



MULTISYSTEM HEALTHY ACTION COMMITTEE (MSHAC)

Having a consensus between agencies in these meetings has helped improve communication, referrals, collaboration and resource sharing regarding substance use disorder services.

Delaware Multisystem Healthy Action Committee (MSHAC) Kent County Meeting Summary

Date:

9/03/2025

Minutes Completed By:

Jen Ettinger

Attendees

Attarian, Lea (CFF), Bartkowski, Noelle (PAT), Castagna, Sophy (DE Housing Alliance), DeJesus, Sharina (DSCYF), De Leon, Lydia (Westside), Ettinger, Jennifer (DPH) Finch, Debbie (211), Fisher, Asaiah (PCAD), Hoeflicholley Christine M (PAT), Howell, Tynisa (Highmark BCBSD Inc), Hufford, Celeste (DSCYF), Lynch, Jr., Cleveland (Merakey), Mallerdino, Ankine (DSAMH), Mann, Lynn (Westside), Moffa, Alana M. (DSCYF), Morris, Tawanda (NFP), Painter, David (Merakey), Passwaters, Beverly (CFF), Perdigon, Heather (DSCYF), Shroyer, Maria (DHSS-WIC), Stiller Anmarie (NDEHS-DECC) Summers, Asia (CFF), Thompson, Emily (DPH) Turlington, Danshanara (CORAS), Wagner, Stephanie (PAT) Webb, Gary (DPH), Wilson, Shakeena (HV CHW – Christiana), Zapata, Olga (Presenter, PIC)

Introduction

Each attendee states name and agency.

Presentation

Olga, Parent Information Center (PIC) COC Engagement Coordinator:

- Established 1983, statewide non-profit organization for parents, caregivers and advocates of children to secure appropriate education and related services.
- Provides parents of children with disabilities, birth to 26 years of age, skills necessary to become effective partners in their child's provisions for special education and related services.
- Offers one on one consultation, resources, education, and courses teaching advocacy skills.
- System advocacy at both local and national levels.
- Staff provide emotional support through a person-to-person evidence-based training program.
- Connect families to parents that could provide emotional, peer or informational support, helping them to build their leadership and advocacy skills.
- Five national performance measures and the implementation of the standards for system of care with measurable outcomes.
- Surrogate parent program established under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and appointed by DOE. They will advocate for a child in foster care, working with a team on behalf of the child to ensure appropriate early intervention or special education services.
- Early hearing detection and intervention program, in partnership with DPH hosting bimonthly learning communities for families, caregivers and professionals.
- Transition coordinator connects with youth and young adults as well as with the schools and organizations which serve them statewide.
- Partnerships with DOE and Governor's Advisory Council for exceptional citizens.



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- Work with DOE on initiatives including family engagement in literacy which is multi-tiered system of support (MTSS).
 - Virtual trainings in SSI, Healthcare, Medicaid, special education issues, in both English and Spanish.
 - Help educate parents to know their rights and guide them by providing resources and support.
- *(Slides shared with group in follow-up email)*

Program Updates

DFS, Alana Moffa:

- Expansion of the FAIR Program into four separate FAIR contracts which are now up and running. *CFF, Holcomb Chimes, Merakey and Justice Works*, taking cases now.
- First year into contract with *Pathway One* and moving forward to collect data.
- *Pathway One* works with families identified as having several stress factors and determined eligible; then sent on for *Pathway One* services, not be considered as a DFS investigation.
- Facing challenges with staffing and some transition but overall doing well.
- FAIR contractor work with families on problem solving and motivational interviewing.
- Assist with accessing resources in Delaware.

Westside Family Healthcare, Lynn Mann:

- The HV CHW program is having fundraiser, the second annual Farm to Fork community event to support the rural health outreach program. Funds raised will help to benefit the rural health outreach program. *(Flyer shared with group in follow-up email)*
- Virtual support group offered each month for families during pregnancy and birth through five, the 3rd Thursday of the month. Both Spanish and English class offered. *(Flyer shared w/group)*
- In the Fall, will be hosting a community baby shower.
- ISO Full time HV CHW for the Dover office. *(Link shared w/group in follow-up email)*.

DSAMH, Ankin Mallerdino:

- This month is recovery month, will be doing events with the Bridge Clinic in all 3 counties. Food will be provided; partners are invited and can set up tables. **(Date confirmation & flyer will be shared w/group)*

Home Visiting Program Updates:

DECC PAT and NDEHS, Christine Olley:

- Fully staffed, both programs have the capability to serve Spanish, Creole and English.
- PAT DECC and Polytech working together to support referrals. Willing to come present at staff meetings, in person or virtual. Can also set up a table for an event.
- Fall playgroups beginning every other week in Harrington Early Childhood Center. *(flyer to be shared w/group)*.

PAT Polytech, Stephanie Wagner:



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- Openings in both Kent and Sussex.
- Stay and play coming up (*will share flyer w/group*)

PAT Christina, Noelle Bartkowski:

- Not fully staffed; have interviewed 2 candidates and hope to have them on board as soon.
- Currently serving a little over 200 families, Spanish and English.
- Having 2 playgroups in October, date TBD. One will be at Stubbs Center (Wilm) and in Bear.
- Noelle 'shout out' to Olga with PIC in New Castle, they utilize their services and consider it a wonderful resource.
- Also, thank you to DFS, New Castle, Noelle and colleague were welcomed to attend a staff meeting in August and presented on the PAT program to entire staff. There were 65 to 70 individuals present providing a wonderful educational opportunity.

211 Help Me Grow, Debbie Finch:

- Currently hiring, (*share link w/ group*).
- Received a new call recording system in July and reported it is an amazing time saver.
- Intern started and will be them for a few months; she is helping process the HV referrals coming in.
- In the early stages of planning the Winter Wonderland coat and toy giveaway.

HFD, Asia Summers:

- Fully staffed, have 10 Family Support Specialist throughout the state and have openings for families

NFP, Tawanda Morris:

- Recently hired a new nurse who is bilingual (Spanish/English) for both Kent and Sussex. Accepting clients who speak different languages.
- Successes: Clients who graduated and went on to get higher paying jobs; clients transitioning off Medicaid; client who presented her doctoral dissertation and has received a green card.

WIC, Maria Shroyer:

- If a family was on WIC in the past and have children under the age of five, or if they receive other services like Medicaid, Snap or TNF, they can refer to WIC.
- Families have infants on the program but don't know that WIC goes up until age 5.
- Food packages have been increased, used to be valued at \$40 and is now about \$80 to \$100. Food value has doubled compared from previous years. \$9 in fresh produce to children is now \$26 every month; women get either \$47 or \$52 per month.
- Increase in types of foods. Provide website: wicresources.org
- If families are having a difficult time reaching the WIC office, go to the website at the bottom of the page and send an email. They will hear back within 48 hours.

Highmark Healthcare, Tynisa Howell:



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- Provided information on the Maternity Care Coordination Dept, we are one of the MCOs and maternity pods specifically working with members who are pregnant or in their postpartum period.
- Also serve newborns up to three months as well and are there to support our members and get them connected with home visitors, WIC and resources like that.
- Actively utilizing the centralized intake through 211 to make referrals.

PCAD Wrap Around Training, Asaiah Beaman Fisher:

- Thank you to everyone who participated on the call helping us roll out our new IECHMHC program.
- There will be more information coming out about the program in its entirety.
- PCAD is growing with three new mental health consultants who will begin working with our HV programs and supervisors.

Housing Alliance Delaware, Sophie Castagna:

- Having our COC annual membership meeting coming up Oct. 23rd. In person all day event with a strong focus on Delaware's response to unsheltered homelessness. (*Share registration link & Sophie's contact info w/group*).
- Host quarterly membership meetings throughout the year.

Announcements

Resources Shared

**PIC Presentation slides; Farm to Fork Fundraiser; Westside Job Posting; DSAMH event w/Bridge clinic registration, DECC PAT Fall Playgroup Flyer; Polytech Stay & Play Flyer; HMG 211 Job posting; DE Housing Alliance event registration link & contact info.*

Next Steps

Determine speaker for the next MSHAC meeting set for December.
Set dates for the 2026 MSHAC meetings follow-up with 'save the date' reminders.

Date of Next Meeting

Wed., December 3, 2025 – 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM (Virtual Teams Meeting)