



**Long Island RPC Children and Families Subcommittee**  
**Thursday 8/13/20 10:30 am – 12 pm**  
Held through Go To Meeting

**Introductions:** Meeting Convened at 10:32 am. Alyssa introduced Christina, mom and Family Peer Advocate to discuss her story of navigating the current Children’s System.

**A Family’s Story:** Christina presented the story of her son returning from residential and attempting to get him all the services he needed to remain home successfully.

- Committee members provided support for Christina and thanked her for bringing her story to them and for speaking up.
- Where to go from here: Alyssa encouraged more family voices to come forward about their experiences to help bring the issues to light. Providers were encouraged to work with families to help them advocate for themselves like Christina. Survey is helping bring data to the stories we are hearing.
- Alyssa brought up State Co-Chairs and asked for feedback on what top three areas need to be the focus this October. Access and Capacity was identified as an issue.
  - Fran Mellow - Important for discussion to be brought up about what has been lost in the system transformation. CFTSS has been a great enhancement for the system, but the children with the most needs are not being met with services. The old Waiver’s ability to wrap around a family is completely lost. The Waiver aspect needs to be retransformed for the children with the highest needs to have services delivered and prioritized.
  - Andrea Smyth – accountability has been lost and needs to be restored. Important to look at the rates, but in conjunction with what services families and children really want. There are 3 HCBS services statewide that are really being utilized. Can look at a budget neutral way of re-configuring the rates to allow agencies to provide those key services that will keep kids out of the hospital.
  - Christina – services that they said families would have access to are not being provided (ex: Crisis Intervention through CFTSS)
  - Fran Mellow – important that accountability needs to come from DOH/CMS for redeveloping a system that can help the youth. It’s not about the providers or care managers, it’s a systemic issue.

**RPC Capacity/Wait List Survey** – May and July 2020 Survey Data was reviewed by Alyssa

- Continuing the survey in September would be helpful

- Discussion around if the results are aligning with what providers are experiencing. Comment that not fully as when some agencies were reporting openings, they did not have openings when they were contacted.
- OMH Field Office is following up with CFTSS Providers who are designated and not providing.
- There are providers that are designated and providing services, but only to their established clients and not the community in general. The openings may not be accessible to the community.
- Marge Stuckle: This is concerning. Is this a top priority for the State?
- Alyssa gave update on statewide initiatives with C & F regarding the Survey. Goal is to get as much data from different types of regions and see what is system wide.
- Faith Moore: DOH is aware of the issue and interested in any and all feedback as DOH is hearing different things. Having different data sets will help address the issue. DOH is looking at the issue of “designated not providing” as that was never the intent. Looking at this with the State Partners and possibly looking at timeframes to get up and running or de-designate. Looking with the State Partners on data collection.

#### **C-Yes Follow-up:**

- FCA saw an increase in referrals in the last two weeks, but it is still taking 3-5 months for the families to go through the process. Some of the non-Medicaid care managers are still reporting that the communication has not changed with C-Yes, which may be delaying the process.
- WellLife and FSL have not seen a referral.
- FSL is serving less children than they were pre-transition.
- WellLife has only had a handful of C-Yes referrals since its inception in April 2019.
- MCO’s receive a file from the state. There are areas in this where information is concerning. There are some children with K codes with no Health Home/CMA attached and are not with C-Yes. There are kids that are HCBS eligible, but there is no connection to a CMA or C-Yes according to the data the MCO receives. Unsure where those children are within the system.

**Technical Assistance Ideas:** Alyssa reviewed current plan to reach out to providers across the State in a one-time small group discussion to get ideas around Technical Assistance.

#### **Proposed Amendments to 1115 Waiver Review:**

- Reviewed current feedback received from members. Asked for further comments and encouraged providers to also send in their feedback on their own.

- Andrea Smyth – expanding the LPHA definition to those who can diagnose is a short-term solution as they do it currently in supervision. The statute covering this will end in June 2021 and will go back to the short-list next June.
- Fran – these changes are to help with access to care, but we are missing the boat on what is leading to the access issue. Access to care is an issue because of a larger systemic problem. If we are trying to achieve access to care we should be increasing rates and finding ways to fix the problems that were created.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday 11/12/2020 10:30 AM – 12 PM, virtual

Meeting adjourned at 12:01 PM.

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**Alyssa Gleason, M.S., NCC - Coordinator, Long Island Planning Consortium**  
**Email: [ag@clmhd.org](mailto:ag@clmhd.org) Phone/text: (518) 396-6804**