Kentucky Coalition for Healthy Children
Steering Committee Meeting Notes
August 31, 2022, 12:00 to 1:00 EST

Attendees:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Organization/Association</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sheila Schuster</td>
<td>Advocacy Action Network</td>
<td>Gannon Tagher</td>
<td>Kentucky Nurses Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debbie Lorence</td>
<td>Aetna Better Health of Kentucky</td>
<td>Penny Christian</td>
<td>Kentucky Parent Teacher Association – 16th District</td>
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<td>Jennifer Miller</td>
<td>Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield-Kentucky Medicaid</td>
<td>Molly Lewis</td>
<td>Kentucky Primary Care Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christopher Bolling</td>
<td>American Academy of Pediatrics – Kentucky Chapter</td>
<td>Dana Nickles</td>
<td>Kentucky Public Health Association</td>
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<td>Joe Bargjone</td>
<td>Bounce Coalition</td>
<td>Emily Keely</td>
<td>Kentucky Strengthening Families/Family Thrive – KY DPH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beverly Winsch</td>
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<td>Shannon Parker</td>
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<td>Amalia Mendoza</td>
<td>Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky</td>
<td>Emily Beauregard</td>
<td>Kentucky Voices for Health</td>
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<td>Chloe Atwater</td>
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<td>Cara Stewart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph Frazier</td>
<td>Kentucky Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td>Alicia Whatley</td>
<td>Kentucky Youth Advocates</td>
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<td>Jim Tackett</td>
<td>Kentucky Department of Education</td>
<td>Laura Beard</td>
<td>Prichard Committee</td>
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<td>Stephanie Bunge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erica Jones Davis</td>
<td>Kentucky Department for Medicaid Services</td>
<td>Elle Humphrey</td>
<td>St. Elizabeth Health Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Malicote</td>
<td>Division of Maternal and Child Health – Kentucky Department for Public Health</td>
<td>Eric Davis</td>
<td>United Health Care</td>
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Meeting Objectives:

- The Steering Committee will hear the second part of the overview on child and youth mental health and engage in a group discussion around the KCHC’s work to address the prioritized children’s mental health area.

- The Steering Committee will discuss children’s mental health related policies for the 2023 Session.

Pre-Meeting Materials Included in Packet to Review:

- Student Mental Health Initiative: Conversations & Solutions with Kentucky Students. Office of Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman & Members of the Kentucky Department of Education Commissioner’s Student Advisory Council. August 16, 2022

- 2022 Kids Count Data Book – Annie E. Casey Foundation – Special emphasis on children’s mental health
Meeting Notes:

I. Member Updates

- Kentucky Youth Advocates has issued a press release and the Kentucky profiles and data for the 2022 Kids Count Data Book. Link: KYA
- Kentucky Voices for Health (KVH) and ThriveKY partners are continuing the "Advocacy for Thriving Communities" roadshow. They will be in Hopkinsville next Tuesday and in other regions each week through mid-November. Details here: KVH
- 11th Annual Pediatric Behavioral and Mental Health Symposium – The Impact of Prejudice on Pediatric Mental Health. The symposium will be virtual and take place November 14, 2022. (A correction in the date from last month's notes).
- Please share the September edition of the Kentucky Coalition for Healthy Children's Newsletter with your networks. Additionally:
  - The Healthy Schools Campaign is holding the webinar Change for Good 2022: Addressing the Student Mental Health Crisis on September 14, 2022. Among the presenters is Dr. Eva Stone, Manager of District Health for JCPS. Dr. Stone participates in our Steering Committee meetings. Link to register: HSC
  - The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announced new grant funding opportunities for school-based mental health programs. Link to SAMHSA Grant.

II. Understanding and Improving Children’s Mental Health – Part 2

Dr. Schuster presented on children’s mental health systems and programs, as well as some of the more pressing issues in child and youth mental health. The complete PowerPoint presentation and materials have been shared with the committee.

The group made the following comments and considerations:

- Mental health parity continues to be an important issue, despite both federal and state legislation.
- Getting into the mental health system and negotiating is difficult for families.
- Medicaid and insurers pay at lower rate than the market so many providers don’t accept insurance at all.
- There is a lack of information on the mental health care workforce in Kentucky. The licensing boards aren’t asking the questions that need to be asked to have a complete picture.
- Network adequacy is an issue. There is an opportunity to collect data on the workforce issue, some legislators are interested (Sen. Alvarado).
• Telehealth has helped with the workforce issue. It helps in three ways, transportation, stigma, and changes brought about by immigration (language, interpreters, different cultures).

• There is limited availability of mental health providers of color and LGBTQ+ specialists.

• There is the issue of dual diagnosis developmental disabilities and mental health, which is not being adequately addressed. The same for issues of substance abuse and mental health.

• Many of the supports for young people go away when they turn 18 years old, it is important to consider the transition piece so healthcare services are not lost.

• The current political climate will play an important role in children’s mental health policies. There will be as many as 30 new legislators who will have little information on many of these issues. There’s the 2023 gubernatorial election which will have its impact in terms of the relationship between the legislative and executive branches. It is likely this will be a more partisan session.

Where do we go from here?

• While we work in the school setting, it is very important to ensure we don’t expect schools and teachers to be responsible for the heavy lifting in this area. There has to be true community partnerships to bring in the changes we are proposing. We need to provide schools with resources to outsource services rather than add to their responsibility.

• If we want more training for teachers, we need to ensure there will be more funding and training days allotted.

• This needs to be a system thinking process. It’s not just about counseling, it’s about screening tools, sharing data, including FRYSCs and their work to address mental health, etc.

• There are a lot of efficiencies in having community-based healthcare providers also facilitate school clinics. There are also great examples of telehealth.

• This is about systems changes, models like the medical home, school-based health centers, other providers, such as community health workers, family resource and youth services center staff to support families, help coordinate services outside the school.

Next Meeting: September 30, 2022, 11:00 to 12:00