



An association of resources and advocacy for children, youth and families

www.aspiremn.org

FIRST FRIDAY – updates and ideas to share

March 1, 2019

IMPORTANT EVENTS

AspireMN March Member Meeting - March 14 and 15 - REGISTER [HERE](#).

- You can read the agenda for the meeting [HERE](#).
- Room block available at Delta Marriott Minneapolis. Please reserve by calling: 612-331-1900. (Be sure to request the AspireMN room block.)

Mental Health Day on the Hill – March 14

(another reason to attend the AspireMN Member Meeting!)

Mental Health Day on the Hill will be included in the AspireMN March Member Meeting! Registration for the AspireMN March Meeting = registration for Mental Health Day on the Hill. (No need to register for the Day on the Hill yourself.) Mental Health Day on the Hill is a key time to demonstrate the breadth and depth of our mental health community at the Capitol - so join us at the Member Meeting and the Capitol!

Foster Child and Youth Day on the Hill - March 8

Young leaders who have lived experienced in foster care from the MN Youth Leadership Council are hosting Foster Youth Day at the Capitol – full of learning, leading, and advocating by and for young people in care. AspireMN members have taken strong leadership in supporting this day to happen. [Registration is open.](#)

FEDERAL UPDATES

COA Family First webinars

COA is offering live, weekly webinars on the Family First Prevention Services Act, suggesting that *learning about each accreditor is the first step*. Register for a COA accreditation introductory live webinar, scheduled weekly through March [HERE](#).

Children's Bureau

The Children's Bureau released the [National model Foster Family Home licensing standards for foster family homes](#). [March 31](#) is the deadline for states to communicate back to the Federal HHS on plans for compliance or interest in a waiver. The national model standards were developed jointly by national child welfare voices; AspireMN reviewed the standards and found no objections to the language.

MINNESOTA LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

Governor's Budget

The [Governor's Budget](#) was released on Tuesday, February 19, including a number of AspireMN's priority legislative issues (see below). [HERE](#) is a link to the Human Services portion of the budget.

- **Child Welfare Training Academy** (pg. 49) AspireMN has advocated for this investment in our child protection system, and language reflects that private agency staff should also be able to access training through this more effective and geographically dispersed training system.

- **School Linked Mental Health** (pg. 67) Proposes investing \$4.5M in FY20 and FY21; \$5M annually in the base going forward, funds itemized for training/technical assistance, and enhanced quality measurement and evaluation.
- **Children’s Intensive Mental Health** (pg. 70). Sustains state share for existing Children’s Residential Mental Health services (including a payback to counties if the current May-June 2019 deficiency is not funded early in session), enhances PRTF capacity at a proposed 300 bed cap, eliminates the six-site limit, and seeks \$400K annually to distribute to newly developing PRTF providers for start-up costs
- **CCBHC expansion** (pg. 73) Shift from demonstration to ongoing service model with addition of five additional sites
- **Uniform Service Standards** (pg. 86) Mobile Crisis Response only service identified for significant reform, efforts to reduce complexity and reporting burdens will continue with significant stakeholder engagement

Minnesota Public Radio highlighted the topic of children’s mental health within the Governor’s proposed budget. MPR story posted [HERE](#).

February State Budget Forecast Released

The forecast was published on February 28 and had gone down by about a half a billion dollars since November. This may force Gov. Walz to make changes to his budget. The MN Management and Budget office release of the forecast background and data is available [HERE](#).

Say Yes & Invest – time to tell the story!

Your stories are needed to demonstrate the need for investment in Minnesota’s mental health service sustainability. We must demonstrate the challenge and hope of this moment, and in order to build a mental health continuum, basic payment structures must cover costs. Below are two resources for gathering stories.

- [Story Tool](#) Please include details of your story in the first section of this tool. You can reference this [Story Outline](#) guide as you develop and share your story.

Board of Social Work Fee Increase

The Governor’s budget includes an increase of [Board of Social Work fees](#) – a frustrating development for many [AspireMN](#) members and social workers, a number of whom have [already reached out to](#) legislators to voice concern.

Health Care Access Fund resource

The Minnesota Budget Project recently published helpful analysis on the Health Care Access Fund [HERE](#). Negotiation around maintaining this funding source will be a key part of ongoing budget negotiations for the 2019 session.

AspireMN's Legislative Priorities – where things stand!

- **Children's Residential Deficiency**, HF679 / SF1131 (Rep. Morrison / Sen. Relph) – funds the gap in state funding for May-June, 2019. This bill is waiting for a House floor hearing and a Senate Finance hearing. With the arrival of the forecast yesterday we anticipate the \$470,000 fiscal note will change slightly, holding up momentum on passing this bill as a stand-alone.
- **Children's Intensive Mental Health**, HF1888 / SF1835 (Rep. Morrison / Sen. Relph) – sustains state funds for Children's Residential Mental Health services for the 2020/21 biennium, supports enhanced capacity to establish PRTFs, includes PRTFs as a setting for education, and expands capacity for intensive mental health services to be delivered within community settings for children and youth.
- **Say Yes & Invest**, SF1890 (Rep. Loeffler / Sen. Jensen) – 25% rate increase for community based mental health, sets a floor for PMAPs, and outlines a rate-setting proposal for consideration in the 2020 session.
- **School Linked Mental Health**, HF814 / SF969 (Rep. Edelson / Sen. Rosen) – increases funding and sets goal for sustaining school linked mental health providers, passed last week out of House HHS Policy.
- **Shelter Linked Mental Health Grants**, HF1759 / SF1665 (Rep. Olson / Sen. Rosen) –establishes a youth mental health grant program to provide mental health services to youth experiencing homelessness or sexual exploitation.
- **2019 Homeless Youth Act**, HF1542 / SF1730 (Rep. Richardson / Sen. Dibble) – increases funds for the Homeless Youth Act, allows homeless youth access to vital records, establishes and appropriates homeless youth state training and systems alignment task force. ** a tour of homeless youth and safe harbor services will be hosted Monday, March 4, 530-8!
- **Child Welfare Training Academy**, HF499 / SF958 (Rep. Kresha / Sen. Mathews) – establishes and funds a new training academy for child welfare workers and supervisors, including invitation to private agency staff. Passed out of House HHS Policy, will be heard this week in Senate Policy.
- **Foster Youth Bill of Rights**, (Rep. Kunesh-Podein) – establishes the Foster Youth Bill of Rights. To be introduced next week, Senate authorship pending.
- **Foster Youth Driver's Insurance**, HF1716 / SF1563 (Rep. Richardson / Sen. Mathews) – provides opportunity for youth in foster care to obtain drivers' licenses and car insurance coverage for foster youth, supported by state funds.

- **Foster Parent Liability Insurance**, HF1658 / SF1564 (Rep. Richardson / Sen. Mathews) - expands property liability insurance coverage for foster parents.

FIELD-RELATED UPDATES

Update from Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis

From Keith Kozerski: “We are pleased to announce that we will be changing the name of our Day Treatment Program, effective Friday, March 1, 2019 from St. Joseph’s Home for Children Day Treatment to Catholic Charities Children’s Day Treatment. This change will help our clients, partners and future clients have more clarity on the fact that the program is a day program and located in a community-based setting.”

DHS Bulletins and Updates

- Targeted Case Management: the date has been extended for providing input on the Case Management Redesign draft service design. [Your feedback is requested.](#)
- [DHS](#) has made the following update to the MHCP Provider Manual – Early Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Intervention (EIDBI) – [Early Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Intervention \(EIDBI\) billing grid \(PDF\)](#).
- [DHS](#) removed the Level III providers row for Intervention - Individual: Observation and Direction: Adaptive behavior treatment with protocol modification.
- DHS Dialectical Behavior Therapy Intensive Outpatient Program (DBT IOP) [Monthly Update/Feedback call – March 13, 2019](#)
- DHS invites Children’s Mental Health Targeted Case Management (CMH-TCM) case managers (counties, tribes and contracted vendors) to participate in the [upcoming quarterly statewide CMH Case Manager meetings.](#)

New Handbook

Multiple international experts have contributed to the new handbook *Sexually Abusive Behavior in Youth: A Handbook of Theory, Assessment, and Treatment*, edited by Dr. Barbara Schultz. You can read more about it [HERE](#).

SAVE THE DATES – 2019 Meetings and Conferences

- June Member Meeting at the Inn on Lake Superior in Duluth - June 13 and 14
- September Member Meeting at Madden's in Brainerd - September 12 and 13
- Youth Worker Conference at Cragun's in Brainerd - October 7 and 8
- November Annual Member Meeting at the Delta Marriott in Minneapolis - November 14 and 15