Wisconsin HMIS Advisory Board
Wednesday, July 21, 2021
1:30 PM – 4:00 PM
Conference Call

Board Members Present: Abbi Jeffers, Christine McCain, Erika Olsen, Joe Locher, Lori Kirchgatter, Melissa Taggart, Philip Connelly, and Tara Barica

Excused Absence: Erin Evosevich & Lisa Haen

ICA Staff Present: Adam Smith, Maggie Carden, Patrick Duffie, Iraida Vazquez, Jack Kukuk, Jesse Dirkman, Nancy Esteves, Stephanie Van Hulst, Ying Ji Chuang, and Justina Hepburn-Gray

Guest: Leah Ramirez

1. Welcome

2. Board Member Update
    a. No new board members joining at this time.

3. ICA Staff Updates
    a. Justina Hepburn-Gray started a couple weeks ago in Milwaukee as the new Milwaukee System Administrator.
    b. Alex Cocina is helping with CE for Dane CoC and will start working on some Milwaukee CoC projects as well.
    c. Ben Eidler is also new to ICA.

4. April Minutes Review
    a. Mm approved as written by Phil Connelly

5. Medicaid Projects at DHS - Leah Ramirez
    • There is a data exchange proposal from DHS's Division of Medicaid Services. The focus is on policies and initiatives for those Medicaid recipients who are experiencing homelessness or at risk. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has approved Medicaid to pay for housing support services such as housing consultation, transition and sustaining supports (case management), relocation supports (ex. security deposits).
    • There was an initial one-time match of data between DHS and ICA from May 2018-May 2019. Approximately 6900 members matched.
    • Integration opportunities could lead to:
        o Improved data analytics, better care for members, and reduce administrative burden for CoC agencies.

- o Opportunities: increase awareness, require enhanced outreach/planning in contracts, improve coordination between Medicaid and homeless assistance providers, streaming processes, data informed policies, and additional projects.
- The four CoCs are aware of this initiative. The hope is that by July 1, 2022, agencies will be enrolled and they can begin rendering services for Medicaid.

Motion for reoccurring, monthly exchange with WI DHS for identified HMIS data elements.
- Motion carried. None in opposition.

6. Update on Software Transition and Data Migration
- Clarity went live since the last advisory board meeting with approximately 800 users in Clarity which has surpassed ServicePoint users.
- Migration is in process. Data team is sending over data files to BitFocus to script it into a sample site for ICA to review. Once it is final, it is migrated into the live site. This happens in waves.
- As of the meeting they are through most of the coordinated entry (CE) migration. File attachments and case notes are on the way along with other non-CE custom items.
- There is not a way to match photos from ServicePoint to Clarity which is one of the limitations based on ServicePoint.
- Agencies are encouraged to reach out to ICA staff with questions and feedback.

7. Kinship Care Question – Maggie Carden
- Dane County Youth Action Board and Committee to End Youth Homelessness, working with Dane County Human Services, feel a new question would be helpful for the Family Unification Program (FUP). Some do not consider Foster Care the same as Kinship Care. The Foster Care question cannot be amended because it is part of the data standards.
- The Board was asked if this question could be added to the WI UDE.
  - o Previously in Kinship Care or Out of Home Care?
    - ▪ Age client left Kinship Care or Out of Home Care

Motion to add question for WI UDE for kinship care or out of home care.
All in agreement. No opposed.

8. Public Health Madison & Dane County data sharing agreement approval – Maggie Carden
- Public Health Madison & Dane County reached out about a data sharing agreement to inform and improve COVID-19 vaccination and testing efforts among people experiencing homelessness.
- Data matching would be used by public health and would be provided for first half of 2021 and then quarterly exchanges through June 2022 if still needed. They would be looking at aggregate data for agency level. They will take shelter list and match it to whether or not

someone has had a vaccination. This could lead to improving outreach efforts to sites and discuss safety procedures if there are high rates of non-vaccinated. If they find high numbers of vaccinated, they can discuss reducing some of the isolation measures.

Phil motion to approve data sharing agreement with Public Health Madison and Dane County. All approved. No opposed.

9. Annual Policy Review
   - Once per year the advisory board reviews documents and make updates. There were numerous changes needed this year due to the transition to BitFocus Clarity.
   - See 2021 HMIS Governance Doc Changes and HMIS Policies & Procedures – 2021 Draft which provides summary of proposed changes.
   - Agency partnership agreement
     - Updated WellSky to BitFocus
     - Name change to Wisconsin HMIS News Email vs WISP News
     - New helpdesk email
   - Once approved by the board, the Governance Charter is sent to the 4 CoCs for signing. Then the Agency Partnership Agreements are sent to agencies for signing.

   Phil motion to approve all policy review changes
   All approved. No dissent.

Phil moves to adjourn meeting.