

Special Health Services (SHS) Family Advisory Council (FAC) Meeting May 8, 2021

Attendance:	
Guest Speakers	
Family Advisory Council Members	Sarah Carlson, Alakiir Nhial, Joe Liccini, and Jessica Howling Wolf
SHS Division Staff	Kimberly Hruby, Heather Kapella, Tina Feigitsch, Danielle Hoff, Jaime Conmy, and Amy Burke
Welcome and Introductions	The Special Health Services (SHS) Division Director, Kimberly Hruby, provided a warm welcome and relayed appreciation for the time devoted from the Family Advisory Council (FAC). Introductions from the council were made.
Last Meeting Follow-Up and Approval of Minutes	<p>Kim reviewed the agenda items for the meeting and reviewed the action items that required follow-up from the January 2021 meeting.</p> <p>Minutes from the January 2021 meeting were reviewed, and Kimberly asked for a recommendation to approve the minutes. Sarah motioned to accept the minutes. Joe seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried to accept the meeting minutes as written.</p>
Medical Advisory Meeting Update	<p>Kim highlighted the main topics that were reviewed during the Medical Advisory meeting. These highlights included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHS is not getting mandatory reportable conditions reported, so Amy inquired the MAC about this issue. Dr. Connell suggested Amy reach out to Sanford and have them add in the ICD-10 codes into the HIN. • Much of the discussion from the MAC was geared around the pandemic. Kodi Pinks also presented great data regarding pediatric mental health. Dr. Connell discussed that mental health may potentially get worse before it gets better; the Pediatric Mental Health Access Grant allows for consultation for PCPs to have access to a pediatric psychologist, psychiatrist, and a neuropsychologist to ask questions. Family Voices is offering centralized care coordination for this. It would be the hope that this coordination shows a benefit and will be offered for other conditions as well.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The kids that SHS are seeing have insurance and the conditions we are paying the most on are not necessarily the conditions with the most kids. Therefore, the coverage is inadequate for many children. • A suggestion to use a HIPAA-compliant text messaging to remind families of their application for the Financial Coverage Program to address the issue of SHS being unable to connect with referred families.
<p>Legislative and Budget Updates/Discussion</p>	<p>Kim reviewed legislative items that passed and were impactful to SHS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHS was asked to make some general state fund reductions for this next biennium when submitting their budget. The Fetal Alcohol Syndrome program contract, which is around \$350,000 was put out on the table as a reduction from SHS as there were limited areas where we could make that cut. As this went through legislative session, the legislation made the decision to restore this. • HB 1247 passed which will merge the DoH and DHS. This merge is in the very early stages of planning and leaders from both organizations are involved. Dr. Connell added that leadership will be looking at other states who have a combined DoH and DHS to develop best practices. It is the hope that this will be a beneficial integration. It will be important for families to advocate if they feel things are being compromised as the patient needs to come first. Staff will keep families updated as they learn more. • The DHS budget was watched closely as SHS utilizes their payment system (MMIS) to pay claims. There was as an increase added to the provider reimbursement rates. • Autism services may be implemented, so SHS is paying close attention to those changes as well. • Early Childhood will be moved out of the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to DHS, which will hopefully bring the opportunity for more collaboration. • SHS has a meeting with DHS to discuss why certain services are not being covered by the EPSDT program and SHS is having to gap fill for those services. • SHS has been paying a large amount of money towards continuous glucose monitors (CGMs). This was brought to legislation for NDMA to begin covering these monitors. This did pass, so North Dakota Medicaid (NDMA) will be covering these devices moving forward. Dr. Connell added that it will be important for families and providers to advocate for these devices early in this process. • Metabolic supplements will now be covered by NDMA as well as this was also brought to legislation and was passed. • There were two bills that failed which included a school nursing bill and a telehealth bill. Sarah commented that so many great things came about from the increased use of telehealth, including the Early Intervention program. She also added that the no-show rates declined with the use of telehealth as well. Dr. Connell mentioned that it will be important for families to advocate for more telehealth services.

MCH Block Grant Application	<p>Kim discussed that the Block Grant review will be virtual again this year which will be held in December. Kim will send the invite out to everyone if they are interested in participating. There will be a large focus on health equity this year and SHS is looking forward to building capacity among MCH staff.</p>
Administrative Items	<p>Kim discussed the status of the number of families that are currently serving on the FAC. Because a few families have needed to resign from the council there are several vacancies as we are down to 7 members. If the council knows of a family that would be interested in joining the council, they can apply online through the SHS website.</p>
SHS Announcements and Program Updates	<p>Danielle provided an overview of the work efforts that were made regarding transition from pediatric to adult health care in year one of the five-year work plan. Danielle and Heather developed a transition toolkit from GotTransition for providers to utilize when performing a transition assessment and initiate that conversation. It is their intent to provide these to all pediatricians across the state. SHS will begin year two of the workplan where they hope to create an educational PowerPoint that highlights the main topics of transition for school staff to utilize in their classroom. This is in the works and will be sent out to a few school nurses for feedback prior to distributing. Danielle and Heather are open to other innovative ideas to incorporate into this next year's work plan.</p> <p>Kim added that SHS will be compiling focus work groups regarding adolescent health and transition work plans. If anyone wants to be a part of these groups, they can reach out to Danielle or Heather.</p> <p>Dr. Connell brought up the fact that connecting with Bright Futures staff to explore whether this could be integrated into the EHRs would be great to look into.</p>
Closing Remarks/ Wrap-Up and Reimbursement	<p>Kim reminded the group to let SHS know if they have families in mind who would like to join the FAC and also went through terms for family memberships for those who were up for renewal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jessica Howling Wolf - yes <p>Amy let the group know that the Newborn Screening Program will be addressing the State Health Council to request Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) be added to the newborn screening program.</p>

	<p>Kim was asking the group about a family story for next week. The group thought everyone has shared that was on the call. SHS staff will go through the membership list to see if there is someone that has not shared yet. Family members then provided updates on their families and how things were going for them.</p> <p>Kim reviewed the upcoming meetings that will be held virtual. The plan is to look into holding the next May meetings in person if able. Kim will get the reimbursement forms submitted so families receive their reimbursement.</p> <p>Kim thanked the group for the time they have donated and the dedication they have provided to serve on the FAC.</p>
<p>Upcoming SHS Family Advisory Council Meeting Dates for 2021</p>	<p>Saturday, September 18, 2021 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon – Microsoft Teams</p>

SHS Family Advisory Council Recommendation/Review Summary

Meeting Date	Advice and Follow-Up	Action Taken
May 8, 2021	SHS to determine who will share a family story at the next meeting, if any.	There is currently only one active member who has not shared their story. This member will be asked, or this item may be “tabled” until a later date.
	SHS will continue to recruit new FAC members.	SHS met and compiled a list of potential new members. Staff are currently reaching out to these families.
	Save the Date emails will be sent regarding upcoming meetings.	Outlook calendar invites have been sent to active council members and SHS staff.