

Florida Behavioral Health Association

Business Operations Division

DRAFT Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2025 | 2 - 3:00 p.m. | Zoom

Attendees: Co-chairs Dr. Candy Hodgkins and Shawn Salamida, Jim Miller, Eric Barley, Stephanie Thompson, Nancy Dauphinais, William Delaney, C McAllister, Deanna Obregon, Roger Johnson, Asha Pereyra, Pam Ryan, Babette Hankey, Yaberci Perez-Cubillian, Melissa Larkin-Skinner, Maria Alvarez, Tina Swathwood, Garrett Griffin, Brent Patten, Larry McArthur, Erin Martin, Ashely Brooks, Stacey Cook, Robert Wilkins, Iris Garcia, Eric Kleinert, Michelle Thomas, Isabel Velasquez, Jay Basail, Rick Hankey, Larry McFarland, Jean Pierre, Maureen Dunleavy, PJ Brooks, John Wilson, Tonya Dix, Parissa Sadri, Natalie Mullett, John Fowler, Steve Dalsemer, Nangy Pulsfus, Kelly Velasco, Henry Lin, Alise Morris, Roaya Tyson

Staff: Melanie Brown-Woofter, Linda Macdonald, and Jennifer Johnson

Co-chairs Shawn Salamida and Dr. Candy Hodgkins called the meeting to order at 2 p.m. and welcomed members to the Business Operations Division meeting. They reminded members that the meeting is open to any staff and to please share the meeting invitation with appropriate staff. The next agenda item was approval of the October meeting minutes; Asha Pereyra motioned to approve the minutes, Maria Alvarez seconded the motion, and members approved the minutes.

The next agenda item was reports from the administrative workgroups. Co-chair Salamida introduced Eric Kleinert, Benefits & Compensation Director for LifeView Group, to provide highlights from the January HR Workgroup. Eric's report included:

- The Admin Forum planning committee for the HR track will begin planning the agenda for the forum in June.
- While providers are still experiencing issues with the new clearinghouse for background screening, providers should email Jennifer Johnson, FBHA Senior Director of Public Policy, if they experience delays beyond five days.
- Department of Children and Families has replaced prior deaf and hard-of-hearing training with disability rights training and that new employees should take the training when they onboard and current staff only need to take the training upon their annual training due dates.
- FBHA will update the workgroup as it gets information on the TEACH and FRAME programs.

Next, Co-chair Salamida introduced Iris Garcia, Chief Information Officer for Circles of Care and Chair of the CIO Workgroup, to provide an update from the CIO workgroup. Iris' report included:

- The workgroup meets every month on the third Tuesday of the month.
- They invite a vendor every month. Last month, the guest vendor was Bamboo Health, who is collecting bed availability information. At this time, there is no IT component for the information, but the CIO workgroup will get involved at the time it does.
- The workgroup is preparing its presentation at the February 11 FBHA membership on Artificial Intelligence, and she gave an overview that it will include use case examples, challenges and barriers, and security issues.
- She shared that the workgroup has four openings and is accepting resumes from organizations. They can be emailed to her at igarcia@circlesofcare.org.

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The next agenda item was the agency rules and policy updates presented by Co-chair Hodgkins. She highlighted the updates for the Agency for Health Care Administration, Department of Children and Families, and Department of Health and referred members to the report included in the agenda for details and website links (see below).

Agency Rule and Policy Update NOTES:

Agency for Health Care Administration

Agency intends to submit to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services a proposal to implement a new Title XIX section 1115 demonstration that addresses workforce challenges within Medicaid through implementation of new workforce recruitment and retention programs that will increase access to necessary providers in medically underserved areas. The proposed new five-year demonstration will be called the “Florida Health Care Workforce Sustainability Section 1115 Demonstration.” The Agency provides this notice in accordance with federal requirements to inform the public that we are providing a 45-day public comment period on the proposed new demonstration starting on December 11, 2024. The draft application proposal and more detailed information for submitting public comments is available at:

<https://ahca.myflorida.com/medicaid/medicaid-policy-quality-and-operations/medicaid-policy-and-quality/medicaid-policy/federal-authorities/federal-waivers>.

Department of Children and Families

Notice of Proposed Rule – 65E-4.014 Standards for Client Records, Treatment and Quality Assurance and 4.016 Mental Health Residential Treatment Facilities. Amendments are being made to clarify policies and procedures regarding mental health residential treatment facilities. Summary of amendments: (1) repeal 65E-4.014 since the mandate for the Department to implement the continuity of care management system was removed from statute, (2) clarify the rule language, (3) increase efficiency, (4) remove language that is in statute, other rules or forms, (5) delete obsolete rule provisions, and (6) add discharge planning. FBHA is preparing an analysis that will be shared with membership. [29142309, 65E-4.014 - Florida Administrative Rules, Law, Code, Register - FAC, FAR, eRulemaking](#). See Ute’s side-by-side in 1/31 email; please submit any comments for inclusion in FBHA comments to Ute by 2/10.

The Department of Children and Families will be holding a hearing on proposed changes to rules [65E-4.014](#) - Standards for Client Records, Treatment and Quality Assurance and [65E-4.016](#) - Mental Health Residential Treatment Facilities. The hearing notice and proposed changes are attached, and the hearing information is below.

Date: 2/11/2025

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81771984008?pwd=YveHQjBbnbi05LrKMvwKXyUPZKIkI9.1>

Meeting ID: 817 7198 4008

Passcode: 283937

Department of Health

Applications for the 2024-25 application cycle will be accepted from March 15th through April 30th, 2025. The 2025 application cycle features new eligible practitioner types, expanded award amounts, and volunteer service requirements. FRAMEworks portal

<https://www.fdohframe.com/s/>

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After agency rule and policy updates, co-chair Salamida introduced Linda Macdonald, Senior Medicaid Policy Director, to present on the new Medicaid managed care contracts that went into effect on February 1. Linda's presentation presented the new Statewide Medicaid Managed Care Contracts and highlighted major changes from the prior five-year contract.

- Incentivize value and quality.
- Enhanced service delivery system and integration of behavioral and physical health services.
- Availability of comprehensive, quality-driven provider networks.
- Streamlined processes that enhance the enrollee and provider experience.
- Expanded benefits targeted to improve outcomes for enrollees.
- Demonstration of top quality scores and enrollee satisfaction.
- Ability to deliver an efficient, high-quality, innovative, cost-effective, integrated health care delivery model that provides pathways towards self-sufficiency, purpose, and independence.
- Improve childhood and adolescent mental health.
- Maximized home and community-based services to improve independence, well-being, and safety.
- HOPE Florida through Pathways to Prosperity, Pathways to Purpose and Other Pathways.

Members received the presentation PowerPoint and an accompanying summary report as attachments in the Division meeting invitation.

The meeting time elapsed at the end of Linda's presentation; seeing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3pm. The next meeting is March 26.