

DBHIDS Executive Directors' Meeting
June 2, 2021
Chat Questions, Answers, Comments during the Meeting

From Roland Lamb to Everyone: 09:03 AM

Good Morning!!!!!! [The movie] **Burden**: It can be accessed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESpBa6N224o>

From Dana Careless to Everyone: 09:13 AM

As a reminder, if you have any questions, please place them in the chat. We will answer as many as possible at the close of our meeting today.

From Melissa Watson to Everyone: 09:14 AM

Will act 25 remain the same or be revised in regard to telehealth?

Answer from Shawna Dandridge

There has been no word on any changes yet to regulatory requirements for MH OP, including required psychiatry time (Act 25). We will pass along any info we hear and can inquire in upcoming state level meetings.

From Racquel Assaye to Everyone: 09:17 AM

Is the APA still subject to recoupment?

From Robert Bickford to Everyone: 09:31 AM

Per the bulletin, recoupment is still an option if there is a wide variance between the APA and actual costs.

From Regan Kelly to Everyone: 09:19 AM

Dr. Washington, did I hear you say that bed-based providers can request to "opt-in" or stay in the APA through September?

From Robert Bickford to Everyone: 09:31 AM

Yes, bed-based provider can request to opt in.

Per the bulletin, recoupment is still an option if there is a wide variance between the APA and actual costs.

Answer from Shawna Dandridge

Yes, bed-based provider can request to opt in.

From Elizabeth Andl-Petkov to Everyone: 09:27 AM

Are you still planning on establishing an adult urgent care center or just mobile teams? Thank you.

From Kenny Solanke: Our goal is to establish a BHUCC in the future pending funding.

From Sosunmolu Shoyinka to Everyone: 09:31 AM

DBHIDS is working on procuring mobile teams at this time.

From Andrew DeVos to Everyone: 09:34 AM

There has been no word on any changes yet to regulatory requirements for MH OP, including required psychiatry time (Act 25). We will pass along any info we hear and can inquire in upcoming state level meetings.

From Racquel Assaye to Everyone: 09:35 AM

Do we have a timeline on this possible recoupment as providers close fiscal year and project for cash flow this information helps with revenue recognition and liquidity planning?

Answer from Shawna Dandridge:

We do not anticipate broad based recoupments of dollars related to the APA. If you have specific questions, please contact your provider representative.

From Jay Peterson to Everyone: 09:35 AM

[Regarding "*OPIOIDS - A Breakdown of the Invisible Overdose Crisis in the Black Community.*"]

This is an extraordinary video. A must watch for everyone.

From Reggie Banks@dunbaragency.com to Everyone: 09:36 AM

Yes, the video should be seen by all, including staff and families!

From Ivan Haskell to Everyone: 09:35 AM

Dr. Wright, will there also be a look at updating the police 302 procedures as part of this project (e.g., mandated handcuffing of individuals, etc.)?

From Dr. H. Jean Wright II to Everyone: 09:37 AM

The police union contract is currently under negotiation with the Kenney administration. Police procedures fall under those negotiations.

From Ivan Haskell to Everyone: 09:40 AM

Thanks. Do you know if this has been raised as something that might be looked at?

From Dr. H. Jean Wright II to Everyone: 09:44 AM

I am not sure what specifics have been raised. Several recent articles are out there describing the concerns by community members regarding police tactics. Also, there is a newly formed police oversight commission which will have more power than the previous commission (i.e. subpoena power, etc.).

[Philadelphia Inquirer Article: Philly Mayor Jim Kenney promised police reform. It's a work in progress a year later.](#)

From Nicole Connell to Everyone: 09:41 AM

The film "We Breathe, We Live: Brotherly Love Protest Stories," is available on WHY.org now through June 24th.
<https://video.why.org/video/we-breathe-we-live-brotherly-love-protest-stories-4tprzs/>

From Woody Rosenbach to Everyone: 09:42 AM

Dr Shoynika/Dr. Bowen, has there been consideration of adapting the Penn Health model which has mandated all staff to be vaccinated by September 1?

From Sosunmolu Shoyinka: PDPH maintains oversight of the overall strategy and implementation of vaccine policy.

From Nicole Connell to Everyone: 09:42 AM

[From Philadelphia City Council: Councilmembers' New-Anti-Violence Plan Calls for at least \\$50 million Investment in Young People](#)

From Antonio Valdes to Everyone: 09:43 AM

We are hearing from schools that the school district has announced to them that families will be offered full virtual next school year as an option. Are you aware as an official word on this?

From Shawna Dandridge: No, we haven't heard this as of yet.

From Robert Bickford to Everyone: 09:43 AM

We do not anticipate broad based recoupments of dollars related to the APA. If you have specific questions, please contact your provider representatives.

From Racquel Assaye to Everyone: 09:46 AM

Same challenges in workforce as Elizabeth mentioned.

From John Muehsam to Everyone: 09:46 AM

We are having tremendous difficulty recruiting and retaining OP therapists, which is likely the LOC which needs the most capacity to support individuals new to the BH system.

From Judy Yanacek to Everyone: 09:46 AM

Totally agree with Elizabeth.

From Dennis Hand (he/him) to Everyone: 09:46 AM

Costs are a problem for us, too. LPNs are applying for/requesting salaries 20% higher. Our high-school education positions pay >\$15 and still have difficulty filling those spots.

From dgrace to Everyone: 09:47 AM

We have been heading for this staffing crisis prior to the Pandemic and there should be in my opinion a city head effort to work with the many schools to make public mental health a desirable career/

From Jordan Brogan to Everyone: 09:47 AM

We are having that same issue.

From Ivan Haskell to Everyone: 09:47 AM

We have found that we are now competing for therapists with places that have sprung up to provide telehealth almost exclusively. So, we may be competing with not just other providers in Philly, but elsewhere in PA.

From Reggie Banks@dunbaragency.com to Everyone: 09:47 AM

We agree.

From Angie to Everyone: 09:47 AM

We are also competing against each other.

From Renee's iPhone to Everyone: 09:47 AM

Agree with Betty and Mary.

From Kelly Rascoe to Everyone: 09:48 AM

I concur with what has been shared with the difficulty in finding and retaining employees.

From Sandy Cini to Everyone: 09:48 AM

Licensed therapists have been leaving to do remote private practice work for more money. Also, less graduates from Masters' programs due to their inability to do their internships last year (graduations postponed until they complete internship). We are seeing much less applicants in general.

From Laurie Corbin to Everyone: 09:48 AM

Hiring bilingual staff adds another layer of challenges for us.

From Jason McLaughlin to Everyone: 09:48 AM

Wedge has also had the same experience with hiring.

From Dennis Hand (he/him) to Everyone: 09:48 AM

In addition, the stresses and trauma everyone is experiencing is causing more absences, which then stretches/stresses other staff more. We need not only funding to support higher pay, but to increase staffing to increase slack to absorb these shocks and reduce stress. Also, to provide effective self-care assistance.

From Judy Yanacek to Everyone: 09:49 AM

Unemployment comp rates with additional amounts working certainly working against all of us. Any advocacy for ceasing.

From Regan Kelly to Everyone: 09:50 AM

We are having same experience...less applicants, more "no shows" for interviews, salaries not competitive.

From Valarie Oulds to Everyone: 09:59 AM

Many positions seem to require drivers' licenses - could that be reconsidered given transportation options in the City? and Uber?

From Dawn Curry to Everyone: 10:00 AM

I need to echo the concerns with the rates for our outpatient services as to the challenges off filling the positions. We're fortunate to have licensed clinicians however the salaries needed to support them is not supported by the OP rates.

From Elizabeth Andl-Petkov to Everyone: 10:00 AM

We have to change the funding method so we can raise salaries and not be based on FFS.