**Department of Mental Health**

**Medical Necessity Commission Minutes of Meeting**

**November 18, 2022, 2:00-3:00p.m.**

**Location: In-Person at DMH or via Zoom**

Meeting #1 Summary:

1. Commissioner Brooke Doyle called the meeting to order.
2. Roll Call of Commission Members (See attached attendance sheet)
3. Future Meeting Dates & Commission Materials

* Commission members voted unanimously to meet monthly on Friday afternoons with hybrid option (both in-person and Zoom).
* Information will be distributed to Commission members via email and Commissioner Doyle will establish a SharePoint folder for Commission members to access.
* Meetings are subject to Open Meeting Law

1. Work Product

* Over the course of the next year, the Commission must forward a report with a set of recommendations to the Legislature.

1. Scope of the Commission

* Commission members sought clarity around the scope of their work:
  + - All of Behavioral Health?
    - Self Insured Plans?
    - Public Payers?
    - Commissioner Doyle indicated the statutory language is vague --- the Commission needs to determine what should be reviewed, recommended and completed within the year.
    - Members expressed their support for taking a broad approach, inclusive of all services and payers. Some discussion centered around establishing a hierarchy. Future work will inform.

1. Environmental Scan

* As a first fact finding step, commission members unanimously agreed to review the experience of other states, notably California and New York. What have they learned and how did they approach?
  + Review MA medical necessity standards. Where are the areas of uniformity versus greater variation? Is MA more stringent?
* Commission members encouraged to circulate any materials they have or come across (SharePoint will be created).

1. Understanding Medical Necessity from the Lens of Stakeholders
   * How do providers determine medical necessity and payers think about it?
   * Pose same set of questions to providers, payers, and advocacy groups.
2. Adjournment
   * The Commission agreed to adjourn and will meet next on Friday, December 16, 2:00-3:00.