Barb DeLong conducted the meeting

OPENING: The Commissioner stated that the 5.07 plan will hopefully be released late next week (after the required translations into multiple languages). It will be distributed across multiple platforms as well as via email to the list serve. Allison McCarthy (OPWDD) gave an update on this:

- Next week’s release will include registration for two statewide Webex that will be in June. (Jessica Bishop is point person—couldn’t join today)
- There will also be multiple IN PERSON forums across the state. Details will be included in next week’s press release info.
- Public testimony will be documented in the regional forums in June, July and August as well as via email.
- The responses will be integrated into the revised draft presented to the legislature by November 2022.

Barb went to the agenda items:

**CRO DATA: Does it exist and is it available to stakeholders?**

Discussion: Tamika Black (OPWDD) was not prepared to answer any questions regarding a housing data. She stated that data from the OPWDD system was not able to be extracted. Additionally;

- All data will have to follow the “governance principles”
- Medicaid data (144 pages on OPWDD Web site) is considered to be correct and OPWDD plans to an post update by end of the summer on their site. Goal is greater transparency.
- NOTE: CMS data reflects services accessed, but unmet needs are not in this information (big issue during COVID)
- Kathy Bunce expressed concerns about lack of “investment” from CCO’s on collecting data/skills in the CRO process.
- Commissioner restated that some portion of the FMAP funds have been earmarked for IT system upgrades that will significantly improve their ability to manage/report data.
- **CHAT COMMENT:** “How do we plan for the future (ie 5.07 plan) if we don’t know where we are or where we are going?”

**CAS: How is it being used and not providing accuracy?**

Discussion: Barb asked Roger Bearden if any improvements or updates have ever been made to the CAS. He said NO.

- Roger said that the CAS is used for “modeling” purposes and informed services decisions or residential options of more independent living
• The assessment found gaps in how CAS was being done effecting Rez Rate methodology. Goal is to taget needs which can provide greater monies to the agencies.
• Accelerating CANS assessments (for adolescents) which is already used other agencies (OMG, OASIS etc) can help OPWDD understand need across multiple systems/improve service delivery.
• There were many questions regarding the “3-day lookback” for assessments. Meaningless info for those with medical/complex needs. Roger and Kerri said they would take this back to the team for review-more answers in June.
• Commissioner stated that OPWDD intends to prepare public facing conversations on CAS as well as rate settings policies.

Managed Care: How close are we to be moving to managed care?
Discussion: Commissioner said no decision has been made and we are not in a position to talk yet about what payment model (fee for service vs MC) would work. 2022 PRIORITIES: Evaluation of the CCO program, rolling out the 5.07 plan and addressing DSP workforce crisis are the most important things at this moment.

Westchester/HV Question from GROW:
Stacy Osbourne, stated that their procedures are working well and should be used by other areas of the State. Abiba Kindo (OPWDD) will take this information and discuss with Westchester at a different meeting.

Update on DSP Bonuses by Kevin Valenchis (OPWDD)
• Kevin said OPWDD “got the 1.2 Billion dollars out the door” by the end of the fiscal year – a heavy lift!
• OPWDD is not micro managing the providers with regard to the money. There is no process to control or supervise distribution of the funds to DSP’s.
• Providers had to submit attestations to receive funds. Some did not so they will not be receiving the FMAP funds.
• Kevin gave explanation on how the bonus money for each provider was determined (based on staff numbers from 2018/19) and how self-direction budgets generated data to determine bonus money.
• NOTE: There is currently no “consequence” if the employer did not apply for the bonus money. Kevin said there are some bad actors out there. OPWDD may consider audits, but that’s TBD.

MEETING ENDED.