

Pierce Region, Washington Behavioral Health Advisory Board

May 2024

Agenda

Welcome

About Carelon

BH-ASO Responsibilities

Pierce Region BHAB

Block Grants

Questions

To bring the Consumer's Voice and other regional experts together to advise key organizations on behavioral health and holistic care concerns in our community.



Carelon Behavioral Health ASO Overview



Maintain and grow the crisis system



Behavioral health safety net

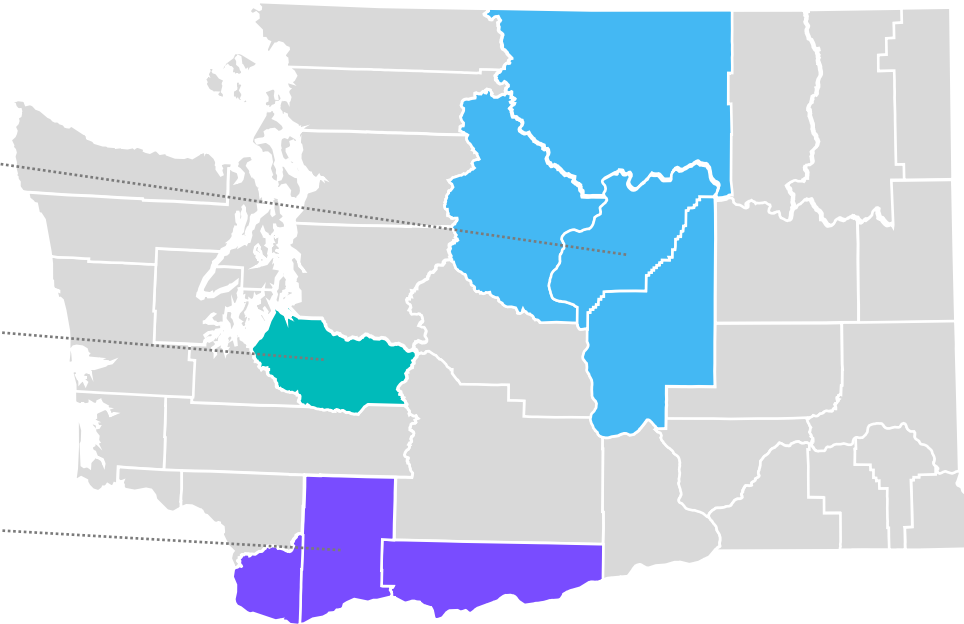


Lead community forums and system development

North Central Region

Pierce Region

Southwest Region



We Support:

Person-centered care

A harm reduction approach

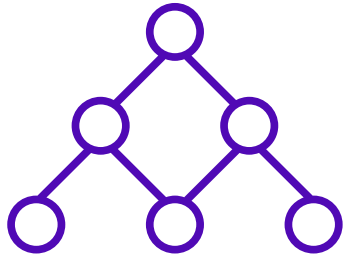
Both facility-based and field-based intervention

Evidence-based, promising, and emerging practices

A no-wrong-door approach to connection with care

Local and regional application of resources

Lead Community Forums and System Development



- ❖ Focus on supporting diverse providers and serving underserved populations.
- ❖ **Behavioral Health Advisory Board:** Public forum driven by lived behavioral health experience. The ASO BHAB advises the BH-ASO on funding decisions and participates in scoring proposals.



- ❖ **Regional Family Youth System Partner Roundtable (FYSPRT):** provides a forum for families, youth, systems, and communities to strengthen sustainable resources by providing community-based approaches to address the individual behavioral health needs.
- ❖ **Town Halls and Surveys:** Gathering information from providers and those who utilize the behavioral health system on what works, what doesn't, and where we should focus our efforts.





Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization Advisory Board

Washington Administrative Code - 182-538C-252

Pierce Washington Behavioral Health Advisory Board By Laws

Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organizations Advisory Board Membership

A Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization (BH-ASO) must appoint a advisory board members and maintain an advisory board in order to:

Promote active engagement with people with behavioral health disorders, their families, and behavioral health agencies; and

Solicit and use the advisory board members input to improve service delivery and outcome.



Behavioral health administrative services organizations Advisory board membership- continued

The BHASO must appoint advisory board members and maintain an advisory board that:

- ❖ Broadly represents the demographic character of the service area;
- ❖ Is composed of at least fifty-one percent representation of one or more of the following:
 - People with lived experience;
 - Parents or legal guardians of people with lived experience; or
 - Self-identified as people in recovery from a behavioral health disorder.
- ❖ Includes law enforcement representation; and
- ❖ Includes tribal representation, upon request of a tribe.



Behavioral health administrative services organizations

Advisory board membership - continued

When the BH-ASO is not a function of county government, the advisory board must include no more than four county elected officials.

The advisory board:

- ❖ May have members who are employees of subcontracted agencies, as long as there are written rules that address potential conflicts of interest.
- ❖ Has the discretion to set rules in order to meet the requirements of this section.
- ❖ Membership is limited to three years per term for time served, per each advisory board member. Multiple terms may be served by a member if the advisory board rules allow it.

The advisory board independently reviews and provides comments to the BH-ASO on plans, budgets, and policies developed by the BH-ASO to implement the requirements of this section, chapters 71.05, 71.24, 71.34 RCW, and applicable federal laws.



Pierce County Behavioral Health Advisory Board Mission

What is the BHAB's mission?

MISSION:

It is the mission of the Pierce BHAB to assess integrated behavioral health services delivery in the Pierce County, Washington region by soliciting input from consumers, community members, stakeholders, and providers by coordinating quality improvement feedback.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

The BHAB is an advisory board whose role is a voluntary role to coordinate quality improvement feedback to key stakeholders, providers, and other interested parties on matters relating to integrated behavioral health services in the Pierce County Washington region.



Member Representation

BHAB shall be composed of not less than nine (9) and not more than fifteen (15) members.

Prospective candidates shall submit applications and are subject to approval by the voting members of the Board

Representation:

- ❖ Members shall be representative of the Pierce County region and shall include members from the Pierce County region.
- ❖ Seek to attain a minimum of 51% of the membership shall be consumers, community members, and family members who have utilized integrated behavioral health services.
- ❖ Membership shall seek to reflect the diversity of the community when possible.
- ❖ At least one member shall be a representative from law enforcement and / or the criminal justice system.
- ❖ The BHAB shall seek to have county representation but have no more than four elected officials.
- ❖ All prospective members shall submit applications pending board approval in a regular meeting.
- ❖ Vacancies for any unexpired and expired terms must go through the same application process.
- ❖ To secure transparency of all majority votes, voting members will be included in the minutes.



Membership Representation Continued

Service Providers:

- ❖ No persons either receiving funds by contract or employed by an organization in receipt of funds subject to the advice of the respective BHAB may be appointed to BHAB. On a case-by-case basis, members may be part of a subcontracted agency only with a special vote of the existing BHAB. If a member works for a subcontracted agency, the member must:
 - Not be in a leadership position within their respective organization or have a decision-making authority on issues of budget or program design.
 - Recuse themselves from any vote of the BHAB that has to do with financing of their agency.
 - Publicly announce the inherent conflict of interest in discussions of their agency's performance or quality improvement initiatives.

Tenure:

- ❖ Members are asked to give an annual commitment with the opportunity to renew the annual commitment based on the needs of the PCWA region.

Compensation:

- ❖ Members shall not be compensated for the performance of their duties



Member Responsibilities

The responsibilities of each BHAB member are as follows:

- ❖ Each member has the responsibility to help make the group process work.
- ❖ Participate in public meetings to solicit input from Pierce County consumers, community members, stakeholders, and providers of integrated behavioral health services regarding needs and priorities for services.
- ❖ Advise on the development of the Substance Abuse Disorder and Mental Health Block Grant Plan.
- ❖ Participate with and advise the Chair with reviewing the Substance Use Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Services and Mental Health Block Grant Plans and helping provide a letter of recommendation upon approval of plans.
- ❖ Regular attendance of monthly meetings. In the event a member will miss a meeting, it is expected that he / she will notify the Chair, Vice Chair, or Member at Large.
- ❖ Be familiar with the minutes of meetings, assignments, and disclose conflicts of interest.
- ❖ Provide expertise in technical areas and / or offer community perspective.
- ❖ Be respectful to all participants and remain objective (as we never know if someone is experiencing or living through a BH issue or medical issue).
- ❖ Inquire if there is something you do not understand or want more information about.
- ❖ Provide continuous recruitment efforts as needed or when asked by the Chair, Vice Chair, or Member at Large.
- ❖ Avoid blame, speculation, and inflammatory language.
- ❖ Personal information shared will be kept confidential unless that person gives permission to



share



Executive Board Member Role



The responsibilities of the Chair, Vice Chair and Member at Large are as follows:

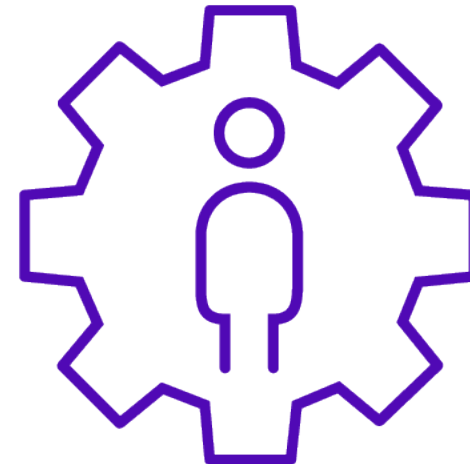
- ❖ The Chair, Vice Chair, and Member at Large shall be elected on a staggered annual basis. Officers shall serve for terms of one year or until successors are elected. More than one term may be served.
- ❖ Review BHAB agendas.
- ❖ Facilitate BHAB meetings.
- ❖ Elicit information and promote discussion from members.
- ❖ In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair will facilitate the BHAB meeting(s). In the absence of both Chair and Vice Chair, the Member at Large will facilitate the meeting(s).
- ❖ If possible, at least one of the three Chair, Vice Chair, or Member at Large should be represented by a consumer.
- ❖ Provide new member orientation.
- ❖ The Chair, Vice Chair, and Member at Large will guide and direct the priorities and focus of BHAB, including the identification of community needs, engaging community leaders, and finding opportunities for the BHAB to influence policy and practice.
- ❖ **Managed care organizations representatives cannot serve as the Chair, Vice Chair, and Member at Large.**



BH-ASO Role

The responsibilities of the Behavioral Health Administrative Service Organization (BH-ASO) staff are as follows:

- ❖ Meet with the Chair, Vice Chair, and / or Member at Large in preparation for monthly meetings.
- ❖ Support the BHAB's efforts in engaging the community, provider network, and leadership to achieve identified priorities.
- ❖ Attend monthly BHAB meetings and assist with meeting logistics including scheduling of meeting, meeting location, and technology needs, taking meeting minutes, and meeting minute distribution.
- ❖ Assist in identifying opportunities for BHAB to participate in community efforts and/or issues BHAB can influence and champion.
- ❖ Provide complete, concise, and accurate information to the BHAB.
- ❖ Provide technical assistance, as requested.
- ❖ Provide objective analysis, opinions, and recommendations.
- ❖ Facilitate BHAB requests, as needed and appropriate.



About Federal Block Grants

Block grants are Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grants given to states to allow them to address their unique behavioral health issues.

- ❖ **Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG)** - Provide mental health services to adults diagnosed with Serious Mental Illness (SMI) and children diagnosed with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) individuals not covered by Medicaid. .
- ❖ **Substance Use Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Services (SUPTRS)** formally known as Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) - To plan, carry out, and evaluate activities for the prevention, treatment, and recovery of substance abuse for individuals not covered by Medicaid.
- ❖ Each Regional Service Area in WA is required to have an approved **MHBG** and **SUPTRS/SABG** plan that dictates how the federal funds will be spent in that region.
- ❖ In Pierce County, the Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) is the entity responsible for reviewing the regional MHBG and SUPTRS/SABG plan and Carelon is the administrator of block grant funds.
- ❖ Carelon standardized the Request for Responses allocation method with a rotating 3-year allocation process. This started in Pierce County in 2022.



How Providers Receive Funds



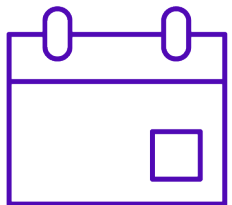
- ❖ BHAB informs on community priorities

- ❖ Request for Responses (RFR) is released by BH-ASO



- ❖ Applications are submitted to the BH-ASO

- ❖ Evaluation committee consisting of community members, providers and board members is created to review and score the submissions



- ❖ Funds are allocated on a three-year grant cycle, contracts are structured on the state fiscal year (July-June)



Community Priorities**

Based on 2022 RFR:

- ❖ Co-occurring Treatment
- ❖ Culturally Appropriate Treatment
- ❖ Recovery/Peer Support
- ❖ Serving Rural Areas



Who is currently funded in Pierce County Washington?

Mental Health Block Grant:

- ❖ Asian Counseling
- ❖ Consejo
- ❖ Comprehensive Life Resources
- ❖ Dad's MOVE
- ❖ Greater Lakes MHC
- ❖ Multicare
- ❖ Pierce County Alliance
- ❖ Puyallup Tribe
- ❖ Recovery International
- ❖ Seamar
- ❖ TACID

Substance Abuse/SUPTRS Block Grant:

- ❖ Asian Counseling
- ❖ Comprehensive Healthcare
- ❖ Consejo
- ❖ Dad's MOVE
- ❖ Dave Purchase Project
- ❖ For the Culture
- ❖ Greater Lakes
- ❖ Heidi's Promise
- ❖ Metropolitan Development Center
- ❖ Multicare
- ❖ NWIH
- ❖ Pierce County Alliance
- ❖ Prosperity
- ❖ Recovery Café Orting Valley
- ❖ Seamar
- ❖ Sound Integrated Health



Annual reports to the Health Care Authority

MHBG and SABG Project Plans – Information is collected from key stakeholders and community partners to develop a detailed description of the anticipated local plans and the range of services to be provided by each of the recipients in the coming state fiscal year. This report includes a summary and expenditures, as well as a narrative of several categories:

- ❖ Needs Assessment
- ❖ Cultural Competence
- ❖ Continuing Education for Staff
- ❖ Charitable Choice
- ❖ Coordination of Services
- ❖ Public Comment/Local Board/BHAB Involvement
- ❖ Program Compliance
- ❖ Recovery Support Services

MHBG and SABG Annual Progress Report – A summary of the direct services provided to the community by block grant recipients in the prior state fiscal year. This annual report includes information regarding what community priorities are being met, what strategies are being used to improve existing programs, how are recipients monitored for compliance; and step recipients are taking to overcome barriers encountered.



Questions?



Thank you

Sienna Eckstrom, Pierce BHAB Convener
May 2024