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*Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group*

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## Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group (CYBHWG) Notes

**October 18, 2022**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Representative Lisa Callan, Co-Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Robert Hilt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michele Roberts
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hannah Adira (alternate)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Avreayl Jacobson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Noah Seidel
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Javiera (Javi) Barria-Opitz	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nichole Jensen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mary Stone-Smith
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Avanti Bergquist	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barb Jones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Representative My-Linh Thai
<input type="checkbox"/>	Representative Michelle Caldier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kim Justice	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Eric Trupin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Diana Cockrell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michelle Karnath	<input type="checkbox"/>	Senator Judy Warnick
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lee Collyer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kaur Preet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lillian Williamson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Representative Carolyn Eslick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Judy King	<input type="checkbox"/>	Senator Claire Wilson
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Summer Hammons	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cindy Myers	<input type="checkbox"/>	

### Big picture context setting

See TVW recording (15:16)

### Recommendations overview

See TVW recording (21:02)

### Overview: Candidates for overarching recommendations

See TVW recording (35:32)

- Two overarching recommendations were proposed:
  - Medicaid Rate Increase
  - Targeted service expansion and policy improvements to end cases in which youth are “stuck” in hospitals.

### Overview of subgroup recommendations

#### Workforce & Rates

See TVW recording (1:06)

- *New* -Reduce the educational debt burden for clinicians.
- *New* -Reduce behavioral health workforce barriers.
- *New* -Scale up culturally affirming mental health care for children and families (CARE project).
- *Legacy* – Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs).
- *Legacy* – Teaching clinic enhancement rate.

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### Behavioral Health Integration (BHI)

See TVW recording (1:22)

- *New* -Finance kids' behavioral health care coordination in primary care.
- *New* -Continue and expand supports for behavioral health integration in primary care (FAST, PAL, Mental Health Referral Service for Children and Teens).

### Prenatal to age five relational health (P5RH)

See TVW recording (1:38)

- *New* -Improve awareness and navigation support for parents and caregivers for families in the perinatal stage and children through age 5.
- *Legacy* – Increase the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) and Child Care Complex Need Funds (CNFs) to meet need.
- *Legacy* – Expand infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMH) to meet need.

### School Base Behavioral Health and Suicide Prevention (SBBHSP)

See TVW recording (1:54)

- *New* -Designate a lead agency for students' behavioral health.
- *Legacy* – Expand the number of schools – and community-based clinicians and expand the Partnership Access Line (PAL) in Schools Pilot program statewide.

### Youth and Young Ault Continuum of Care (YYACC)

See TVW recording (2:07)

- *New* -Peer services for youth and families.
- *Legacy* – Behavioral health respite for youth and families.

### Public Comment

See TVW recording (2:25)

- *Concern about pressure on the system from the sickest kids. Some families are never going to get the services they need in their communities. I know it's super unpopular to talk about residential care, but our state is denying the truth that some children cannot be safely served in their family homes in their communities, and they need a safe, compassionate physical space to learn the skills they need. Until we provide that, the pressure on our system is not going to be relieved. Appeal to the committee to consider a residential school in Washington state.*
- *Mental health professionals are leaving due to lack of compensation, therefore would like to see a means of ensuring Medicaid rate increases for agencies result in salary and broader compensation increases for clinicians.*
- *Consideration in investing in services for individuals with autism beyond Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA), to ensure that families have choices when it comes to services that they feel will best meet their child and family's needs. There are many who have received ABA services who have described their experiences as actively causing them harm. Don't see any ABA recipients or autistic individuals on the stakeholder list. Recommend inclusion of these stakeholders in the process.*

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- *Interstate compact for mental health licensure; consider the potential secondary consequences of the strategy, particularly the possibility of venture capital-backed companies from out of state expanding services in WA. Some of their practices, such as selling client data without consent and dictating to clinicians how services are to be provided, often times done in ways that are not aligned with ethical or clinical best practices.*
- *Request collection and analysis of Washington-specific suspension and expulsion data and the impacts of early childhood mental health consultation on disproportionalities in our state so as the work expands, it is done in a way that is data informed and specific to the needs of kids and providers in our state.*
- *Concerns around interventions with autism and developmentally delayed populations by ABA therapists that are inappropriate and cause harm and trauma.*
- *Peer services for youth – support from people my age who have been through similar experience offers space and a resource that is so needed; it provides a huge benefit.*
- *Missing: No recommendations to address the needs of unaccompanied homeless minors and young people who don't have parents to support them. We are missing a huge piece of what the hope and promise of this group is if we don't address how to get these young people back to the table, back to the community,*

### Voting process and results

See TVW recording (2:49)

#### Overarching recommendations

- Medicaid rate increase was approved by member consensus to move forward as an overarching recommendation.
- Targeted service expansion and policy improvement to end cases in which youth are “stuck” in hospitals did not have member consensus so it was moved to New recommendations.

#### Legacy and new recommendations

Given the large number of recommendations, some technical difficulties with the voting process, and the short amount of time available, the work group agreed to postpone voting and schedule an additional meeting to vote on recommendations.

#### Chat:

Report – [“I want to Go Home”](#) Reevaluating DDA’s Children’s Services to Prevent Hospitalization and Out-of-State Placement, by Office of Development Disabilities Ombuds.