

**PENNSYLVANIA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COUNCIL**

<b>Date</b>	Tuesday, April 15, 2025
<b>Time</b>	Meeting starts at 1:00 pm
<b>Location</b>	Virtual – please see meeting invite for MS Teams link
<b>Purpose/Focus</b>	15th Council Meeting - Criminal Justice: Behavioral Health Care within the System
<b>Facilitators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive Director, Behavioral Health Council, Dr. Chris Finello</li> <li>• Deputy Secretary, Department of Human Services, OMHSAS, Jennifer Smith</li> <li>• Special Advisor, Department of Human Services, David Grande, MD, MPA</li> <li>• Deputy Secretary, Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth, and Families, Laval Miller-Wilson, JD</li> <li>• Director of Bureau of County Program Oversight, Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, Erica Nocho</li> <li>• Executive Director, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Kirsten Kenyon and Director of Office of Justice Programs, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Jackie Weaknecht</li> <li>• Regional Licensed Psychologist Manager, Department of Corrections, Dr. Elicia Stein</li> <li>• Executive Director, Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, Robert J. Tomassini</li> <li>• Behavioral Health Administrator, Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts, Michael Harper, Esq.</li> </ul>
<b>Attendees</b>	<p><b>Commonwealth Representatives:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Secretary of Policy and Planning, Akbar Hossain</li> <li>2. Secretary of the Department of Human Services, Dr. Valerie Arkoosh</li> <li>3. Secretary of the Department of Health, Dr. Debra Bogen</li> <li>4. Commissioner of Pennsylvania Insurance Department, Michael Humphreys</li> <li>5. Secretary of the Department of Aging, Jason Kavulich</li> <li>6. Secretary of the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, Dr. Latika Davis-Jones</li> <li>7. Special Assistant to the Secretary, Cathy Hall, MPA, on behalf of the acting Secretary of the Department of Education, Dr. Carrie Rowe</li> <li>8. Special Assistant to the Adjutant General, Mr. Richard Hamp, on behalf of Adjutant General of the Department of Military &amp; Veterans Affairs, Major General John Pippy</li> <li>9. Policy and Legislative Affairs Office Director, Captain Leslie Barr on behalf of Commissioner of Pennsylvania State Police, Colonel Christopher Paris</li> <li>10. Regional Licensed Psychologist Manager, Corrections, Dr. Elicia Stein on behalf of Secretary of the Department of Corrections, Dr. Laurel Harry</li> <li>11. Secretary of the Department of State, Al Schmidt</li> <li>12. Exec. Dir. Rural Dev. Council, Western Reg. Dir. PA Dept. of Agriculture, Mr. Mark Critz on behalf of Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Russell Redding</li> <li>13. Executive Director, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Kirsten Kenyon</li> <li>14. Bureau Director, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, PA Dept. of Labor and Industry, Denise Verchimak, on behalf of Secretary of the Department of Labor, Nancy Walker</li> <li>15. Digital Services Director at the Governor's Office, Sadie Smiles on behalf of Director of Digital Strategy at the Governor's Office, Annie Newman</li> <li>16. Pennsylvania Attorney General's Safe2Say Something Program Dir., Brittney Kline</li> <li>17. Deputy Secretary, Department of Human Services, OMHSAS, Jennifer Smith</li> </ol> <p><b>Representatives with lived or living experiences and family members:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18. Robert Hamilton, MPPM - Westmoreland DHS Director; Formerly homeless veteran and person in long-term recovery</li> <li>19. Kate Favata - Community Engagement Manager, Crossroads, Treatment Advocate</li> <li>20. Jennifer Wilt - Parent of a loved one with mental illness, President NAMI of Cumberland &amp; Perry Co.</li> </ol> <p><b>County Representatives:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>21. Tina Clymer, County Mental Health Office, Carbon, Monroe, and Pike counties</li> <li>22. Dr. Tamra Williams, County Mental Health Office from Montgomery County</li> <li>23. Ryan Hogan, Single County Authority from Luzerne County</li> <li>24. Kristin Varner, Single County Authority from Dauphin County</li> </ol>

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	<p>25. Lynn Deardorff, Area Agency on Aging from Adams County</p> <p>26. Dr. Shannah Gilliam, Area Agency on Aging from Allegheny County</p> <p><b>Clinical Representatives:</b></p> <p>27. Dr. Amy Kim, an expert in child and family behavioral healthcare</p> <p>28. Dr. Margaret Jarvis, an expert in addiction medicine and substance use disorder treatments</p> <p>29. Dr. Jack Todd Wahrenberger, an expert in primary healthcare</p> <p>30. Dr. Wendy Ross, an expert in treating individuals with co-occurring IDD &amp; autism with mental illness</p> <p><b>Legislative Representatives from the General Assembly:</b></p> <p>31. Representative Mike Schlossberg (D)</p> <p>32. Representative Jim Struzzi (R)</p> <p>33. Senator Maria Collett (D)</p> <p>34. Senator Michele Brooks (R)</p>
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	<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Facilitator</b>	<b>Time</b>
1.	Call to Order	Dr. Chris Finello/Deputy Secretary Meghna Patel	1:00 pm – 1:10 pm
2.	Presentations on Criminal Justice – Behavioral Health Care within the System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deputy Secretary, Department of Human Services, OMHSAS, Jennifer Smith</li> <li>Special Advisor, Department of Human Services, David Grande, MD, MPA</li> <li>Deputy Secretary, Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth, and Families, Laval Miller-Wilson, JD</li> <li>Director of Bureau of County Program Oversight, Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, Erica Nocho</li> <li>Executive Director, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Kirsten Kenyon and Director of Office of Justice Programs, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Jackie Weaknecht</li> <li>Regional Licensed Psychologist Manager, Department of Corrections, Dr. Elicia Stein</li> <li>Executive Director, Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, Robert J. Tomassini</li> <li>Behavioral Health Administrator, Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts, Michael Harper, Esq.</li> </ul>	1:10 pm – 2:00 pm
3.	Facilitated Discussion	<p>Dr. Chris Finello, Executive Director, Behavioral Health Council</p> <p><b>Questions for discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the biggest gaps in behavioral health treatment within correctional and juvenile facilities, and what policy or funding changes could help bridge these gaps?</li> <li>How can we better integrate behavioral health services with reentry planning to ensure that individuals have access to necessary care, housing, and employment upon release?</li> <li>What role should counties play in strengthening the behavioral health-criminal justice continuum, and how can state-level agencies support local efforts to enhance services?</li> <li>What innovative strategies have been successfully implemented in other states or counties to reduce recidivism among individuals with behavioral health conditions?</li> </ul>	2:00 pm – 2:40 pm
4.	Closing Remarks	Deputy Secretary Meghna Patel	2:40 pm – 2:45 pm

Future meetings will be scheduled on the third Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm.