
Commission on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder

Sub-Committees and Associated Workgroups

The subcommittees outlined below are aligned with 394.9086 Florida Statutes and with the duties of the Commission. Membership includes commissioners appointed to the Commission by the Governor, Speaker of the Florida House Representatives and the President of the Florida Senate, and subject matter experts from various disciplines within the behavioral health field and associated agencies across the State of Florida.

Subcommittee chairs were appointed by the Commission Chair and serve at the pleasure of the Chair and have been provided the authority to identify and examine current methods, practices, and procedures of providing behavioral health care and to make recommendations to the full commission that will improve the effectiveness of the service delivery and outcomes for those receiving behavioral health services. The Chairs formed workgroups comprised of subject matter experts from various disciplines to provide assistance with accomplishing these tasks. Workgroup members are not required to be a member of the full commission but must be subject matters experts in their respective fields and be willing to lend their expertise to enhancing preexisting services and supports, and to research innovative tools and ideas that may transform the behavioral healthcare system. Eleven workgroups have been formed to assist the subcommittees. These workgroups and their respective memberships are identified below.

- **Finance Subcommittee: Senator Darryl Rouson (2 workgroups)**
- **Children and Youth Subcommittee: Representative Christine Hunschofsky (3 workgroups)**
- **System of Care Subcommittee: Shevaun Harris (3 workgroups)**
- **Access to Care Subcommittee: Clara Reynolds (3 workgroups)**
- **Data Analysis Subcommittee: Kathleen Moore (0 workgroups)**

Finance Subcommittee:

1. **Opioid Settlement Workgroup:** Review State Plan for use of Opioid Settlement funding and collect and present data informing recommendations that may be suggested by the Subcommittee for optimization of funds to effectively promote prevention and recovery within the settlement requirements.

Workgroup Members Include: *Final membership not complete*

Name	Agency
Natalie Kelly (Co-Chair)	Florida Association of Managing Entities
Jeff Cece (Co-chair)	DCF/SAMH
Jeanette Cherubini	DCF/SAMH
Melanie Brown-Woofter	Florida Behavioral Health Association
Christi Anderson	DCF/SAMH

2. **Workforce Workgroup:** Review and evaluate the current behavioral health workforce in Florida and collect and present data informing recommendations that may be suggested by the Subcommittee for optimizing that workforce.

Workgroup Members Include: *Final membership not complete*

Name	Agency
Melanie Brown-Woofter (Chair)	Florida Behavioral Health Association
Nickie Zenn	FMHI-University of South Florida
Thomas Wallace	Agency for Health Care Administration
Chris Cogle	Agency for Health Care Administration
Maria Bledsoe	Central Florida Care Health System
Natalie Kelly	Florida Association of Managing Entities
Sandy Whittaker	LifeView Group, Inc.

Children and Youth Behavioral Health Subcommittee:

- Behavioral Health Outcomes Workgroup:** Review currently utilized Behavioral Health Outcome measures for children and youth and present data informing Subcommittee recommendations regarding those or other measures.

Workgroup Members Include: *Final membership not complete*

Name	Agency
Alan Davidson (Chair)	Central Florida Behavioral Health Network
Leslie Lynch	Chrysalis Health
Theresa Rulien	Child Guidance Center
Lizette Tabares	Broward Behavioral Health Coalition

- Behavioral Health Funding Mechanisms in Schools Workgroup:** Gather and present data to be used by the Subcommittee in developing recommendations for optimizing behavioral health funding in schools.

Workgroup Members Include: *Final membership not complete*

Name	Agency
Andrew Weatherill	Florida Department of Education
Peggy Aune	Florida Department of Education
Natalie Kelly	Florida Association of Managing Entities
Tom Wallace	Agency for Health Care Administration

- Family Access and Entry Workgroup:** Gather and present data to be used by the Subcommittee in developing recommendations for enhancing and optimizing family access to behavioral healthcare.

Workgroup Members Include: *Final membership not complete*

Name	Agency
Commissioner Larry Rein	ChildNet
Julie Smythe	Sunshine Health
Andrew Weatherill	Agency for Health Care Administration
Silvia Quintana	Broward Behavioral Health Coalition
Maria Bledsoe	Central Florida Cares Health System
Steven Ronik	Henderson Behavioral Health

System of Care Subcommittee:

- Skills-based Training Workgroup:** Gather data that will allow the Subcommittee to evaluate and make recommendations regarding skills-based training that teaches participants about mental health and substance use issues, including, but not limited to, mental health first aid models.

Workgroup Members Include: *Final membership not complete*

Name	Agency
Melanie Brown-Woofter (Chair)	Florida Behavioral Health Association
Ute Gazioch	Florida Behavioral Health Association
Jennifer Johnson	Florida Behavioral Health Association
Lisa Medcalf	Apalachee Center
Nichole Sharbono	SMA Health Care

7. **Individuals With Unique Needs Workgroup:** Gather data concerning the availability and accessibility of behavioral health services and present data informing recommendations that may be suggested by the Subcommittee to address the needs of the elderly population and persons with disabilities.

Workgroup Members Include: *Final membership not complete*

Name	Agency
Christine Cauffield (Chair)	Lutheran Services Florida
Waqas Ahmed	American Telephysicians
Terri Barton	Aging True
Jennifer Martinez	Marion Senior Services
Captain Chris Hickman	Ocala Fire and Rescue
Doug Adkins	Dayspring Village

8. **Deep-end Services Workgroup:** Collect and present data concerning the utilization of deep-end services such as residential and state mental health treatment facilities and including FACT Team capacity statewide, which data may be used to inform recommendations regarding these services that may be suggested by the Subcommittee.

Workgroup Members Include: *Final membership not complete*

Name	Agency
Roaya Tyson (Chair)	Gracepoint Wellness
Tracy Smith	Gracepoint Wellness
Amanda Chandler	Apalachee Center
Mary Mayhew	Florida Hospital Association
Charlene Zein	Sunshine Health
Ute Gazioch	Florida Behavioral health Association
Stephen Lord	Circles of Care
Patricia Medlock	DCF/OCS
Tonya Dix	Circles of Care

Access to Care Subcommittee:

9. **Barriers to Utilization Workgroup:** Gather data concerning any barriers to service utilization and access created by stigma or public fear of seeking behavioral health services that may be used by the Subcommittee to inform recommendations to address public confusion on available service choices.

Workgroup Members Include: *Final membership not complete*

Name	Agency
Gayle Giese (Chair)	Florida Mental Health Advocacy Coalition
Commissioner Lee Fox	David Lawrence Center
Jorge Passalacqua	Substance Abuse and Mental Health-DCF
Nikki Wotherspoon	Substance Abuse and Mental Health-DCF
Carrie Zeisse	Tampa Bay Thrives
Amy McClellan	Florida Mental Health Advocacy Coalition
Emil Caron	LaAmistad Orlando/FLMHAC
Jennifer Johnson	Florida Behavioral Health Association

Alexandra Martinez	Community Support Services Crisis Center
Nancy O'Farrell	NAMI Tallahassee/FLMHAC
Caren Howard	MHA National/FLMHAC
Mike Martin	211-NW FL United Way
Nicole Friedman	Footprint to Success Clubhouse
Ken Gibson	Crisis Center of Tampa Bay

10. **Solutions to Barriers Workgroup:** Gather data that will allow the Subcommittee to recommend possible solutions to the identified obstacles to accessing care, potentially including marketing campaigns to promote the resources that are available including 988.

Workgroup Members Include: *Final membership not complete*

Name	Agency
Ken Gibson (Chair)	Crisis Center of Tampa Bay
Commissioner Lee Fox	David Lawrence Center
Richard Shutes	Jewish Community Services
Kay Meyer	211 Big Bend
Jose Serrano	211 Broward
Marilyn Ricci	NAMI
Carali McLean	NAMI
Sharanda Sipe	Intercoastal Healthcare Consulting/NAMI
Jennifer Johnson	Florida Behavioral Health Association
Lindsay Brown	Florida Behavioral Health Association
Trinity Schwab	Central Florida Cares Health System
Amy McClellan	Florida Mental Health Advocacy Coalition
Sgt. Craig Brandon	Charlotte County Sheriff's Office
Stephen Prestesater	United Way of West Florida
Carrie Zeisse	Tampa Bay Thrives
Amy Hood	Charlotte CBHC

11. **Acute Care Transport Options Workgroup:** Gather data that will allow the Subcommittee to recommend options outside of law enforcement for transporting clients under the Baker and Marchman Acts.

Workgroup Members Include: *Final membership not complete*

Name	Agency
John Mikula (Chair)	Crisis Center of Tampa Bay
Commissioner William Prummell	Charlotte County Sheriff's Office
Silvia Quintana	Broward Behavioral Health Coalition
John Mikula	Crisis Center of Tampa Bay
Marilyn Ricci	NAMI
Alexandra Martinez	Community Support Services Crisis Center

Data Analysis Subcommittee:

No Subgroups were formed for this Subcommittee.