

# INTERIM JOINT COMMITTEE ON HEALTH SERVICES

## Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the 2024 Interim

June 18, 2024

### Call to Order and Roll Call

The first meeting of the Interim Joint Committee on Health Services was held on June 18, 2024, at 1:00 PM in Room 154 of the Capitol Annex. Representative Kimberly Poore Moser, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

### Present were:

Members: Representative Kimberly Poore Moser Co-Chair; Senator Stephen Meredith Co-Chair; Senators Julie Raque Adams, Cassie Chambers Armstrong, Karen Berg, Danny Carroll, Donald Douglas, Greg Elkins, Michael J. Nemes, and Lindsey Tichenor; Representatives Steve Bratcher, Josh Bray, Lindsey Burke, Emily Callaway, Adrielle Camuel, Ryan Dotson, Deanna Frazier Gordon, Jacob Justice, Amy Neighbors, Felicia Rourn, Rebecca Raymer, and Susan Witten.

Guests: Van Ingram, Executive Director, Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy; Judge Kevin Mullins, Subcommittee Chair, Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health;

Shawna Mitchell, Administrator, Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health; Rachel Bingham, Director, Office of Statewide Programs, Administrative Office of the Courts; Chris

Evans, Executive Director, Kentucky Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission; Molly Fitzgerald; Laura Graven, Advocate; Tom Stephens, President, Chief Executive Officer, Kentucky Association of Health Plans; Robert McCarron, DO, Associate Dean, Continuing Medical Education, Director, Train New Trainers Primary Care Psychiatry Fellowship, Irvine School of Medicine, University of California; Dr. Allen Brenzel, Medical Director, Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities, Cabinet for Health and

Family Services; Stephanie Craycraft, Deputy Commissioner, Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities, Cabinet for Health and Family Services;

Stephen Houghland, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Kentucky Primary Care Association; Matt Coleman, MSM, Director, Kentucky Office of Rural Health; Chipper Griffith, MD, Dean,

College of Medicine, University of Kentucky; Angela Dearing, MD Executive Vice Dean, College of Medicine, University of Kentucky; Jim Ballard, Director, Center for

Interprofessional and Community Health Education, University of Kentucky; Jeffrey M. Bumpous, MD, FACS, Interim Dean, Vice President, Academic Medical Affairs, School of Medicine, University of Louisville; Mary DeLetter, PhD, RN Interim Dean, Professor, School of Nursing, University of Louisville; Molly Lewis, Chief Executive Officer, Kentucky Primary Care Association; Promod Bishnoi, Chief Financial Officer, Mountain Comprehensive Care Center; Tim Ison, Mountain Comprehensive Care Center; Sara Janes, Kentucky Board of Licensed Professional Counselors; and Jason Reynolds, Governmental Affairs Liaison, Administrative Office of the Courts.

LRC Staff: DeeAnn Wenk, Chris Joffrion, Becky Lancaster, and Victoria Alcorn.

### **Consideration of Referred Administrative Regulations**

The following referred administrative regulations were placed on the agenda for consideration:

**201 KAR 008:533 *Proposed* - Licensure of dentists.**

**201 KAR 020:370 *Proposed* - Applications for licensure.**

**201 KAR 020:506 *Proposed* - Nurse licensure compact.**

**201 KAR 036:100 *Emergency* - Counseling compact.**

**201 KAR 036:100 *Proposed* - Counseling compact.**

**900 KAR 007:030 *Proposed* - Data reporting by health care providers.**

**900 KAR 007:040 *Proposed* - Release of public data sets for health facility and services data.**

**902 KAR 020:048 *Proposed* - Operation and services; nursing homes.**

**902 KAR 020:086 *Proposed* - Operation and services; intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities.**

**907 KAR 001:061 *Proposed* - Payments for ambulance transportation.**

**907 KAR 001:065 *Proposed* - Payments for price-based nursing facility services.**

**907 KAR 001:479 *Proposed* - Medical supplies, equipment, and appliances covered benefits and reimbursement.**

**907 KAR 003:066 *Proposed* - Nonemergency medical transportation waiver services and payments.**

**907 KAR 013:010 *Proposed* - Private duty nursing service coverage provisions and requirements.**

**907 KAR 013:015 *Proposed* - Private duty nursing service or supply reimbursement provisions and requirements.**

All of the above listed administrative regulations were reviewed.

### **Update on the Landscape of Substance Use Disorders**

A. Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy Update

Van Ingram, Executive Director, Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy, discussed the trends in drug overdose deaths and the progress of addiction recovery and resources.

In response to questions and comments from Representative Moser, Mr. Ingram stated that there are 11 multi-jurisdictional drug task forces receiving grants from the Justice Cabinet to seize drugs, the high intensity drug trafficking areas (HIDTA) program works to seize drugs, and grants are given to the Kentucky State Police to do for highway interdiction programming.

In response to questions and comments from Representative Witten, Mr. Ingram stated that there was a federally funded plan in 2018 that reduced overdose deaths 15 percent but there was an increase of deaths during the pandemic.

In response to questions and comments from Representative Callaway, Mr. Ingram stated that the majority of black overdose deaths are in Jefferson County and more outreach is being discussed for that community.

## B. Substance Use Disorder Treatment Access

Judge Kevin Mullins, Subcommittee Chair, Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health, discussed the capacity for substance use disorder (SUD) treatment, factors in the decline in drug overdose mortality rate in Eastern Kentucky, the 2023 Drug Overdose Fatality Report, the recovery ecosystem index mapping system, persistent poverty counties, the Senate Bill 90 behavioral health conditional dismissal program with implementation dates, and several success stories from the program's participants.

In response to questions and comments from Representative Dotson, Judge Mullins stated that law enforcement fights the supply of drugs and early intervention prevention programs fight the demand for drugs.

In response to questions and comments from Representative Witten, Judge Mullins stated that there is always a need for more treatment centers and more juvenile treatment beds.

## C. Mapping of Legislation, Policies, Coverage and Resources

Shawna Mitchell, Administrator, Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health, described the commission, discussed the sequential intercept model (SIM) tool to map the criminal

justice system.

#### D. Opioid Abatement: Current Programs and Initiatives

Chris Evans, Executive Director, Kentucky Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission, discussed the use and distribution of settlement funds to enhance and support organizations fighting the opioid crisis.

In response to questions and comments from Representative Moser, Mr. Evans stated that the commission recognized that the intake of data needs to be enhanced and is assessing the outcomes from the first group of grant disbursements.

In response to questions and comments from Representative Bratcher, Mr. Evans stated that the commission is exploring the possibility for offering research innovation grants.

#### E. Comprehensive Supervised Substance Use Disorder Treatment: Insurance Coverage (2024 House Bill 290, Braxton's Law)

Molly Fitzgerald King, Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, Advocate, discussed comprehensive supervised SUD treatment, the lack of intermediate recovery care to sustain sobriety, and working towards an evidence-based recovery system.

Tom Stephens, President, Chief Executive Officer, Kentucky Association of Health Plans, discussed the intention of House Bill 290 from the 2024 session and the challenge to pay for treatment in relation to annual premiums.

In response to questions and comments from Representative Moser, Mr. Stephens stated that in-home treatment is a modality that is included in the Aware Recovery Care program.

In response to questions and comments from Senator Berg, Mr. Stephens stated that he would follow up with information regarding private pay insurance expenditures. Ms. Fitzgerald King discussed the average price for detox hospitalization and partial-hospitalization.

Laura Graven, Advocate, discussed costs covered out-of-pocket compared to private pay insurance for SUD recovery care.

## **Update on the Health Care Workforce**

### **A. Primary Care Psychiatry Fellowship**

Dr. Allen Brenzel, Medical Director, Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities, Cabinet for Health and Family Services discussed the need for a pilot program to address the behavioral health needs and the partnership with the Kentucky Primary Care Association.

Stephen Houghland, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Kentucky Primary Care Association, discussed the support needed for additional training for people working on the frontline of healthcare to better meet the needs of patients.

Robert McCarron, DO, Associate Dean, Continuing Medical Education, Director, Train New Trainers (TNT) Primary Care Psychiatry Fellowship, Irvine School of Medicine, University of California discussed the need for prevention, early intervention, and education for SUD, TNT fellowship training teams, and their future benefits.

In response to questions and comments from Representative Moser, Dr. Brenzel stated that there is no specific funding for the TNT fellowship initiative, the initial pilot was funded by the Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities but needs a new funding source to continue the program.

In response to questions and comments from Senator Berg, Dr. McCarron stated that the TNT program does not open additional CPT codes for billing but helps the provider to better care for the patient.

### **B. Healthcare Worker Loan Relief Program of the Commonwealth**

Matt Coleman, MSM, Director, Kentucky Office of Rural Health, discussed the Healthcare Worker Loan Relief Program of the Commonwealth, the Kentucky State Loan Repayment Program, each program's funding endeavors, location of loan repayment awardees, and guidelines for the programs.

### **C. Area Health Education Centers and Graduate Medical Education Residency Slots**

Chipper Griffith, MD, Dean, College of Medicine, University of Kentucky, discussed the growth in the number of medical students with the addition of regional campuses, and the

addition of residency slots to promote physician retention.

Angela Dearing, MD, Executive Vice Dean, College of Medicine, University of Kentucky, discussed the increase of specific graduate medical education slots and new primary care programs to increase the number of resident physicians.

Jim Ballard, Director, Center for Interprofessional and Community Health Education, University of Kentucky, discussed the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) primary care medical student program's grant and goals, the average amount of debt for medical in-state students, and the number of scholarships awarded from the grant. He discussed the Kentucky Area Health Education Centers program budget, outreach, and number of participants.

#### D. Health Resources and Service Administration: Grant to Increase Primary Training and Providers in Rural Areas

Jeffrey M. Bumpous, MD, FACS, Interim Dean, Vice President, Academic Medical Affairs, School of Medicine, University of Louisville, discussed the HRSA grant's principal strategies to increase medical student training in primary care fields and the impact of the grant.

Mary DeLetter, PhD, RN Interim Dean, Professor, School of Nursing, University of Louisville, discussed the HRSA grant awards to the School of Nursing in graduate and undergraduate education in the advanced nursing education workforce and the impact on the state.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:52 PM.