

# Community Behavioral Health Promotion and Prevention Commission

## Meeting Minutes

June 24, 2019

3:00-5:00 pm

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Date of meeting: Monday, June 24, 2019

Start time: 3:10 pm

End time: 5:00 pm

Location: McCormack Building, One Ashburton Place, 21st floor, Boston, MA 02108

### Members present:

- Joan Mikula – Department of Mental Health (chair)
- Lissette Blondet – Massachusetts Association of Community Health Workers
- Marilyn DeSantis – National Alliance on Mental Illness
- Yaminette Diaz-Linhart – Massachusetts Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers
- Kirsten Doherty – Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery
- Amanda Gilman – Association for Behavioral Healthcare
- Margaret Hannah – Freedman Center at William James College
- Patrick Johnson – Office of Senator Cyr (*designee of Senator Cyr*)
- Jessica LaRoche – Massachusetts Association for Mental Health
- Danna Mauch – Massachusetts Association for Mental Health
- Mary McGeown – Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
- Rosemary Minehan – Trial Court (*designee of Chief Justice Carey*)
- Carlene Pavlos – Massachusetts Public Health Association
- Emma Schlitzer – Center for Health Information and Analysis (*designee of Ray Campbell*)
- Lindsey Tucker – Department of Public Health
- James Vetter – Social-Emotional Learning Alliance for Massachusetts

### Members absent:

- Daniel Cullinane – Massachusetts House of Representatives
- Marjorie Decker – Massachusetts House of Representatives
- Cindy Friedman – Massachusetts Senate
- George Beilin – Licensed Psychologist
- Emily Sherwood – Department of Mental Health

## **Proceedings**

Commissioner Mikula called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm.

**Vote 1 to approve meeting minutes from April 8, 2019:** Commissioner Mikula requested a motion to vote on the approval of the meeting minutes from the Commission's meeting on April 8, 2019. Ms. Gilman introduced the motion, which was seconded by Ms. McGeown. Ms. Blondet abstained from voting and all other members present voted in favor to approve the motion.

Commissioner Mikula noted that Commission staff will be recirculating the list of recommendations from the Promote-Prevent Commission's final report, along with a summary of the priorities and expectations

raised in the Community Behavioral Health Commission's previous meetings, with the expectation that members review the recommendations and come prepared to the Commission's next scheduled meeting on September 23, 2019 ready to discuss their top three priorities for the Commission. Commissioner Mikula added that for the same meeting, Commission staff are working to organize a panel of community coalition coordinators to present on their work, both with the Prevent-Promote Commission and with communities.

Danna Mauch noted that Representative Decker, in her capacity as the co-chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, filed an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2020 budget to allocate funds for the Community Behavioral Health Promotion and Prevention Trust Fund. She noted that the amendment is currently under review with the conference committee and has not yet been taken up by the Senate.

Commissioner Mikula stated that Commission staff will be contacting members regarding their availabilities in early November in order to schedule an additional Commission meeting to help bridge the gap between the September and January meetings that had been previously been scheduled.

Rachelle Engler Bennett, Associate Commissioner of Student and Family Support at the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and co-chair of the Safe and Supportive Schools Commission, announced that DESE will be partnering with Education Development Center (EDC) and Transforming Education to offer a multi-tiered system of support academy that will focus on promoting social and emotional learning and mental health. The program is part of a five-year, federally funded school climate transformation grant and will provide local school districts with opportunities to receive both in-person and online trainings, as well as on-site coaching.

Jim Vetter noted that Social Emotional Learning Alliance for Massachusetts (SEL4MA) collaborated with Representative Balser and Senator Creem to introduce legislation (*An Act to Promote Social-Emotional Learning*) to encourage strategies to develop students' social-emotional learning competencies, including self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making. Dr. Vetter noted that the legislation is currently under review with the conference committee.

Corey Prachniak-Rincón and Sasha Goodfriend, Director and Chair of the LGBTQ Youth Commission, respectively, provided an overview of the LGBTQ Youth Commission's work and current priorities, which include homelessness, health (mental and physical), and juvenile justice. In response to questions from the Commission, Ms. Goodfriend outlined areas that the LGBTQ Youth Commission and Community Behavioral Health Commission could potentially collaborate, which included data collection, non-discrimination policies, and trainings for staff. For additional details, refer to the LGBTQ Youth Commission's [presentation](#) posted online to the Community Behavioral Health Commission's [Meeting Materials webpage](#).

Chiniqua Milligan, School Health Analyst, DESE, and Candace Nelson, Deputy Director, Office of Data Management and Outcomes Assessment, DPH, provided an overview of the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) and the Massachusetts Youth Health Survey (MYHS), highlighting trends in youth violence, mental health, and depression. The presenters noted that the MYHS has been jointly administered with the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) since 2007 by DPH in collaboration with DESE to assess the health of youth and young adults in grades 6-12. They explained that the two surveys collect a broad range of health information from youth statewide, including questions about risk behaviors and protective factors. They noted that the MYHS is conducted in randomly selected public middle and high schools in the Commonwealth during odd-numbered years. They stated that data collection for the 2019 MYHS has just been completed and results will be available by the end of 2019. For additional details, refer to the [presentation](#) and [briefer](#) posted online to the Commission's Meeting Materials webpage.

Related links provided by DPH:

- MYHS results by year: <https://www.mass.gov/lists/massachusetts-youth-health-survey-myhs>
- YRBS results for Massachusetts by year: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/sfs/yrbs/>
- National YRBS results: <https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/yrbs/index.htm>
- Youth Online: <https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/App/Default.aspx> (online YRBS analysis application; most MA YRBS data can be accessed for all years)

Commissioner Mikula reiterated that the tentative agenda for the Commission's September meeting would include a discussion of the Commission's priorities. She noted that in advance of the meeting, members should review the recommendations that were developed by the Promote-Prevent Commission and come prepared to discuss their top priorities and recommendations for the Commission.

Summary of action items and next steps:

- Commission staff to recirculate Promote-Prevent Commission's recommendations to members to solicit feedback for the September meeting's prioritization discussions.
- Commission members to continue to consider existing groups or individuals that might be beneficial to invite to present at a future Commission meeting.

**Vote 2 to adjourn:** Commissioner Mikula requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. McGeown introduced the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Vetter and approved unanimously by all members present.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.