

CSB Attendees: Adrienne Abbate (new member), Ahmed Jamil (virtual), Cheryle Hinds-Leslie, Joanne Siegel (new member), Jun Matsuyoshi, Lourdes Reyes-Martinez (new member), Roberto Lewis-Fernandez, Sarah Church, Sidney Hankerson, Stephanie LeMelle (zoom)

Action items/ Resources from DOHMH:

- Find out more about [HealthyNYC](#):
 - [Sign-up](#) to express your support for the campaign and receive more information about becoming a HealthyNYC Champion
 - [Amplify](#) HealthyNYC on social media.
 - Please share HealthyNYC throughout your community and partner engagement efforts

Call to Order: 2:04 PM

Welcome Remarks

- Deepa Avula, the Executive Deputy Commissioner (EDC) of the Division of Mental Hygiene (DMHy) at the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC DOHMH), welcomed Community Services Board (CSB) members and guests.
- Dr. Hankerson led new member introductions for Adrienne Abbate, Joanne Siegel, and Lourdes Reyes-Martinez.

DOHMH and Bureau Updates

- Deepa Avula invited Bureau leadership in the Division of Mental Hygiene to provide updates, namely Jamie Neckles, Assistant Commissioner (AC) of the Bureau of Mental Health (BMH); Marnie Davidoff, AC of the Bureau for Children, Youth and Families (CYF); Shivani Mantha, Acting AC of the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Use, Prevention, Care, and Treatment (BADUPCT); Jade McLee and Kristila Brace, co-Acting ACs of the Bureau of Health Promotion for Justice-Impacted Populations (HPJIP);, and Janice Chisholm, AC of the Bureau of Community Awareness, Action, Response, and Engagement (BCAARE).
 - In response to a question from CSB member Roberto Lewis-Fernandez, Jamie Neckles elaborated on efforts to connect housing service recipients to employment, education, and club house services, which are also being expanded.
 - In response to a question from CSB member Stephanie LeMelle regarding Single Point of Access, Jamie Neckles clarified that while housing applications are processed via the NYC Department of Social Services, referrals to services are communicated with clients via the referring provider.
 - In response to questions from Joanne Siegel and several other CSB members regarding the Youth Virtual Mental Health Initiative, Marnie Davidoff and Deepa Avula clarified that:
 - Clinicians inform youth about the requirement for parental consent and follow the rules set by NYS mental hygiene law, including waiving consent under special circumstances.
 - Youth receive one synchronous video visit monthly and unlimited asynchronous communication with licensed therapists.
 - The Division is actively working to raise awareness about mental health in different cultures, including through parent webinars, information sessions, and using Teenspace data to conduct intentional outreach.
 - The Division is working closely with NYC Public Schools to promote services and held a webinar for school personnel to raise awareness and provide information on accessing services.
 - The Division can arrange webinars and talks with specific communities including for people with physical and developmental disabilities,

- In response to questions from CSB members Adrienne Abbate and Sarah Church, Deepa Avula described the goal of Overdose Prevention Centers (OPCs) and the new OPC guidelines and shared that due to the absence of state and federal action on OPCs, DOHMH currently has no plans to open additional OPCs.
 - She also clarified that community engagement is a major component of the program and guidelines.
- In response to a question from CSB member Sarah Church regarding the presence of Nitazenes (a form of opioids), Shivani Mantha described the close collaboration with the NYC Chief Medical Examiner's office to detect and preemptively act on novel substances appearing in mortality/surveillance data and added that Nitazenes were not included in the current overdose report as they were not detected in 2022.

CSB Discussion on Mental Health Key Indicators

- Jamie Neckles led the board in discussing mental health key indicators from 2018-2022 in NYC.
 - In response to a question from CSB Member Roberto Lewis-Fernandez, Jamie Neckles clarified that there have been declines in adult psychiatric hospital admissions across all races, although there are relatively higher rates of admissions among those who identify as Black and/or Latino. Roberto also noted that hospitalizations seem to be decreasing while suicide rates remain flat, and Sarah Church noted that overall hospital admission rates have declined since the pandemic.
 - In response to a question from CSB member Jun Matsuyoshi, Jamie Neckles shared the growth trend in the proportion of people choosing peer support in NYCWell calls from 2018-2022 via warm transfer. She noted however that the overall majority of callers still chose to speak with a counselor.
 - Jun also appreciated that NYC mobile crisis teams remained active during the pandemic because providers did not want to send people to the psychiatric emergency rooms.
 - In response to a question from Sidney Hankerson, Jamie responded that the functions and capabilities of NYC 988 are similar to the former NYCWell call center.

CSB Discussion on Payment and Reimbursement Reform

- The discussion on payment and reimbursement reform was deferred to the next meeting due to time limitations.

Additional Comments & Wrap Up

- Dr. Hankerson advised the NYC DOHMH to support CSB members discussing youth and teen mental health in the 2024 Q1 CSB meeting and adjourned the meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 3:30 PM