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SAPTA ADVISORY BOARD (SAB) SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, May 29, 2024
3:00PM – Adjournment

Meeting held via TEAMS

1. Roll Call and Announcements

Members Present:

Jamie Ross, PACT Coalition
Mark Disselkoen, CASAT
David Robeck, Bridge Counseling
Sean O'Donnell, Foundation for Recovery
Joseph Engle Ari Chelli

BBHWP/State Staff Present:

Tracie Rogers, Fran Maldonado, Evan Crossman, Sonya Kemper, Stephanie Cook

Others Present:

Elyse Monroy (Bells and Case Government Affairs), Linda Anderson (Nevada Public Health Foundation), Morgan Biaselli (Silver State Government Relations)

2. Stephanie Cook-

Informed committee that Evan would be pulling up documentation for comment notes to be shared during discussion.

3. Public Comment:

No public comment at this time.

4. Chair/Co-Chair Report:

No chair report provided at this time.

5. Discussion for agenda item number 4:

Mr. Disselkoen opens by discussing how NAC458.118 allows the division to develop criteria to further describe levels of care. Additional information was provided on how ASAM criteria is used in division criteria as well. Division criteria outside of ASAM were also described such as transitional housing and civil protective custody.

Ms. Cook mentioned that in April 2022, the division criteria was updated to include language for recovery housing and that recovery support services were a high priority and a need across the nation to support people in recovery. Ms. Cook continued to describe supporting those in treatment and how it looks for that individual, including outpatient services and opioid treatment programs. Ms. Cook touched on the last legislative session and AB403, how it refers to halfway houses and how they were previously licensed by HCQC. No longer licensed with HCQC, they are more focused on looking into medical practices of all types in facilities within our state. We want to ensure that we have division criteria in place so we can support the work that is needed. Ms. Cook stated that the criteria needs to be reviewed and discussed to determine the process going forward. The documentation that was presented to the SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT AGENCY ADVISORY BOARD (SAB) Bimonthly meeting will be referenced during this subcommittee meeting. Each bullet point will be discussed and altered as needed based on the opinions of the committee. Mark Disselkoen provided information on how they rely heavily on local code, for example, a recovery house within a county or city municipality needs to make sure that they go through that approval process and follow through. David Robeck spoke up to discuss why having a subcommittee was a good idea and believes that the board did not have enough time to really evaluate and address everything. Sean O'Donnell asked if Mr. Disselkoen can provide a brief overview of the existing transitional housing SAPTA certification. Mr. Disselkoen stated that transitional housing is similar to recovery housing but it's for longer term care.

6. Documentation review:

Ms. Cook talked through the document that is shared with the group and will go over each bullet point to discuss and document comments from the subcommittee.

a. The Definition of Recovery Housing Criteria

1. Mr. Disselkoen opened by stating he was concerned with those that are in treatment but want to live in a recovery home. Mr. O'Donnell opened by stating not all people complete treatment in a traditional setting like a TX facility that is described in the definition. Mr. O'Donnell made comment about facilities that aren't structured based on the criteria definition. Ms. Chelli commented "We should talk about creating new opportunities for step-down programming, it could create a barrier for those that aren't familiar in the field". Ms. Cook mentioned that a re-word of "next step" is needed as a step is not always a next step. Mr. O'Donnell replied on vital sustaining recovery by mentioning that facilities aren't structured in this way. Ms. Cook commented about NARR best practices to certify for recovery housing. It would be inclusive of levels 1-3; level 4 would be the traditional transitional housing. Mr. Engle stated that he would be in favor of this change. Mr. Robeck added that individuals who have completed substance use treatment by saying that structure needs to be in place. Mr. O'Donnell also added to the section regarding substance use treatment and said he "was interested in seeing criteria on what services are being provided". Mr. O'Donnell also mentioned that he would like to see the section "eligibility criteria for Transitional Housing" removed from definition. Mr. O'Donnell breaks down each level of NARR (Level 1 (Oxford Homes): Roommates - Level 2 House Manager - Level 3 PRSS that provides life skills & employment services). Mr. Engle stated that he has been in the industry and that everything he had encounter has been laborious and labor intensive. Ms. Ross mentioned how lower standards don't make us proud and that we need to hold everyone (workers & colleagues) responsible and provide care accurately.

2. Ms. Cook provided the SAMHSA definition of recovery housing which states: "SAMHSA defines recovery housing as safe, healthy, family-like, substance free living environments that support individuals in recovery from addiction."

b. History of Substance Abuse Treatment

1. Mr. Robeck is concerned with the word "treatment" regarding "but no longer be receiving substance use treatment". Ms. Ross commented on "substance free environment" to include MOUD, and Mr. Disselkoen added a comment discussing adding the word "illicit". Ms. Chelli would like to exclude MOUD. Mr. O'Donnell discussed if we could remove the wording for 12-Step Recovery as there

are more pathways now. Ms. Cook provided alternate rewording of “History of Substance Use” bullet point by stating that it's not contingent on receiving substance use treatment or recovery. Housing services cannot be contingent on receiving substance use treatment services. Mr. Robeck stated that the wording is a little bumpy, but that we are close to getting it reworded correctly. Tobacco use was discussed in detail. Sean suggested removing the wording as he supports no smoking in the recovery homes, but also acknowledges that it would be a barrier for those getting help. Mr. Robeck wants to keep the words "Not Using Tobacco". Mr. Engle suggests keeping this as is. Ms. Chelli stated that this is recovery focused and we should have a harm reduction approach to the recovery process. Ms. Cook suggested a possible designated area for smoking and the agency at each home must have a policy. Mr. O'Donnell made a comment requiring offering smoking cessation a PRSS.

2. When referencing a signed contract, Mr. O'Donnell suggested a resident handbook in which all residents would agree to house rules. Mr. Engle agreed with this and discussed residents agreeing and signing a letter. Ms. Ross mentioned that the agency must have a policy, then the residents would sign, agreeing to the "policy". Ms. Ross said that a "handbook" may not be a strong enough word. Mr. O'Donnell agreed stating perhaps calling it "policies and procedures" and suggests it would be better than "handbook". Ms. Cook mentioned that funding has its own restrictions based on the funding source. The funding source can have restrictions on tobacco use and there's always going to be more restrictions on the funding side. Ms. Ross asked what criteria would follow if there were smoking? Ms. Cook suggested that each agency should handle those situations and must require to have a plan in place for tobacco use. Ms. Cook suggested that instead of having a contract, the agency can establish a resident handbook and have the residents agree to those rules.

3. The cost of living in recovery housing is discussed. Mr. Robeck was questioning what “stable employment” means. He also mentioned that the state will ask what the policy is and based on the wording and there is a lot of flexibility with the state, when reviewing these treatment agencies and places. Ms. Cook explained how the C458 still applies and how the certification process goes with CASAT.

4. Ms. Ross discussed Admission Criteria and suggests striking that and, in its place, have "history of substance use". The suggestion is to add "and/or" which Mr. Engle, Ms. Chelli and Ms. Ross agreed on. Mr. O'Donnell suggested adding a bullet point stating, "Desire to live in a communal substance free living environment". Ms. Chelli asked if a tool is in place to collect data and if it's easy to streamline. Mr. O'Donnell suggested that under the “Continued Service bullet” that individuals be able to participate in daily activities, maintain a daily living routine and maintain recovery of SU recovery.”

7. Scheduled a second meeting to discuss the remaining bullet points-For Possible Action.

- a. Transfer/Discharge Criteria
- b. Operational Requirements
- c. Service Requirements

8. Next Meeting- June 21, 2024

9. Adjournment at 5:02 PM