



Kentucky Coalition for Healthy Children

Steering Committee Meeting Notes

April 27, 2021, 1:00 to 2:00 EST

Attendees:

Sheila Schuster	Advocacy Action Network	Jim Tackett Stephanie Bunge	Kentucky Department of Education
Catherine Easley Kelly Pullen	Aetna Better Health of Kentucky	Lucy Senters	Kentucky Department for Medicaid Services
Jennifer Miller	Anthem Medicaid	Dana Nickles	Kentucky Health Departments Association / Kentucky Public Health Association
Melissa McDonald	Alliance for a Healthier Generation	Gannon Tagher	Kentucky Nurses Association
Christopher Bolling	American Academy of Pediatrics – Kentucky Chapter	Penny Christian	Kentucky Parent Teacher Association – 16th District
Joe Bargione	Bounce Coalition	Nicole Barber-Culp	KY Department for Public Health
Tracey Antle	Cumberland Family Medical Center, Inc.	Emily Beuregard	Kentucky Voices for Health
Wendy Morris	Dept. Behavioral Health, Dev. & Intellectual Disabilities	Mahak Kalra Alicia Whatley	Kentucky Youth Advocates
Amalia Mendoza Allison Adams Ashley Brauer	Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky	Laura Beard	Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence
Lauren Sherrow	GLSEN Bluegrass	Jeb Teichmanq	United HealthCare Community Plan of Kentucky
Mike Stone	Kentucky Council on Problem Gambling		

Meeting Objectives:

- Review the Supporting Kentucky Youth (SKY) Medicaid Program.
- Review and discuss recommendations on policies to improve children’s health in schools for a meeting with the Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Education.

Pre-Meeting Materials Included in Packet:

- Draft – KCHC School Based Policies to Improve Child and Adolescent Health - Recommendations for Commissioner of KDE.
- SKY Flyer
- Provider and Advocates training flyers
- Aetna Better Health of Kentucky Bonus Benefits flyer
- SKY Web site: [SKY](#)
- SKY Frequently Asked Questions: [CHFS SKY FAQs](#)



Meeting Notes:

I. Updates

- A new organization joined the KCHC Steering Committee: **GLSEN Bluegrass** (Gay, Lesbian, & Straight Education Network) represented by Lauren Sherrow.
- Amalia Mendoza met with Carol Cecil, Executive Director at the Kentucky Partnership for Families and Children, and they have expressed interest in having a representative from the Partnership, KY-SPIN (Kentucky Special Parent Involvement Network), or the United Partners in Kentucky Coalition on the Steering Committee of the KCHC.
- The Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky has a new Communications Director, Ashely Brauer, who will be attending the Steering Committee meetings and providing communication support to the Coalition.
- Kentucky Voices for Health (KVH) and the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services have produced materials related to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), including frequently asked questions and an explainer, as well as links to resources: [KVH - ARPA](#)
- [ThriveKY](#) will hold a quarterly forum with CHFS on May 4, 2021, and will hold its next two monthly advocacy series updates on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. ET (register [here](#)) and on Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. ET. (register [here](#)).
- Kentucky Youth Advocates (KYA) is holding the Closing the Gaps in Behavioral Health Care for Kids Summit. Information at: [KYA](#). Additionally, KYA has a recap of the 2021 General Assembly wins and opportunities: [KYA Recap](#).
- The Kentucky Council on Problem Gambling has a stock of complimentary awareness materials, some of which is appropriate for parental awareness of youth gambling. Email: kmstone1951@gmail.com to order.

II. Supporting Kentucky Youth (SKY) Program

Kelly Pullen, Executive Director of the SKY Program at Aetna Better Health of Kentucky gave a presentation on the various aspects of the SKY program. This program provides services to youth in Kentucky's child welfare and juvenile justice systems (children in foster care, adopted from foster care or formerly in foster care, placed with fictive kin, dually committed to DCBS and DJJ, and DJJ youth eligible for Medicaid).

The presentation covered SKY eligibility and enrollment, care coordination, stakeholder engagement and training, bonus benefits, provider experience. The Steering Committee was provided with materials and links to the SKY program.

III. School Policies to Improve Child and Youth Health

The full Steering Committee reviewed and discussed the document "School Policies to Improve Child Youth Health: Five Broad Policy Recommendations for the Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Education."

The following are the suggestions for changes / additions to the document made:

- Add a section related to policies to prevent and reduce child and youth tobacco use, with an emphasis on vaping.



- Include mention to leveraging the American Rescue Plan Act dollars, which can be used to boost FRYSC support, expanded P-EBT, etc.; make a broad recommendation related to the influx of funding.
- The school psychologist ratio is one to 500 -change this on document.
- In terms of trauma informed care, school districts must present a trauma informed care plan by July 1st, 2021, approved by the Board of Education. Training on developing this plan and training on ACEs is expanding (UK, Bounce, KYA).
- Parents should be at the table in the development of the policies and programs and on how the ARPA money is being spent. This is a golden time to request this.

The final document, incorporating these suggestions, will be sent to the full Steering Committee with a survey to vote on its approval.

The recommendations will be sent to the Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Education by the KCHC Chair, requesting a meeting with the Commissioner to talk about collaboration around these policies.

Next Meeting:

May 25, 2021. 1:00 to 2:00 EST.