

Act 54 of 2022

- ▶ Fiscal Code
- ▶ \$100 million for adult behavioral health
- ▶ ARPA
- ▶ Money was put aside in budget
 - ▶ Legislature has to authorize the uses of the funding before it can be spent
- ▶ 10 focus areas
- ▶ Urban/rural requirements

Act 54 Focus Areas

	Delivery of services via telemedicine
	Behavioral health rates, network adequacy, and mental health payment parity
	Workforce development and retention
	Expansion of certified peer support specialist services and peer-run services
	Development and provision of crisis services
	Integration of behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment
	Cultural competencies when providing behavioral health care
	Impact of social determinants of health on behavioral health
	Intersection of behavioral health and the criminal justice system
	Establishment of an integrated care model that can deliver timely psychiatric care in a primary care setting

Acknowledgements

The Wolf Administration would like to thank the following Commission members for sharing their time and expertise in developing recommendations:

Co-Chair – Acting Commissioner Michael Humphreys, Insurance Department
Co-Chair – Dr. Dale Adair, Chief Psychiatric Officer, Department of Human Services
Representative Michael Schlossberg, 132nd House District
Representative Wendi Thomas, 178th House District
Senator Maria Collett, 12th Senate District
Ellen DiDominico, Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs
Muneeza Iqbal, Department of Health
Dr. Kathy Quick, Mental Health Planning Council
Lisa Kennedy, Mental Health Planning Council
Reverend Michelle Anne Simmons, Why Not Prosper
Tina Clymer, Pennsylvania Association of County Administrators
Dr. Matthew Hurford, Community Care Behavioral Health Managed Care Organization
Dr. Faith Dyson-Washington, Community Behavioral Health Managed Care Organization
Dr. Maria Oquendo, University of Pennsylvania
Chief Edward Cunningham, Elizabethtown Police Department
Dr. Stephanie Diez-Morel, National Association of Social Workers Pennsylvania Chapter
Dr. Hasshan Batts, Promise Neighborhoods of the Lehigh Valley
Dr. Kenneth Thomson, Pennsylvania Psychiatric Leadership Council
Dale Klatzker, Gaudenzia
Jillian London, Hamilton Health Center
Dr. Noreen Fredrick, UPMC
Dr. Jeanne Slattery, Pennsylvania Psychological Association
Jason Rilgio, Pennsylvania Peer Support Coalition
Hon. William F. Ward, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency
Dauphin County Board of Commissioners, Government Officials, and Local Organizations
Centre County Board of Commissioners, Government Officials, and Local Organizations

Commission

- ▶ 24 members
 - ▶ Treatment providers
 - ▶ Legislators
 - ▶ People with lived experience
 - ▶ MCOs
 - ▶ Criminal justice organizations
- ▶ 4 meetings (August 18-September 16)
 - ▶ Centre County
 - ▶ Dauphin County

Recommendations

Workforce Development - \$37 Million

Retain existing BH staff (stay bonuses, salary increases, enhanced benefits)
Incentive programs (tuition assistance or reimbursement)
Provide opportunities for entry-level staff to attain higher levels of education

\$32 Million

For county use to bolster their workforce

\$5 Million

Service Expansion - \$39 Million

Support crisis continuum of care
(24/7 walk in centers, suicide prevention)

\$15 Million

Integration of primary care/behavioral health care

\$10 Million

For county use to address SDOH needs and older adult specialized care

\$8 Million

Expand peer-led and peer-support services

\$6 Million

Criminal Justice - \$23.5 Million

Provide comprehensive behavioral health care to people who are incarcerated, support wraparound services for returning citizens, and expand specialty courts

\$13.5 Million

Develop/expand pre-arrest diversion programs

\$5 Million

\$5 million for counties to develop/expand co-responder models and crisis intervention training

\$5 Million

Recommendations

Evaluation Research - \$500,000

Retroactive study on effectiveness of programs funded



Form a Commission for Improving BH System

Body dedicated to regulatory and legislative reform



Increase County Base Funding

County base funding has been stagnant since 2012

Next Steps

- ▶ None of the recommendations were acted upon by the legislature
- ▶ Language must be introduced
- ▶ Senate hearing in November
- ▶ Rep. Schlossberg co-sponsorship memo
 - ▶ December 1
 - ▶ Continue and expand the focus of the commission
 - ▶ Children
- ▶ Recognized need for focus on older adults
- ▶ Time crunch
 - ▶ Must be obligated by end of 2024
 - ▶ Money has to be spent by 2026