

A photograph of a woman with dark hair smiling broadly and kissing a young girl on the cheek. They are outdoors in a grassy area with trees in the background. The image is overlaid with a teal geometric pattern on the right side.

Listening Tour 2.0

Co-hosted by the Local Governing Entities and
Office of Behavioral Health, Louisiana Department of Health

Provider Agenda

- Purpose
- Peer Support Services
- Prevention Initiatives
- Health Plan Updates
- Training Initiatives
- Substance Use Disorder/Opioid Initiatives
- 0-5 Early Childhood Services
- Crisis Services
- Discussion

Purpose

- Provide information and updates on behavioral health supports, services and related initiatives
- Get feedback on community priorities related to behavioral health

Peer Support Services

Louisiana remains committed to the use of Peers within its service delivery system, having trained 546 individuals as Peer Support Specialists (PSS) since the inception of the program in 2008. There are 303 currently active PSS.

OBH is working on the development of a plan for enhancing the utilization of Peers and implementing a more robust Peer Certification process. To date, the following activities have occurred:

- Focus groups throughout the state, obtaining a peer perspective on what they would like to see in a certification program for Peer Support Specialists
- Interviews with multiple states, discussing their PSS programs and the certification process they work under
- Engaged a Peer consultant who will help Louisiana develop programming to meet our needs

OBH welcomes your feedback on how and where the use of Peers could best be utilized.

Prevention Initiatives

- **PAX Good Behavior Game® (PAX GBG)** is a powerful evidence-based practice, consisting of proven instructional and behavioral health strategies used daily by teachers and students in the classroom to improve classroom behavior and academics, and to improve self-regulation and co-regulation with peers.
- **Generation RX** is an opioid specific program designed to promote medication safety and prevent prescription drug misuse by educating people about the dangers of medication misuse and includes 7 modules with a focus on elementary, teen, college, adults, patients, seniors and workplace populations.
- OBH, through Local Governing Entities, partners with the Department of Education to implement **Evidence-Based curricula programs** in preschools, elementary, middle and high schools statewide.

Health Plan Updates

- Department of Health to seek emergency contracts for Medicaid health plans
 - LDH announced that it is moving to implement emergency contracts with the five health plans that are currently under contract to serve the state's 1.5 million Medicaid recipients.
 - This will ensure that Medicaid enrollees and the providers who serve them have continuity when the current contracts expire at the end of the year.
- Credentialing Verification Organization (CVO)
 - Verisys has been selected as the single provider credentialing and enrollment entity for the Medicaid program. Once implemented, providers will credential with Verisys, rather than having to credential with each Medicaid health plan separately.

Training Initiatives

- OBH is planning a series of provider trainings to offer opportunities to increase knowledge and skills necessary to deliver quality community-based services.
- Training topics will include, but are not limited to:
 - Crisis Intervention
 - Person-Centered Service Delivery
 - Cultural Competency
 - Community Integration - My Choice
 - Supported Employment
 - Peer Services

Substance Use Disorder/Opioid Initiatives

- Louisiana's Opioid Response Plan 2019
(<http://ldh.la.gov/assets/opioid/LaOpioidResponsePlan2019.pdf>)
- LDH's strategy to combat the opioid crisis focuses on better prevention, treatment, recovery services and data.
 - Goal 1 - Improve data analytics and surveillance to allow focused response activities
 - Goal 2 - Prevent opioid addiction through education, outreach and awareness
 - Goal 3 - Enhance intervention and rescue activities to prevent deaths
 - Goal 4 - Increase quality of and access to treatment for Opioid Use Disorder
 - Goal 5 - Provide effective recovery support services

Substance Use Disorder/Opioid Initiatives

- **Syringe Service Programs (SSP)**
 - SSPs are proven, effective community-based prevention programs providing a range of services, including access to and disposal of sterile syringes, vaccination, testing, and linkage to infectious disease care and substance use treatment.
 - New SSP users are 5x more likely to enter drug treatment, about 3x more likely to stop using drugs than those who don't, and are associated with a 50% reduction in HIV and HCV incidence. Combined with Medication Assisted Treatment, HIV and HCV transmission is reduced by more than 2/3.
 - The decision to incorporate SSPs as part of a comprehensive prevention program is made at the local level. In Louisiana, ordinances have been passed in Baton Rouge, New Orleans, and Shreveport that allow SSPs. Organizations have stepped up to operate SSPs in each city.

Substance Use Disorder/Opioid Initiatives

- Hepatitis C
 - With 39,000 Medicaid and Dept. of Corrections patients diagnosed with hepatitis C, LDH and DOC are implementing a comprehensive public health campaign and model to eliminate hepatitis C by 2024.
 - The model includes strategies to ensure expanded provider capacity, screening, linkage, surveillance, public education, and treatment. It is made possible by modified subscription payment model providing unrestricted supplies of Epclusa for Medicaid beneficiaries and those incarcerated for 5 years.
 - Already started for the Medicaid population on 7/15/19, the state also plans expansion to non-Medicaid/DOC population, with a goal for LDH to treat over 10,000 Medicaid and incarcerated individuals by the end of 2020.

Substance Use Disorder/Opioid Initiatives

- Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) Expansion
- Methadone Coverage
- LODSS (<https://lodss.ldh.la.gov/>)
- Shatterproof - an 18-month pilot to develop a quality measurement system of SUD providers
 - Goal is to increase consumer awareness with online public-facing information about SUD providers.
 - Anticipated go-live date is mid-2020.

0-5 Early Childhood Services

- OBH is investing in expanding access to EBPs in behavioral health.
- OBH has stood up the “Center for Evidence to Practice” at LSUHSC to support training and implementation.
- First efforts focused on programs serving young children (0-5)
 - Child Parent Psychotherapy (CPP)
 - Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)
 - Preschool PTSD Treatment (PPT)
- “New” EBPs have Louisiana Medicaid definitions and tracking codes.
- More information:
 - Medicaid BH Services Manual <https://www.lamedicaid.com/provweb1/Providermanuals/manuals/BHS/BHS.pdf>
 - LA Center for Evidence to Practice <https://laevidencetopractice.com/>

Crisis Services

LDH is working on the development of a crisis system of care consistent with national standards.

LDH intends to develop a statewide model for crisis response that maintains regional and geographic relevance and builds upon the unique and varied strengths, resources, and needs of Louisiana's individual communities.

The following are the proposed crisis services:

- 24/7 Single-Point-of-Entry Crisis Line/Crisis Hub
- Mobile Crisis Teams
- Crisis Stabilization Walk-in “Drop Off” Centers
- In Home/Community Brief Crisis Support (Non-bed)
- Bed-Based Crisis Intervention
- Peer Support Services

Are there recommendations for services or other considerations for implementation?

Resources

Local Governing Entities (LGEs)

<http://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/directory/category/321>

Office of Behavioral Health

<http://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/subhome/10>

Medicaid – Healthy Louisiana

<http://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/subhome/48>

Submit additional comments and questions to

ldhlistens@la.gov

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628 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

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Discussion

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Thank you for your participation.

Additional comments and questions can be sent to
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