



# The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School

## **MINUTES**

### **ASH Redesign Campus & Continuum Clinical Strategies Work Group**

Monday, August 24, 2020 ▪ 1:00-2:00pm ▪ Conference Call

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#### **Agenda**

1. Welcome
2. HCBS-AMH follow up discussion
3. Guardianship
4. Next steps
5. Close

#### **Attendees:**

Cory Morris, Sydney Harris, Jim Baker, Dawn Handley, Rishi Sawhney, Colleen Horton, Sonja Burns, Sarah Cook

#### **Minutes**

##### *Welcome*

The group was welcomed and the agenda was reviewed.

##### *HCBS-AMH follow up discussion*

The group was provided an update on context and criteria around the HCBS-AMH program. The historical claims by month were provided. A rough estimate was provided for annual funding amount, a specific amount can be provided to the group through email. The group would like the amount being spent vs being appropriated. A member asked if this appropriation will continue to be separated or will roll up through the overall Medicaid program. There was not an answer for that at this time. The concern is a limitation of eligibility for services based on what is appropriated, which is not the case with other Medicaid benefits. The group discussed the process for providing benefits if the appropriation amount has already been reached. As of June 30, 2020, there are 262 people receiving benefits. It was asked if there is data around how many people have been kicked out of the program, evicted, or lost benefits. The group was not able to be provided at this time and the local LMHA's do not track this information but they would be glad to make changes to assist in gathering this information. The group discussed eligibility requirements and agreed that being able to provide services earlier would be beneficial. The group discussed other states that offer HCBS state programs. A member is working on gathering details on their eligibility. The group discussed the potential future of the program as well as some alternative options. The group discussed program eligibility and who determines eligibility. It was suggested that the group create a questions list in order to identify appropriate individuals to bring to the next call as well as provide an opportunity for research on questions. The group discussed how eligibility requirements were set and expressed frustration around the policy being set around the budget. The group discussed potential cost-offset or cost-savings solutions to help fund the program. A member expressed concern regarding a lack of follow through on the entire continuum of care and would like a recommitment from the Steering Committee. The chair shared that the next step is developing a consensus in recommendations for the next legislative session which will be shared with the group prior to the

next meeting. The group discussed the lack of increase in new beds, specifically for rural areas in the catchment area. The group also discussed other areas that should be focused on, such as competency restoration.

#### *Guardianship*

This item was not discussed due to time limitations. Will be added to the next agenda.

#### *Next Steps*

Chair will share Steering Committee focused recommendations prior to the next meeting. Chair will also do some research to provide additional information to the group on how the Steering Committee is committing to the entire continuum of care with the redesign. The group provided feedback on other items they would appreciate support on, like rates for HCBS. The group will send questions on HCBS to Sydney to compile and send over to HHSC for the next meeting.

#### *Resources Discussed*

[Iowa HCBS Program](#)

[Indiana HCBS Program](#)

[Ohio HCBS Program](#)