

## OABH Collaborative Meeting Notes

September 9, 2022

Meet our new interns

- Colin Poultney → Senior Elder Services; BU student
- Any Lamberto → MAMH/Senior Elder Services; Simmons MSW student

Updates from EOEA, DMH, DPH

- EOEA:
  - Options Counseling Program: two trainings in October focusing on mental health (open training); training for new counselors (November, not open)
  - Caregiver webinar series for family caregivers on quarterly basis; looking for family caregivers to fill out survey; anyone who want to be involved check link
    - Caregiver Webinar Series survey:  
<https://forms.gle/LEiRD2PhkGU8CniN7>
- DMH:
  - BH Roadmap,
    - DMH overseeing BH helpline (more in-depth than 988, but does lots of coordinating with 988)
    - Helps individuals get in touch with community-based services and providers with opening
  - Looking for BH Helpline Project Manager
    - Job posting:  
[https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection/ex/jobdetail.ftl?job=220009FL&tz=GMT-04%3A00&tzname=America%2FNew\\_York](https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection/ex/jobdetail.ftl?job=220009FL&tz=GMT-04%3A00&tzname=America%2FNew_York)
  - Once live; make sure EMOTS are aware
    - No specific date yet, but likely around January 2023
- DPH:
  - 988 went live in July
  - MDPH Suicide Prevention Program trainings:  
<https://www.cvent.com/c/calendar/0b6613d1-e5ee-46f5-9823-560c6f110967>

News from Jewish Children & Family Services (JC&FS)

- Lots of supports group for people suffering from grief/loss and for caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's, etc.
- Does a lot of social determinants of health work
- Work is complementary to formal aging networks
- Niche in senior housing, behavioral health, etc.
- Looking for mental health/wellness engagement manager and for individuals with support group experience with mental health background
  - Marjie Sokoll's email address: [msokoll@jfcsboston.org](mailto:msokoll@jfcsboston.org)
- Mental Health/Wellness Engagement Manager job posting:  
<https://jfcsboston.hirecentric.com/jobs/216331.html>

- MH Connect: resource line to help people connect with JF&CF resources and community resources
- Sept 19<sup>th</sup>; Remembering Loved Ones who Died by Suicide (open to anyone)
  - Register: [https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwof-usrTooGNxitDnsi6RXi7cX\\_a22isFq](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwof-usrTooGNxitDnsi6RXi7cX_a22isFq)

Updates from Older Adult Behavioral Health Collaborative- website, SAMSHA visit, guidelines

- Part of DMH funding comes from mental health block grants from SAMSHA
  - Has been more prescriptive on how they want money to be spent; state/region block grant officer oversees that money is being spent accordingly
  - Block grant officer from DC coming to MA; asked to look at crisis series, first episode psychosis; and OABH services
    - Going to visit MAMH for 90min for casual discussion→ EOEA, DMH, OABHN coming to meet/discuss what is occurring in MA
      - Would like someone from the DEI workgroup to attend to discuss what MA is/isn't doing regarding equity
    - Tuesday (9/13) and Wednesday (9/14) next week (lunch with her is Wednesday 1:30p)
- Elder Mental Health Collaborative's page on the State Mental Health Planning Council's website
  - <http://www.mass-smhpc.org/elder/>

MCOA and OABHN in person conferences and upcoming events

- OABHN in-person conference→ Holy Cross, Worcester, May 9<sup>th</sup>
- Theme: healing and community
  - If you know of any speakers or want to be more involved contact Cassie
- MCOA in-person conference
  - Theme: where do we grow from here
  - <https://mcoaonline.com/2022-fall-conference/>

EMHOT/BH innovation RFPs

- 9 EMOTs currently, covering 127 communities
- EMHOTs and EHOTS are same thing but MCOA only collects data on EMOTs
- Substantial amount of the state without EMHOT services (more than half the state)
  - EMHOT RFP emphasized providing services to underserved communities
- Intents to bid for all RFPs
  - 22 for EMHOT RFP
  - 34 for Innovations in BH RFP (<https://mcoaonline.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/FY23-FINAL-BH-Innovation-RFP-8-11-22.pdf>)
- Racial/ethnic demographics of adults being served by EMHOTs

- Cities and towns served by EMHOTs are slightly more diverse than MA as a whole
- Racial/ethnic demographics of older adults served by EMHOTs in communities compared to overall adults in cities/towns served by EMHOTs
  - Need to better serve Asian and Hispanic older adults
- 42% of EMHOT clients found to be at increased risk for experiencing significant health issues (Jan 1, 2022 – June, 30 2022)
  - Higher than usual
- 19% of EMHOT clients experienced BH crisis in reporting periods
- Lowell EMHOT → increase in hoarding
- Bellingham EMHOT → number and severity of MH concerns have risen
- Case management and counseling are more frequently provided services by EMHOTs
- EMHOT Data Summary Report <https://mcoaonline.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/EMHOT-2nd-half-FY22-Data-Fact-Sheet-8-31-22.pdf>

#### Other

- Discussion surrounding older adults with schizophrenia, dementia, psychosis
  - More studies needed
  - Trauma impact and dementia
  - Medication
  - Nursing homes vs assisted living
  - How to support/strengthen supports to older adults
    - More team meetings to discuss issues that could result in increase in nursing home admissions
- Alliant Health Solutions (<https://www.allianthealth.org/>)
  - [Www.SAMHSA.gov/grants/awards/2022/sm-22-011](https://www.SAMHSA.gov/grants/awards/2022/sm-22-011)

#### Meeting Frequency/timing

- Proposal: make collaborative meeting 1hr (9:30a-10:30a) and anyone interesting in advocacy could stay and discuss that for 30 minutes (10:30a-11a)
- Anyone with strong opinions let Cassie know

Info on the social isolation event co-hosted by AARP (if it's of interest):

<https://events.aarp.org/event/58df0fe6-922f-4a01-8943-a739f5554f0b/summary?RefId=AARP>