

Data Integration Workgroup
November 17, 2021 (9:00 am – 10:00 am)
Facilitators: Tim Marshall & Jeff Vanderploeg

1. Welcome and Introductions (:02)

Jeff Vanderploeg welcomed the group and reviewed workgroup goals. This would be the final workgroup meeting.

2. Overview of Meeting Agenda and Objectives (:03)

Tim Marshall recapped that the last few meetings were spent discussing data indicators that this group would want to be used for system improvement; to identify how well the system is working well children's mental health in CT.

3. Draft Report Review and Feedback (:25)

**500 Familiar Faces= (500 FF)*

A few slides were reviewed to give an overview of the draft of the report that was sent out to participants. Some pieces were moved around since sending out the draft, e.g., the recommendations were moved to the end. There were sections in the draft containing overviews of the P20 WIN and 500 Familiar Faces (FF) projects. The group identified several key takeaways from prior efforts in the state, including improving consistency in data collection, especially with demographic data, developing unique family IDs, and it's always to talk about security and confidentiality. The framework was the key product developed by the group. From the data system how do we correctly identify the need and prevalence for access to services, quality indicators, cost and outcomes. Data indicators around the workforce will be very important as we develop strategies for better supporting the workforce.

The report includes the following recommendations. First, the 12 state agencies that are supporting children's behavioral health would participate in P20 WIN and that the Behavioral Health System would direct data requests through P20 WIN. Note that after a conversation with the P20 WIN executive board they did respond with a few suggestions, generally aligned with what this group wants to highlight. The second recommendation would be to ensure that the project [P20 WIN] has the proper resources to be able to handle the increase of requests. This group talked about focusing on the pain points within the system, and how can we monitor them.

Marshall reminded the group that this workgroup's charge was an investment in a long-term solution. Getting indicators as quickly as possible from a large number of data sources that could be useful to measure how well the system is doing is the long-term gold standard and is the driving force behind supporting P20 WIN. The intermediate and short-term part is that the 12 state organizations sign up and become a supporter and customer. Support to P20 WIN and becoming a customer could be framed as the short term goal stated for this group.

A participant commented that the key takeaways in the ongoing improvement section aren't reflected in the recommendations.

Vanderploeg replied that those could be included as direct recommendations.

Marshall discussed with the participants that as persons who are in major data roles across multiple organizations, it would be great to see everyone to continue the support for Connecticut's data agenda. He encouraged informal accountability to check in and make sure certain aspects are moving along as planned.

A participant asked for clarification about the areas for ongoing improvement.

Are there examples where the inconsistencies and challenges are occurring? Is there anything outside of demographic data that is showing inconsistencies? Marshall answered that there are many different ways providers are being asked to record data even within the same state department.

A participant raised the question if it would be possible to add geography such as zip code information.

Participants discussed adding area deprivation index, other aspects of geography and socio-economic indicators. If the full dashboard was in place today and the information was being entered correctly we would be able to view the dashboard to see how well CT is doing and drive into specific locations.

A participant asked if we could include adoption type noting they have found that families that have adopted through a state system, vs. internationally vs. kinship appear to be having different needs for services.

The chairs and facilitators discussed whether this work should continue in another workgroup.

Scott Gaul stated that there is currently not another workgroup. There's a few different P20 WIN governing boards. Primarily the workgroups are kept with agencies that are a part of P20. The meetings are public but they don't serve the same propose as this BH Data Integration Workgroup.

Marshall noted that we would not want to move forward with additional workgroups without a clear agenda and goal. Maybe instead of monthly it could be quarterly? Marshall asked participants to drop a note in the chat box if they would be interested in further workgroups. Multiple participants noted their interest in another workgroup, and there appeared to be a majority with interest in continuing in some way.

There was a discussion on including in the report the development of an implantation plan and whether that would require another workgroup. There is a need for there to be a clear accountability and transparency process for how the recommendations are being processed. For all workgroup recommendations the accountability really needs to be spelled out.

A participant recommended replacing "supporting" with a different verb for the recommendation regarding making sure there's senior leadership involvement.

A participant suggested "will commit".

4. Identify Next Steps for Inclusion in Report (:25)

This workgroup was intended to be time-limited and wrap up, but there could be consideration of using some of the staffing time from the CONNECT grant to offer to the tri-chairs and advisor implementation board. There could be a recommendation for a phase two with creating concrete suggestions to offer for P20 WIN structure and development. It would be important to put parameters around how often the group meets and for how long as well as accountability for reporting and a regular check in with all 12 state agencies.

5. Wrap Up and Adjourn (:05)

As the workgroups come to an end all final documentation will be on the plan4children.org website with the past meeting minutes and recordings.

6. Chat box:

Note that all comments have been included in the minutes above.