

Vermont Blueprint for Health Executive Committee Meeting

Facilitator: Dr. John Saroyan

Meeting Recorder: Kara Hooper

Date: November 21, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Thank You (John Saroyan)
Sarah Rosenblum, Deputy Director of Health Care Reform, AHS
Jessica Frost, Program Manager in St. Albans
Meghan Fuller, Interim Program Manager in Newport
Laura Hubbell, Hospice Director, Bayada Home Health Care
Nichole Bachand, Blueprint Administrative Assistant
2. Website Updates: Conventional, Complementary, and Alternative Medical Approaches document and Education and Training (John Saroyan)
3. Blueprint post All-Payer Model (John Saroyan)
4. My Healthy VT: Updates and Data Review (Rebecca O'Reilly, Melissa Southwick)
5. SASH Update Including Embedding Mental Health Supports (Kim Fitzgerald)
6. Leveraging Creative Partnerships to Address Workforce Challenges (Emmy Wollenburg; Kristine Reynolds, Director, Vermont Center for Resiliency; Laurel Gray Robbins, Assistant Director, Vermont Center for Resiliency)
7. Blueprint Manual Updates (Mara Donohue)

Executive Committee Member Attendees

Jessa Barnard, Deana Chase, Teri Closterman, Clarke Collins, Kelly Dougherty, Grace Gilbert-Davis, Devon Green, Lori Houghton, Pat Jones, Nicole Moran, Gretchen Pembroke, Lori Vadakin, Anje Van Berckelaer, Michelle Wade, Thom Walsh, Hillary Wolfley

Non-Committee Member Attendees

Lisa Delegato; Kim Fitzgerald; Connie Gavin; Michelle Farnsworth; Juli Krulewitz; Emmy Wollenburg; Todd Salvesvold; Laurel Gray Robbins; Ellen Talbert; Diana Gibbs; Sierra Bishop; Anthony Knox; Renee Weeks; Liz Genge; Aimil Parmelee; Michelle Martelle; Hannah Ancel; Kris Reynolds; Meredith Milligan; Eric Ruiz; Monique Thompson; Kathy Boyd; Stephanie LaFaso; Erin Aiken; Caitlin Descovich O'Hare; Tom Dougherty; Meghan Fuller; Kerry Sullivan; Sarah Rosenblum; Courtney O'Brien; Jessica Frost

Blueprint Central Office Staff Attendees

Addie Armstrong, Caleb Denton, Mara Donohue, Jennifer Herwood, Kara Hooper, Julie Parker, John M. Saroyan,

1. Welcome and Thank You (John Saroyan)

Sarah Rosenblum, Deputy Director of Health Care Reform, AHS

Jessica Frost, Program Manager in St. Albans

Meghan Fuller, Program Manager in Newport (Meghan moves from interim to permanent)

Laura Hubbell, Hospice Director, Bayada Home Health Care (Blueprint will be seeking a replacement for her on the Executive Committee.

Please send suggestions to John.)

Nichole Bachand, Blueprint Administrative Assistant. She has been a truly valuable member of our community.

2. Website Updates: CAM document and Education and Training (John Saroyan)

Conventional, Complementary, and Alternative Medical Approaches Document:

<https://blueprintforhealth.vermont.gov/document/integration-cam-approaches-mh-sud-treatment-2024> Please submit any comments to Monique Thompson (monique.thompson@partner.vermont.gov)

Education and Training: <https://blueprintforhealth.vermont.gov/about-blueprint/education-training> Thanks to Julie Parker, Kara Hooper, and Nichole Bachand for work on the site. Many exiting programs are underway.

3. Blueprint post All-Payer Model (John Saroyan)

After 9 years, the ACO model with OneCare is ending. There have been questions about the impact of this. Be assured that Blueprint programs will continue. The future of the Medicare payments resides with the AHEAD model, which is a multi-state model that arose, in part, out of the All-Payer model. We thank everyone for aligning with these goals and for all of your important work on behalf of Vermonters. If there are questions about OneCare, please feel free to direct those to OneCare. We'll keep you updated as developments occur.

4. My Healthy VT: Updates and Data Review (Rebecca O'Reilly, Melissa Southwick)

Slides are at: <https://blueprintforhealth.vermont.gov/document/my-healthy-vt-updates-and-data-review>

Vermont Department of Health Central Office provides administrative oversight of [My Healthy Vermont](#). MHVT manages six health-management programs accessed via the myhealthyvt.org website. The programs are free online to participants.

Workshops are evidence-based, meet user needs, and align with primary care goals.

Regional Coordinator roles have become more specialized to increase coordination and participation with PCMHs. Quit smoking workshops focus more on group activities rather than small seminars. A bump in Diabetes Prevention Program enrollments aligns with an advertising push. My Healthy Vermont is now in a better position to track participation from enrollment through completion. They are seeing impressive completion rates.

5. SASH (Support Services at Home) Update Including Embedding Mental Health Supports (Kim Fitzgerald, Liz Genge)

Slides are at: <https://blueprintforhealth.vermont.gov/document/sash-update-including-embedding-mental-health-supports>

SASH is improving outcomes and reducing expenses. 2023 data reveals that 85% of SASH participants have multiple health-related needs. 33% were considered socially isolated; 24% screen as lonely; and 9% rate as depressed.

SASH is collaborating with the Howard Center for counseling services. The program expanded to accommodate up to 20 panels across the state.

They are working on an annual wellness visit pilot to bring yearly health assessments into people's homes. They are hoping the AHEAD model will allow them to continue.

QUESTIONS

Is the program working with people in cognitive decline?

SASH is working with that population in the course of the work but it is not a focused program. They have a memory care facility in their portfolio where they can refer people. Washington, Orange, and Lamoille Counties had a home visit program but it has ended.

Are there plans to expand SASH to additional counties?

Orange County is working with DAIL for funding.

6. Leveraging Creative Partnerships to Address Workforce Challenges (Emmy Wollenburg; Kristine Reynolds, Director, Vermont Center for Resiliency; Laurel Gray Robbins, Assistant Director, Vermont Center for Resiliency)

Slides are at: <https://blueprintforhealth.vermont.gov/document/leveraging-creative-partnerships-address-workforce-challenges>

UVM and Vermont Center for Resiliency have embedded 8 mental health counselors in 6 practices in Chittenden and Addison Counties and are looking for 3 more. Feedback has been universally positive.

Why is this impactful from a billing standpoint? It allows clinicians to focus on client care. Payments are predictable so they can focus on quality of care and connecting with patients. Some administrative burden has been reduced for clinicians. Not having to worry about what type of insurance each client has is a phenomenal asset for access.

Practices have unique workflows related to this model based on needs and resources available at each one.

Weekly supervision individually and in groups has been a phenomenal benefit.

Great communication between the practices and the Blueprint

Are struggling to hire folks who are local to the communities so are exploring telehealth opportunities.

Are advocating for continued funding to maintain this innovative staffing practice. The need is there. They want it to continue.

QUESTIONS

Lisa Delgato: Is there data to determine if ED visits and other metrics went down? This would be helpful for the state for continuing funding.

Saroyan: There is data, and the Blueprint evaluations through MDR and Medicasoft are on our list of deliverables. There are some amazing quotes from people who have benefitted from this work.

Thank you all for the work and contributions you have been making.

7. Blueprint Manual Updates (Mara Donohue)

Revised (second revision) of the Manual is posted on the website. Within the next 2 weeks please submit any additional revisions you have. We will be posting the updated manual in December. <https://blueprintforhealth.vermont.gov/document/blueprint-manual-november-2024-draft>

Wrap-Up

Thank you all for the amazing work you are doing throughout the state. We are getting tremendous and positive feedback about the Expansion. We are so privileged to work on these issues.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Next meeting: Jan. 16, 2025.