

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

JOINT LEGISLATIVE PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL REVIEW COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting

October 28, 2021

10:00 A.M., SHR 1

This meeting will be held via teleconference software.

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting here:

<https://www.azleg.gov/videoplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2021101013>

Members Present:

Senator Nancy Barto, Co-Chair
Senator Victoria Steele
Dr. Aaron Bowen
Deborah Geesling
Josh Mozell

Representative Beverly Pingerelli, Co-Chair*
Representative Kelli Butler
Dr. Carol Olson*
Jami Snyder
Judge Lisa VandenBerg

*Participated remotely via a teleconference platform.

Staff:

Michael Madden, Senate Research Analyst
Rachel Caldwell, Senate Assistant Research Analyst
Emily Bonner, House Research Analyst

Co-Chair Barto called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. and attendance was taken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Senator Barto stated that without objection, the Joint Legislative Psychiatric Hospital Review Council minutes of October 20, 2021 were approved as distributed.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Senator Barto distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Potential Paths Forward" (Attachment A).

PRESENTATION

"Behavioral Health Funding Overview", Patrick Moran, Assistant Director, JLBC

Patrick Moran, Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC), distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Behavioral Health Funding Overview" (Attachment B).

The Council discussed and shared their comments of the presentation mentioned above.

Mr. Moran answered questions posed by the Council.

VIDEO PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION

Josh Mozell introduced three videos and stated that the videos came out of a study that Arizona State University (ASU) produced in concert with the Association for the Chronically Mentally ill.

"What is Chronic Mental Illness?"

"Cost Savings with Permanent Supportive Housing for Individuals with Chronic Mental Illness"

"Improving Care and Reducing Costs for Individuals with Chronic Mental Illness"

As noted on the video presentation, research findings can be found at www.morrisoninstitute.asu.edu.

Mr. Mozell discussed the videos presented and the cost associated with helping the seriously mentally ill (SMI).

DISCUSSION ON CLINICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF SMI POPULATION

Dr. Carol Olson gave an overview of the process and issues dealing with the care of the chronically mentally ill and answered questions posed by the Council.

Holly Gieszl, Attorney, representing self, discussed the 55-bed limit at the Arizona State Hospital (ASH) and the process hospitals use to admit the SMI.

FAMILY EXPERIENCES

Phyllis Quintana, representing self, participated remotely via a teleconference platform, shared her son's experience of not receiving continuing mental health services and their experiences with ASH.

Evelia Davis, representing self, participated remotely via a teleconference platform, shared her son's experience of not receiving continuing mental health services and their experiences with ASH.

Janine Miller, representing self, shared her son's experience of not receiving continuing mental health services and their experiences with ASH.

Sommer Walter, representing self, shared her brother's experience of not receiving continuing mental health services and their experiences with ASH.

Kathy Roe, representing self, shared her daughter's experience of not receiving continuing mental health services and their experiences with ASH.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Senator Barto called for Council discussion.

Debra Geesling thanked those who shared their experiences and discussed the lack of care from the state for people who cannot care for themselves and the frustration felt by the families.

Representative Butler asked the Council what resources is the system lacking and discussed the funding in the budget.

The Council discussed their concerns and offered comment on the items discussed.

Ms. Gieszl expressed her concern with oversight and accountability at the Arizona State Hospital.

NEXT STEPS

Senator Barto thanked the Council for their time and announced the next meeting would be held on Wednesday, November 10th at 1 p.m.

Attached are forms noting the individuals who submitted a Speaker slip on the agenda items (Attachment C).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey Gardner
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments are on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)