows: 1) OPLC has audited pharmacies for accuracy of data collection and uploading –with the finding that all are being done accurately. 2) registration audits – do not have 100% compliance with registration – will continue into FY 21. 3) prescriber report cards implemented. 4) extended contract with software vendor; MoU with DoJ and have $238,000 in grant funding to maintain function. They are looking to develop an on-line training system through an MoU with DHHS for grant funding to upgrade existing software and hire 3 FTEs; one to integrate electronic med records with PDMP; two auditors to enhance educational opportunities. SB 676 was not passed – would have allowed sharing data with DHHS for health care purposes only. Many new opportunities exist for the use of data to combat opioid misuse. More public health opportunities exist.

4. Tuition Waiver for Children in State Foster Care or Guardianship — Attorney Rebecca Ross, General Counsel and Legislative Liaison, and Robert Rodler, Administrator, Division for Children, Youth and Families, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. (Letter dated November 9, 2020)

    - Mr. Rodler reviewed his report which indicated an increase in students that have remained enrolled and/or graduated from four-year programs. The numbers of participants are still low for two-year graduates.
    - The Program reached out to all participating schools and all waiver recipients. Learned of programmatic items from participating schools.
    - HB 1582- allowed students to be in the program with part-time status. Appears to be helpful in allowing students to continue their education.
    - Covid impact- they have reached out to all participants; helped some to stay on campus; help others rent an apartment or move home. Helped to stabilize lives. Asked federal regulators to expand net to younger foster care
    - HB 550 – laid ground work for expanded foster care – 17 participants in program; 2 also in waivered program. Several youths in college looking to get back into foster care.

5. SB 177 (2019) Report Update regarding the Use of Restraint and the Use of Different Modes of Transportation of Patients to New Hampshire Hospital or other Designated Receiving Facilities – Heather M. Moquin, Chief Executive Officer, New Hampshire Hospital, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. (Supplemental Report for July – September 2020)

    - Ms. Moquin reviewed the supplemental report to share the first nine months of the program. Patients are being transported via ambulance. Fewer children are being admitted in restraints and/or with law enforcement. Fewer involuntary admissions to Hampstead Hospital, with an increase in voluntary admissions.
    - In the future, they will share New Hampshire Hospital report, in addition to the Hospital Association report.
    - Follow-up: The pie charts on the graphic report are erroneous. They will be corrected for future reporting purposes.

6. Health Care Associated Infections Report Update – Katrina Hansen, Administrator, Division of Public Health Services, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. (Letter dated November 10, 2020; Talking Points attached)

    - Ms. Hansen reviewed the HAI Program. Working on the 11th report for hospitals and Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASCs).
    - Data analysis and reporting has been delayed due to the focus on Covid. Full report will be ready in January.
    - Preliminary report - overall, hospitals reported fewer infections, but not statistically significant. Compliance with measures to prevent infection remained high.
    - HAI program has been particularly involved in cluster investigation. 42 investigations (vs. 24 in prior year). 300 investigations in FY 2020 to-date.

7. HB 4 (2019) Plan for Dental Care for Medicaid Recipients Status Update – Henry Lipman, Medicaid Director, and Sarah Finne, Medicaid Dental Director, Division for Medicaid Services, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. (Report dated November 13, 2020)

    Dr. Finne reviewed the report. Workgroup members had requested a clear identification of all legislative efforts and associated costs, a breakdown for which has been included. When HB 250 was vetoed the work group members were despondent. They continued to move forward under HB 4.

    Mr. Lipman submitted a priority need in Dept. budget for an adult dental benefit.

    The work group will continue to hear from dental providers to share their experience with value-based reimbursement. The group will continue to work on cost estimates.

    Mr. Lipman indicated that the cost estimates reflect non-pandemic enrollment. Now, there are over 65,000 individuals in Granite Advantage Program, a number that will likely go down after the public health emergency ends.

    Sen. Rosenwald asked about the state vs. federal cost. The total cost would not be borne by the State. With a $1500 cap/enrollee, it is expected that not all enrollees would use the full benefit, meaning that the total cost would likely be less than $1500/enrollee. Dr. Finne indicated that the first-year expenses might be higher as they would be addressing a pent-up demand for dental care.

8. DD and ABD Waitlist Quarterly Report – Deborah Scheetz, Director, Long Term Care Support Services, and or Sandy Hunt, Administrator, Bureau of Developmental Services, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. (Graph through September 30, 2020) F/U – Mr. Cioffi will clarify information about mismatch b/t location of clinics, patients and prescribers- in January meeting

Ms. Scheetz reviewed the report, as follows:

- As of 9/30/20, all SFY21 Quarter One As and Bs were funded for the Developmental Disability (DD) Waiver. In addition, Acquired Brain Disorder Waiver (ABD), and InHome Support Waiver (HIS) people were fully funded. There were 85 people, Cs, waiting for enhanced services on the Developmental Disability (DD) waiver.
    - DD Waiver: 76 individuals were funded thus far in SFY21 as follows:
        - 72 As and Bs with the original budget appropriation
        - 4 Cs with vacancy dollars ○ Acquired Brain Disorder Waiver: 4 individuals were funded thus far in SFT21.
    - In Home Support Waiver: 26 individuals were funded thus far in SFY21.
- Due to the Covid-19 Emergency, service provision has been delayed for several individuals since the beginning of the 3rd quarter in SFY21. Area Agencies report several factors that are creating the delays which include 1) workforce shortages 2) limited vendor capacity to respond to request for proposals (RFPs), and 3) individual/family choice to delay some services. Agencies continue to prioritize supports for individuals in a crisis situation. The closing of Crotched Mountain adult residential services has also contributed to delays in the provision of new services for individuals recently in receipt of Wait List funds due to the immediate need to transition people from Crotched Mountain to alternative residential services. The Bureau of Developmental Services continues to monitor service starts in partnership with the area agencies.
- Individuals in need of wait list funding varies from day to day as area agencies work with people, their families and providers to plan for services. With the Covid-19 Emergency continuing, some families are still choosing not to start services, reduce services or temporarily suspend services. The situation remains more fluid now than historically because of Covid-19.
- Funding Updates as of November 6th, 2020:
    - Quarter 2 and Quarter 3 As and Bs have received funding from BDS. ○ ABD and HIS waivers have been funded for Quarter 2 and Quarter 3.
    - The Bureau of Developmental Services (BDS) has approved funding for all individuals on the DD Waiver that are in need of enhanced services (Cs) for the entire fiscal year. Service delivery is contingent on the Area Agency starting services.

9. DHHS Commissioner's Update – Commissioner Lori A. Shibinette, RN, MBA, NHA.

The Commissioner was not available. Mr. Williams will follow-up on responding to the following questions:

- Rep. Weber asked about the DHHS Covid dashboard not being accessible.
- Rep. Campion asked about contact tracing resources for non DHHS agencies/partners in the face of decreasing state resources
- Sen. Rosenwald asked if all LTC facilities are testing all staff.

Rep. Weber adjourned the meeting at 11:45am.

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Polly Campion