

1 CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
2 DEPARTMENT FOR MEDICAID SERVICES
3 PERSONS RETURNING TO SOCIETY FROM INCARCERATION
4 TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

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11 Via Videoconference
12 September 14, 2023
13 Commencing at 9:02 a.m.

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22 Shana W. Spencer, RPR, CRR
23 Court Reporter
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APPEARANCES

BOARD MEMBERS:

- Steve Shannon, Chair
- James A. Daley (not present)
- Shawn A. Ryan, MD (not present)
- Dr. Shannon Smith-Stephens (not present)
- Brandon Harley
- Adrienne Bush
- Van Ingram
- Casey Michalovic (not present)
- Evan Smith (not present)
- Kristin Porter
- Kevin Sharkey (not present)
- Angela Darcy
- Brandon Thomas (not present)

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Minutes are adopted. Thank you for that little piece of stuff we have to do.

Leslie Hoffmann, do you want to give us a DMS update or whoever is going to give us a DMS update?

MS. HOFFMANN: I'm going to give you -- I'm sorry. I'm a little bit under the weather, but I am going to do my best. I've made some notes here for you.

So we've got a lot of progress going on with reentry or the incarceration amendment right now. Stakeholder interviews and focus groups are being conducted throughout the end of September of 2023.

And folks that are on the Persons Returning to Society Incarceration TAC have been invited to participate in those interviews. And, of course, DMS would be joining those discussions as well. I would let you know that Angela Sparrow and Christian Shurer (phonetic) are going to be our leads on the reentry implementation.

We were going to ask: If the public comment period for resubmission falls under the next TAC, Steve, would you want us to use

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your TAC or the TAC as a public forum for the State's proposal and application? And we can do that. I've used the Behavioral Health TAC in the past for a means of a public forum as well, so we could do that if you wanted to. So you can think about that and let us know.

As far as the SUD --

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: That's fine. I think that's a good idea.

MS. HOFFMANN: I thought it would be, too, especially since this is -- was kind of created for this; right? And we're all excited about this, and we can give you more information as to come.

The SUD extension request, CMS mentioned granting a temporary extension period for SUD while reviewing the 1115 that we have with them. And that 1115 has, if you remember, the recuperative care amendment in it.

And so we -- they're trying to realign all of our years because everything is kind of getting off in years now. Plus, they've got two things for us to review again.

So they're talking about giving a temporary extension on the Team Kentucky

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1115. What you remember as the Kentucky Health, now we're renaming as Team Kentucky. So they're talking about giving us an extension to that. So we're excited that we might be able to get an extension that also might create the opportunity for at least a name change and a few other things during that time period.

We've got a few things that are wrapped into the big Team Kentucky 1115 that are not specific really related to behavioral health that we oversee as well.

So we don't owe them anything. People keep asking me if we owe CMS anything. We don't owe them anything. This is a request that they've kind of made back to us in our monthly calls.

We'll give you a couple other updates while I'm on the phone. We have the 1915(i) that we will have an informational meeting on the 25th of next week. It's for informational purposes only. This is not the official town hall meetings. Those will probably be sometime just a tad bit later because we're hoping to have things out for

1 public comment end of September, first of
2 October. So I'll try to give at least a
3 30-day notice to get those town hall meeting
4 invites out and let everybody know what's
5 going on with that.

6 The 1915(i) is actually a state plan
7 amendment, not a waiver. And it is a
8 companion to our 1115 SMI waiver. So I know
9 there's a lot of acronyms going on there, and
10 those numbers probably mean not much to
11 anybody except that it gives us the authority
12 to think outside the box and to treat
13 folks -- or treat particular situations that
14 we've never been able to look at before.

15 So it's very exciting, and I hope
16 everything works out for us. So yeah, like
17 I --

18 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: And that's,
19 again, focusing on the SMI population?

20 MS. HOFFMANN: Yes. Now the SMI
21 1115, again, Angela Sparrow is on with me.
22 The 1115 waiver --

23 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: No. I mean the
24 1915(i).

25 MS. HOFFMANN: Okay. Yes. The

1 1915(i) actually also has some housing
2 supports components, and it's more than just
3 SMI. It can also cover all behavioral
4 health, like SUD and co-occurring. So very
5 exciting times.

6 We kind of consider that, like, our
7 social determinants of health. First time
8 we've kind of reached out into a state plan
9 amendment to make this happen. It's got some
10 employment needs that we're going to try to
11 meet so -- and housing needs as well and some
12 care management needs.

13 So, again, lots of moving parts, and
14 they're all kind of working in conjunction
15 with each other.

16 So I told you about the team, health.
17 Let me see if there's anything else I wanted
18 to mention.

19 Mobile, right now, Steve, I won't say
20 much more. We're still in negotiations, so
21 I'm not really at liberty to talk much about
22 that again. It will only be a short time,
23 though, I feel like, before I can start
24 coming to the Behavioral Health TACs and this
25 TAC and give you more information about

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mobile.

So I think that's it.

MR. INGRAM: Let me just --

MS. HOFFMANN: Oh, I'm sorry.

MR. INGRAM: Yeah. I want to make sure I understand correctly. The temporary extension, is that to the SUD 1115 that we wrote in 2018?

MS. HOFFMANN: It's in the -- it's for the overarching. It all falls under that Kentucky Health overarching 1115, and we have to get that extended. So the SUD is in there. The incarceration -- original incarceration amendment is in there.

MR. INGRAM: Okay.

MS. HOFFMANN: There's nothing bad there in the fact that they're -- No. 1, they're trying to align. But they're just going to give us an extension so that they can get those reviews done. We don't want it to go -- you know, we don't want to retract it or anything like that. Then that's more timely -- time-consuming.

MR. INGRAM: Thank you.

MS. HOFFMANN: But lots of moving

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parts, lots of exciting programs.

I would just put a plug in, Steve, if anybody has heard about the mental health listening tours. We've been traveling around with those -- that AOC is putting on. They're very interesting. They're in -- I think they're in about nine areas. I can look those up. I just want to put a plug in for those if you've not been involved so...

MS. DARCY: There is -- so wherever the Kentucky law updated -- this is Angela Darcy. Wherever the Kentucky law updated, that's where they're being hosted, the evening before.

MS. HOFFMANN: Yeah. I think I've got a listing. There was one in Ashland last night. I think there's one in Paducah coming up. But very good to go and listen to what the people in the community are having to say. I -- here it is. Let's see.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yeah. They've been to Owensboro and then --

MS. HOFFMANN: London is next, isn't it?

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: London. Okay.

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MS. HOFFMANN: London is on the 27th, and I'm going to that one. We've tried to -- I'm trying to make sure -- and DPH is as well, making sure that we've got representation there in case anybody needs to have questions afterwards.

But it's really about listening and hearing what the people have to say in the public, so I just thought I would mention those to you.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yeah. Good.

MS. HOFFMANN: Thank you, Angela Darcy.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Let's go back to these -- the reentry -- the 1115 reentry waiver interview. I just want to make sure folks realize that's open to anybody; right, Leslie?

MS. HOFFMANN: Angela, are you on, Angela Sparrow?

MS. SPARROW: Yes. So I think, again, Steve, through the TAC, they would be looking to you to make recommendations of who should be involved in the interview representing the Persons Returning to Society

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TAC.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Okay.

MS. SPARROW: So if there's, again, individuals from the TAC that we need to include, just go ahead and please reach out to us and email us. But that's --

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Okay. I've sent that out to folks. I hope everyone on the TAC has received that. Is that true, TAC members?

MR. HARLEY: Yes. I saw the email yesterday.

MS. PORTER: Yes.

MS. DARCY: Yeah. I received it.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Okay. Just making sure. But if other folks are on, can they participate as well, not just TAC members?

MS. SPARROW: They can, yes. If you would reach out to us so that we could, again, coordinate the time slots and, again, ensure that it's within the -- you know, there's different focus groups based on different agencies or advocacy groups, et cetera. So if you would reach out to us,

1 and we'll -- you know, we'll make sure that
2 we coordinate it in the appropriate kind of
3 time slots when they're being conducted.

4 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Okay.

5 MS. HOFFMANN: And, Steve, anybody
6 can also join the September 25th
7 informational webinar on the 1915(i) SMI. I
8 can put that in the chat as soon as we get
9 through speaking, if that's okay.

10 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yeah. That
11 would be good. Yeah. Yeah.

12 MS. SPARROW: So while you're
13 speaking to the 1915(i), again, I think we
14 just -- we want to make sure and clear,
15 certainly, that informational session is
16 going to speak to the target population and
17 the criteria. There are going to be specific
18 services that, again, are for the SMI
19 population, but there are going to be
20 services under that SPA amendment that are
21 available -- again, would be available for
22 individuals of SUD that meet the criteria as
23 well.

24 So, again, you know, the focus, I think,
25 has been primarily on the SMI, but we do want

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to ensure that it is covering also our SUD co-occurring population. There's going to be some services that are available to them as well but...

Again, so we would just encourage everybody to join that informational session, so we can go -- go through that a little more.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Okay. And that's on the 25th. It will be a week from this coming Monday. And what time is that?

MS. SPARROW: I think -- let's see. Leslie -- 10:30 to 11:30 Eastern Time.

MS. HOFFMANN: I'm muted. I thought -- and I'm locked up just a second. I'm sorry. I'm trying to put it in the chat, but it's locked up.

So, Steve, I'll send that to you again, and you can send it out.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Right.

MS. HOFFMANN: I don't know what --

MS. BICKERS: Leslie, it could be where I opened the chat to copy your information into the email. I'm sorry.

MS. HOFFMANN: Can you see it --

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there it goes. I'm sorry. It just showed up. Can you see it?

MS. BICKERS: Yes, ma'am. And I also grabbed the flyer that Courtney dropped in there for the TAC as well.

MS. HOFFMANN: Just send that out for me. Is it showing how to join -- I don't think it's showing the right information. I'll send this again to you, Erin.

MS. BICKERS: Yes, ma'am. And I'll attach it to the email.

MS. HOFFMANN: Okay. Thank you.

MS. BICKERS: You're welcome.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yeah. I see it.

All right. Medicaid, anything else?

MS. SPARROW: I'm sorry. I do want to mention one more thing. Going back to the temporary extension under the overall 1115 and SUD 1115, again, Kentucky would not be the only state that has been granted a temporary extension.

So this -- again, it's nothing -- it's not new to CMS. They've certainly done that in the past and provided us with some examples on what that would look like for the

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State. So I just want to mention that, too.
It wouldn't be specific to Kentucky.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Okay. Yeah.
But that was, again, initiated by CMS, not by
Kentucky; right?

MS. SPARROW: That's correct, yes.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Okay. So
nothing is at risk. It's just some timing
piece, I guess.

MS. SPARROW: Correct.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Okay. Very
good.

Any questions for Medicaid?

MS. PORTER: Hey, Steve, I do have
a question. And I don't know -- Angela
or Les- -- I don't know if either one of you
all are the ones necessarily to ask this, so
you might not be.

But at the DOC level, our commissioner
and a few of us responded saying that, you
know, we could meet and do, like, the waiver
interview to really kind of have those
conversations. And we responded and said we
could meet this past Tuesday, the 12th, but
we never got a meeting invite.

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Do you know what we need to do to make sure that we can have that discussion or --

MS. SPARROW: Absolutely, Kristin. We'll take it back and follow up. So Myers and Stauffer is helping us kind of coordinate some of those efforts.

MS. PORTER: Okay.

MS. SPARROW: So they are working directly with us. I'll follow back up with them and make sure. Absolutely. We'll get some additional dates --

MS. PORTER: Okay.

MS. SPARROW: -- together and definitely get that scheduled.

MS. PORTER: Okay. Thank you.

MS. SPARROW: You're welcome. Thanks for mentioning.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: WellCare also didn't hear back.

MS. SPARROW: Paula, thank you. Thank you. Yes. Feel free. We're going to -- I'm going to drop in my email for anybody who doesn't have it and the DMS.issues email again that the behavioral health team -- so there is the reentry email.

1 But, again, feel free to include us all so
2 that we ensure everybody is getting the
3 messages, but we'll drop that in the chat.
4 So any concerns like that, please let us
5 know.

6 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Right. Yeah.
7 So I don't know if it's -- I did it
8 yesterday. I haven't heard back. I didn't
9 expect to hear anything, but I don't know.
10 But just maybe there's some glitch with the
11 system so...

12 All right. Anything else from Medicaid?
13 That's good information.

14 (No response.)

15 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: We'll hear more
16 on the 25th and hopefully soon on the mobile
17 crisis.

18 MCO updates? Aetna?

19 MS. HAM: Hey, can you hear me?
20 There's a lawn mowing company.

21 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yes.

22 MS. HAM: Okay. Well, this is
23 Courtney Ham from Aetna. I think I'm the
24 only one here from Aetna today. And I just
25 wanted to report that we are trying to

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participate in those conversations, so we did respond back. I responded again to the Doodle poll yesterday, so hopefully that'll get us together because some of our leadership wanted to join as well.

And that's about it for updates. We don't -- we have had, you know, a trickle of referrals and things like that. But we are excited to hear about all the movement with these waiver updates.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Thanks, Courtney.

Anthem?

MR. CROWLEY: Hey, Steve. Good morning. This is David Crowley with Anthem. We continue to work along with the reentry population with our dedicated case manager as well as our empowerment team, working with the SDoH needs.

And very few referrals since our last meeting. No issues to report. And like everyone else has mentioned, looking forward to the involvement with the 1115 feedback sessions.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Very good.

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Thank you, David.

MR. CROWLEY: Yep.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Any questions?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: This will be a better conversation if we actually have something to talk about, in my opinion.

MR. CROWLEY: Look forward to it.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yeah.

All right. Humana?

MS. BENDORF: Good morning, everyone. This is Kelly Bendorf from Humana. I just have a couple of quick updates regarding our reentry program. We also have a dedicated care manager who works with all those members that are returning to society, are designated who -- from the departments.

We also have had a slight decrease in our referrals over the last quarter. Quarter two, we actually had nine released members. And so far, in quarter three, we've only had six. So out of those six, we have successfully engaged two and then we received two last week. So we're still in the process of trying to outreach them and trying to get

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them engaged in our care management program.

We continue to look for opportunities just to kind of meet our members in the community. Like, I know I've mentioned several times before, we are field-based, so we would really like to be able to meet them where they're at in the community and help them reduce any barriers that they have.

And we're also participating in the interviews. I know we've set up a date, but I don't believe we've gotten invites either yet.

So that's it for my part of the reentry program. I'm going to pass it over to Leslie Clements to share some more updates from Humana.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Okay. Thank you.

MS. CLEMENTS: Thanks, Kelly. So as Kelly mentioned, we really do try to meet people where they are. So we've got several community health workers and also our community engagement team that has been attending several expungement clinics. We've also -- we've done that in Jessamine County.

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We've done that in Georgetown, Scott County.

And then we also have attended several resource fairs. We did that at the Blackburn Correctional Complex. They had a job and resource fair back in July. And we attended a similar research fair -- resource fair in August.

And then we really try to stay in constant contact with the Roederer and the women's correctional facilities to meet anybody that's going to be released in the next 30 days to make sure that they understand their options. So we really appreciate those opportunities.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Okay. Thank you.

What about Passport?

MS. YATES: Hello. I'm Nicole Yates, the AVP of growth and community engagement. Are we able to share -- may I share my screen?

MS. BICKERS: Give me just a second, Nicole.

MS. YATES: Okay.

MS. BICKERS: Please make sure you

1 also email me your presentation.

2 MS. YATES: Okay. Will do. Thank
3 you.

4 MS. BICKERS: You should be good to
5 go.

6 MS. YATES: All right. I don't see
7 it but -- Michelle, are you sharing yet? Oh,
8 you know what? It's --

9 MS. BICKERS: My apologies. I made
10 you a cohost.

11 MS. YATES: It's Michelle Hughland
12 who will share. Sorry about that. I should
13 have made that clear.

14 MS. BICKERS: No worries.

15 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: All good. All
16 good.

17 MS. BICKERS: She should be able to
18 share now.

19 MS. YATES: All right. We just
20 wanted to talk a little bit about our --
21 we've been doing reentry programs as well,
22 expungement clinics at our one-stop health
23 centers that we have in Bowling Green,
24 Hazard, Covington, Lexington, and Owensboro.

25 And so last quarter, we were able to

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help 122 folks, and we now have them coming up again in October that we're doing. You can see the dates here. And then Owensboro in November.

And then we've collaborated with all of these folks -- with lots of folks at the top, the legal aid and then, of course, Team Kentucky and more organizations. We've just been putting the word out. We have some flyers. We put the word out at all of our -- with all of our COBs and FBOs so -- CBOs and FBOs.

And then here, we're going to be doing on site at all of these locations coming up as well, and so we're looking forward to continuing our work with the expungement reentry clinics that we're doing.

And we will send this slide over to you guys as well. Any questions?

(No response.)

MS. YATES: Thank you for the opportunity.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Thank you.

United?

(No response.)

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CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Maybe they
couldn't join us today. Let's go on to
WellCare.

MS. MCFALL: Hey, there. This is
Paula McFall with WellCare. And we have --
as of 8/1, we have a new partnership with an
organization called Wayspring who are able to
be more in the field for us, meeting people
with SUD in residential treatment facilities.

And we're hopeful to meet with Christi
Sorrell with the Department of Corrections to
talk about how maybe Wayspring's personnel
could meet with the members who are getting
ready to leave incarceration. So that's --
that's something that we would really love to
have happen.

We also have had very few referrals.
We've had 16 total in quarter one and two.
We have regional care managers. So we don't
have dedicated case managers for this
population, but that's something we can
consider. So just letting you know that
we're trying to help with whatever these
folks need when they are released. Thanks.

MS. PORTER: Paula, do you need me

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to connect you with Christi, or do you
already have that --

MS. MCFALL: I sent her an email.
It was just this morning.

MS. PORTER: Okay. No. That's --

MS. MCFALL: So I will let you
know. Thank you.

MS. PORTER: Okay. I was just --
if you need any help with that, you just let
me know.

MS. MCFALL: All right. Sounds
great.

MS. MILBURN: Yeah. This is Liz
Milburn from United. I'm sorry. I was
having sound issues before. I'm the clinical
program manager for the behavioral health
case management. I'm relatively new to this
space, and I'm looking forward to partnering
with all you.

Just a quick update. We've only had one
referral since the last meeting. We have a
case manager that is actively outreaching
that member. But, again, looking forward to
the collaboration with all of you.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Thank you, Liz,

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and welcome. Glad you're here.

MS. MILBURN: Yeah. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Anything else?
Any questions for the MCOs? Glad they
participate so...

Round robin member updates? I added
one. Medicaid eligibility post-release. And
this is just information sharing. I continue
to hear challenges with this. Regularly,
folks I know who are out in the field, CMHC
staff primarily, they struggle with Medicaid
eligibility.

They go online. The person says it's
eligible. They check the website. The
individual has done what they need to do.
And then quite often, when they provide
services, those claims are denied because the
person is still listed as incarcerated
someplace.

So I know we've talked about this a lot,
but it continues to be a problem for folks
who are returning, leaving facilities. And
they're just -- you know, and, ultimately, it
gets resolved. The person is getting
services, but it's just not nearly as smooth

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as folks believe or have been led to believe it would be.

At one point, we were told it was three to five days, and there's people who are just -- you know, they're waiting to get services, and claims get denied.

MS. HOFFMANN: Steve, this is Leslie. I don't necessarily have a lot to do with the APRA system or any of those pieces, but I can get help. If you have a member that needs help, you know, if you can send me the information, I'll work on it ASAP, which I've done in the past. Me or Leigh Ann will make that happen for you.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Okay. And, typically, you know, I hear this from folks who hear it from their staff. But I will reach out, and I'll share that information, that when they have this problem, to -- if they contact me, I can get it to you, or they can contact you directly; right?

MS. HOFFMANN: Yeah. They can just send me an email and just, you know, label it incarceration eligibility, you know, something like that, so I'll recognize it.

1 Have you noticed or have you heard, are
2 we having more problems while we've been
3 going through unwinding, or is it just in
4 general, just the regular problems that
5 you've had in the past? I haven't had --
6 it's been a couple of months before I've had
7 any cases, and I think I had three cases in
8 one month. So it kind of -- it kind of comes
9 and goes, it feels like.

10 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yeah. It's -- I
11 don't think it's related to the unwinding.

12 MS. HOFFMANN: Okay.

13 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: That's not what
14 folks have said. I mean, it could very well
15 be.

16 MS. HOFFMANN: Yeah.

17 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: But, again, you
18 know, I have a monthly KARP meeting, and it
19 comes up in conversation from -- and, you
20 know, CEOs hear it from staff, so I really
21 get it at that level.

22 MS. HOFFMANN: Yeah.

23 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: I will reach out
24 to CEOs and let them know when they hear it,
25 to either contact you directly or send --

1 MS. HOFFMANN: Yeah. Just make
2 sure they label -- you know, times are --
3 calendars are crazy right now and email --

4 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yeah.

5 MS. HOFFMANN: So just make sure
6 you label it. I don't even care if you put
7 emergency. That's fine.

8 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yeah. It
9 just -- you know.

10 MS. HOFFMANN: Okay.

11 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: I mean, a lot of
12 times, it was they had to go to DCBS office,
13 and we figured that out. But now there's
14 some other problem, and it just --

15 MS. SPARROW: So I think, Steve,
16 that's important, and that's some of the
17 discussions -- right? -- that we want to have
18 in some of these focus groups and some of
19 these interviews.

20 And so we -- I think, again, if we can
21 get to the -- like you said, the
22 boots-on-the-ground folks that are
23 actually -- it's kind of hearsay -- right? --
24 that there's the issues. But they can really
25 speak to the actual -- the process that

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they're going through and needing to go through.

Again, we can look at another group interview to kind of walk through that from the provider's perspective. But, again, obviously, that's going to be a very key piece to the 1115 reentry initiative. And that's part of -- we'll do the mapping and some of that -- the process with eligibility.

And then, again, we'd need from the provider side of things as well what that looks like because we -- it's a continuing issue. And, obviously, we need to have that. That will be part of the 1115 initiatives to address. You know, that has to be addressed. We have to have that.

And so, again, that will be part of more the planning down the road, but we definitely need to have, you know, some of that ahead of time. So, again, important. Those are the kind of questions and things that we'll need in those interviews.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yeah. And I've shared with folks. You know, once this happens, there's actually eligibility prior

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to leaving. They'll get some services.
Hopefully, that helps address this problem as well; right?

MS. SPARROW: That's correct. That is -- that's the intent, is that -- for those individuals, the -- they are already Medicaid eligible and active and receiving services prior to. So yes, that's -- but, again, I think we have to address where -- through the current process --

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Right.

MS. SPARROW: -- in order to ensure that that's even happening prior to. So -- but that is -- that'll be a big component in certainly things that we'll need to hear in those discussions.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: All right.
Great. Thank you.

All right. Other folks? Other members, any issues you want to raise, you need to raise?

MR. INGRAM: Just a couple of announcements, Steve. Later today at 1:00, Senate Bill 90, the behavioral health dismissal program, we'll have our meeting to

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update on where we are and what we're doing. I know right now, we're up in Letcher, Clark, Madison, Christian, Hopkins, and Pulaski. I think with Davis, McCracken, and Greenup to come on soon.

On the 19th, Recovery Ready Communities Advisory Council will meet, and we hope to have three more applications approved at that meeting.

And, finally, the Opioid Abatement Commission is sponsoring a two-day open abatement summit at the Central Bank convention facility on October the 9th and 10th. If you go to the attorney general's website, you can find the information there. I would encourage anyone that would -- that can attend, to please do so.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: And that'll be Lexington; right?

MR. INGRAM: Right. Yeah.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: All right. Thank you, Van.

MS. DARCY: This is Angie Darcy from AOC. And just to update, just as was said before, we encourage everybody to attend

1 those town hall meetings that are -- I
2 believe that they're -- I believe that
3 they're published. But I can get you a list
4 if anybody needs the dates. And we have the
5 implementation council this afternoon.

6 We are working full force with our case
7 navigators, and we've actually -- for Senate
8 Bill 90, we've actually got some really
9 interesting data, I think, on the case
10 navigators and their touch points for
11 defendants and providers and -- so it's kind
12 of neat to see that in action.

13 And our hopes is -- we are working on a
14 solution for funding for the other five case
15 navigators. So we're hoping to get those --
16 those pilot sites out pretty soon. I think
17 that we should have resolved -- something
18 resolved in the next month or so with that
19 funding. So we're excited about getting
20 those up and running as well.

21 But Senate Bill 90 is going really,
22 really well --

23 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Good.

24 MS. DARCY: -- and it's been really
25 successful. And it's exciting to see people

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get help and get the services. So it's been a good experience.

MR. INGRAM: I failed to mention. Steve, that meeting is at AOC, open to the public. And I think there also is a Zoom link, isn't there, Angie?

MS. DARCY: There is. I can send that to you, Steve.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yeah. We can send it out.

MS. DARCY: Yep.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Can you tell us what case navigators do?

MS. DARCY: Yes. So case navigators are not case management, and I think that that is some of the confusion that we've had. They are people that help the -- their staff, and they're currently housed under pretrial services. And they are the person that helps the individual that is a participant navigate through the court process and also the case process, if that makes sense.

So we are the ones that talk to the defendants and tell them that they might be

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an eligible participant. And we talk to them about the program right when they get to court or when they're in jail. Mostly, it's been in court because a lot of these individuals have been released through our administrative release program.

So we get to them first thing when they have their very first court date. We talk to them. We're a very friendly face. We explain the program to them. We talk about the treatment options. We also talk about the other services that are offered. For example, if they need housing, that's something that case management can help them with.

Kentucky Adult Education can help them if they want to get some -- go to college or get a -- you know, for example, a lineman accreditation. We have somebody that actually just went through linemen school.

And so the case navigator actually helps them navigate through the case system and then keeps in touch with the behavioral health providers. They keep in touch with Kentucky Adult Education. They keep in touch

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with the prosecutor and the defense attorney just to make sure that the case is on track, if that makes sense.

Because what happens a lot of times with the court system and with these cases overall is they drop through -- they slip through the cracks. So the case navigator is the person that makes sure that nothing slips through the cracks. They are on top of everything.

If a need is identified by a defendant, then we will reach out to the behavioral health provider about case management and say, hey, this person has this need. Is that something that you can help them with? And we do a handoff there.

So we basically -- I would like to say that we're a very friendly face for the participant, and we're also helping with reporting and taking in all the data and making sure that everything -- we -- the case navigators ensure fidelity so -- and they've been -- I would say that -- and I think Van would agree. It's probably the one -- it's the glue that holds the program together.

MR. INGRAM: I think the success of

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this program is going to rest on this case navigator position.

MS. DARCY: Yeah.

MR. INGRAM: We can't take folks who -- that are in addiction or have severe behavioral health issues and expect them to know where to go, what to do, how to navigate all this by -- on their own. So as we've got this thing off the ground, this has just been very clear that this is a needed position.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yeah.

MS. DARCY: Yeah. And it's worked out wonderfully. We've only had, I believe -- I think that we've had 12 people that have been graduated from Senate Bill 90 or successfully completed it, and we've only had two people overall that have dropped out. And it's not because of -- it's just because they didn't have necessarily the strongest need for it.

They did complete some kind of treatment component. So, you know, in our eyes, even if they do complete something like that, that's still a success because it gives them another tool in the shed so...

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But we've been highly successful.
Everybody that has been in the program, we've never had one complaint that, ooh, this is too much. Ooh, we can't do this. Oh, this is overwhelming. Because that case navigator is helping them and talking them through it and giving them encouragement that they can get this done, that they can do this. And it's just -- it's a good, supportive piece.

It's not -- we have pretrial diversion programs with pretrial, and it's kind of similar except it's much more hands-on because of mental health and the substance use disorder needs.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yeah. And the real objective of Senate Bill 90 -- right, Van? -- is to get people into treatment. And if they participate in treatment, they are not involved in the criminal justice system -- right? -- or less involved?

MR. INGRAM: The purpose of the pilot, Steve, is we believe it will show that getting people services they need will lend to better outcomes than jail sentences where we play cards and sleep all day and never

1 address the issues that got us involved in
2 the criminal justice system to begin with.

3 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yeah. Yeah.

4 MR. INGRAM: So this is a four-year
5 pilot, so we -- and we believe that's what
6 the numbers will show when it's complete, our
7 fingers crossed anyway.

8 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yeah. Yeah.

9 And right now, these folks have been
10 successful in that; right? And this is just
11 the rollout phase. Soon we'll have -- is it
12 12 counties, Van?

13 MS. DARCY: Yes. 11 counties.

14 MR. INGRAM: 11.

15 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: 11 counties,
16 yeah.

17 MS. DARCY: We'll have 12 case
18 navigators total. But since Kenton is such a
19 big county, we're going to have two case
20 navigators for Kenton County.

21 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Very good. I
22 think it's a good thing.

23 MR. INGRAM: I think -- you know,
24 we're still learning, Steve. That's why you
25 do a pilot, to figure stuff out. And I think

1 this will be an evolving process as the next
2 couple of years go by.

3 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Right.

4 MS. DARCY: Yeah.

5 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yeah. Yeah.

6 Good deal.

7 MS. DARCY: All right. Thanks.

8 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Thanks.

9 Appreciate it.

10 Other members, any updates?

11 (No response.)

12 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Any future
13 agenda items you want included?

14 (No response.)

15 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Anybody else
16 have anything you'd like to add?

17 MR. INGRAM: We might think about
18 inviting one of the county attorneys or
19 judges that work with SB90 programs to come
20 on and talk about from -- from their
21 perspective, from the boots-on-the-ground
22 perspective.

23 CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Yeah. Can you
24 organize that, Van?

25 MR. INGRAM: I'll work -- Angie and

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I will work on that.

MS. DARCY: Yep. We'll get --
we'll work on it.

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: That would be
great, be good information.

All right. Anybody else, members or
not, have anything they'd like to share
before we wrap up?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN SHANNON: Okay. Our next
meeting, November 9th, 9:00 a.m.

Thank you all. Y'all have a great day.
Appreciate it.

(Meeting concluded at 9:42 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, SHANA SPENCER, Certified
Realtime Reporter and Registered Professional
Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing
typewritten pages are a true and accurate transcript
of the proceedings to the best of my ability.

I further certify that I am not employed
by, related to, nor of counsel for any of the parties
herein, nor otherwise interested in the outcome of
this action.

Dated this 6th day of October, 2023.

/s/ Shana W. Spencer

Shana Spencer, RPR, CRR