On December 9, 2016 the Washington State Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee (committee) met at the Department of Health (department), 111 Israel Road, Room 158, Tumwater, WA. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the meeting agenda was emailed to members of the licensed counselors’ professional Listserv and posted to the professions’ webpages.
Open Session

1. Call to Order – Janys Murphy, Ph.D., LMHC, CDP – Chair 9:05 a.m.

   1.1 Announcement of Appointments and Reappointments
   - Reappointment of Jennie Lindberg, LMF, CDP
   - Reappointment of Carlos R. Carreon, LICSW, ACSW, BDC
   - Appointment of Anjanette Jorstad, LASW

1.2 Other Introductions
   - James Chaney, Executive Director, DOH Health Professions

1.3 Approval of the agenda - The agenda was accepted and approved.

1.4 Approval of the June 10, 2016 meeting minutes - The September 9, 2016 meeting minutes were accepted and approved.

2. 2017 Meeting Dates of the Advisory Committee – Janys Murphy, Ph.D., LMHC, CDP – Chair

2.1 The meeting dates were approved as presented in the agenda.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Possible 2017 Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, February 24, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, June 9, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, September 22, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, December 8, 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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3. Election of a Chair and Vice Chair – Janys Murphy, Ph.D., LMHC, CDP - Chair

3.1 Nominations and Vote
   - Jennie Lindberg, LMFT, was nominated to continue as vice chair. Approved.
   - Janys Murphy, Ph.D., LMHC, CDP, was nominated to continue as chair. Approved.

4. Manager Reports – Brad Burnham, MPA, Program Manager

4.1 Budget report - Mr. Burnham presented the budget information for all three professions. The mental health counselors’ (MHC) budget has a positive operating balance of $759,427; the social workers’ (SW) budget has a positive operating balance of $924,160; and the marriage and family therapists’ (MFT) budget has a negative operating balance of $99,511. Mr. Burnham answered questions about budgets and shared information about how:
   - The allotment comes from the department and is spread out to all professions.
   - Funds for each profession come from fees.

4.2 Update on recruitment of advisory committee members – We are going to reopen the recruitment for the two vacant public member positions. There is a new process in place for public members that may make it a faster process.
4.3 **Legislative update** – Mr. Burnham provided a brief overview of the upcoming legislative session including the timeline and the idea that it could be extended because of budget issues.

4.4 **“Meet Me” Conference Calls** – “Meet me” conference calls are held once a week for 30 minutes. They introduce pending legislation that may have a broad effect across multiple professions. Jennie Lindberg was the contact last year and will continue this year, along with Carlos Carreon, who would also like to participate.

5. **Current licensing statistics** – Ms. Joanne Miller reviewed the licensing statistics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Current Number of Credential Holders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LMFT</td>
<td>1,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LMHC</td>
<td>6,465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LASW</td>
<td>132</td>
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<tr>
<td>LICSW</td>
<td>4,053</td>
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<tr>
<td>LMFTA</td>
<td>554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LMHCA</td>
<td>1,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSWAA</td>
<td>228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSWICA</td>
<td>1,607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total among all professions</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,473</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. **Assistant attorney general report** – Mr. John Macejunas provided training on the Open Public Meetings Act, which is a required training for all board, commission and committee members. He also discussed trends he has observed for these programs in disciplinary cases, such as confidentiality and boundary issues with mental health counselors and marriage and family therapists treating multiple family members. The question was raised if there are more dual relationships in rural areas. Mr. Macejunas did not see that reflected in his caseload; however, Mr. Burnham said it does come up from time to time in complaints and they do weigh that information when deciding to move forward.

7. **Telehealth information** – Mr. Burnham reviewed information about telehealth, including the Telehealth workgroup consisting of DOH, DSHS, and the Health Care Authority looking at opportunities and barriers to advancing telehealth – primarily legislation. UW is organizing a collaborative to develop recommendations to improve access and reimbursement. We anticipate seeing more legislation on the topic this year. Providers need to be licensed in Washington to treat a Washington resident. The committee noted it would like to have a representative on the UW collaborative with Mr. Burnham or Mr. Chaney.

8. **Update on the Integration of Mental Health, Substance Use Disorder, and Primary Care** – Mr. Burnham said the work was ongoing and they expect legislation this session. The timeline for this has it being completed by 2020. DOH has implemented a practice transformation support hub to help small to medium practices integrate the changes into their practice. They are looking at what other groups are working on for this and would like to collaborate. The Children’s Mental Health Task Force has submitted its report to the legislature; however, a copy has not been made available. Mr. Burnham will share it with the committee when he receives it. Additionally, there is Project Aware that works to connect, detect and repair – for the mental health and wellbeing of Washington students.
A question was raised if DOH knew of integration leading to more dual credentials. Would there be some cost savings (license fees, etc.) for people getting a dual credential? Mr. Burnham stated he has heard from educators that students are looking at getting a dual credential and that it may be worthwhile to examine the process.

9. **Rulemaking concerning the definition of an “approved educational program”** – Mr. Burnham reported about the department’s continued rulemaking to revise the definition of “approved educational program” to clarify that educational programs may be accredited by organizations recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) or a body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

The current rule permits education programs to be accredited only by accrediting bodies recognized by CHEA. Without a change in rule, accrediting bodies in Washington State that no longer choose to be members of CHEA put the colleges and universities they accredit in jeopardy of not meeting licensing requirements to educate mental health counselors.

10. **Review of the advisory committee’s recommended changes to Chapter 246-809 WAC** – Mr. Burnham said they are not at a decision-making point yet. While going through the recommendations, there didn’t appear to be a strong connection for some of the recommended changes to the original intent of the rulemaking, outlined in the CR 101 form. For the purposes of rule-making, the department needs to stick to the intended purpose stated in the form. So the department will need to hold off on some of the recommendations. Once this rulemaking is completed, the department can begin a new rulemaking to integrate the rest of the recommendations. The department is aiming for a public hearing for the rule changes in March 2017.

11. **Consent Agenda** – The only consent agenda item has been the DOH Sentinel, which is no longer being produced. Mr. Burnham noted the item could be removed if the committee wants to, and also brought back later if members changed their minds. A motion was made to remove it from the agenda. Approved.

12. **Public Comment** –

There were no public comments provided.

13. **Future Agenda Items** –

- Update on the implication of changes to the Affordable Care Act.
- Update on the continued work related to integration of mental health, substance use disorder, and primary care

14. **Items to Monitor** - None

15. **Adjournment**  11:05 a.m.

The Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists and Social Workers Advisory Committee
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