



Commission on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Funding Sub-Committee

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Hunschofsky Co-Chair
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Florida Department of Children
and Families

Secretary Jason Weida
Florida Agency for Health Care
Administration

Richard Duggan
President of the Senate

Richard Weisberg, CRPS
President of the Senate
Appointee

Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2025

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Welcome/Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Subcommittee Chair Darryl Rouson.

Roll call was taken by Aaron Platt.

The following members or designees were in attendance:

Senator Darryl Rouson, Subcommittee Chair
Taylor Hatch, (Secretary, Agency for Healthcare Administration)
Jay Reeve, Commission Chair (Governor Appointee)
Ann Berner, (Speaker of the House Appointee)
Stephanie Scanlon for Matt Cooper, Subject Matter Expert Lead
Laura Corbin for Shay Holloway, Subject Matter Expert Lead
Natalie Kelly, Subject Matter Expert
Nickie Zenn, Subject Matter Expert
Alan Davidson, Subject Matter Expert
Melanie Brown-Woofter, Subject Matter Expert
Ivan Cosimi, Subject Matter Expert
Tara Martinson, Subject Matter Expert

Review and Approval of August 21, 2025 Meeting Minutes

A motion was entered to approve the August 21, 2025 minutes. The motion was carried. The minutes were approved with no opposition.

Commission Update

Commission Chair Jay Reeve provided a brief update. There are virtual full Commission meetings scheduled for November and January. A final full Commission meeting will take place in June to approve the final Commission report. There have been preliminary discussions to form a smaller, more focused group to continue the work of the Commission immediately following the sunset of this Commission.

FACT Team Update: Funding Mechanisms and Gaps

Heather Allman with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and Stephanie Scanlon from the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) provided an update on the Florida Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) Teams, which serve individuals with a serious mental illness. The program is funded through a mix of state and federal dollars that fund a total of 30 FACT teams that cover 41 counties across the state.

Stephanie Scanlon will provide additional data regarding the amount of unutilized FACT funding in fiscal years 23-24 and 24-25.



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Heather Allman will provide the exact number of people served through the FACT program for fiscal years 23-24 and 24-25.

Short-Term and Long-Term Residential Bed Update and Supportive Housing Review

Heather Allman provided a brief update on short-term residential treatment services which provide sub-acute, short-term, intensive mental health residential and rehabilitative services 24-hours a day in a structured environment. Currently, Florida has 12 short-term residential treatment facilities with a total of 227 beds, including 27 beds for children.

The DCF Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (SAMH) provides funding for two programs (Transition Voucher Program and the Boley Center Pilot Project) that provide supportive housing assistance to individuals with a serious mental illness. Information on supportive housing funding and service data was shared with the subcommittee during the presentation.

Federal Update to Florida's Medicaid Program

Stephanie Scanlon discussed the impact of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act on Florida's Medicaid behavioral health programs. There are impacts on the Florida Directed Payment Programs. The Hospital Directed Care Program will see the largest impact. Ms. Scanlon provided additional information on other programs that will be impacted.

Review FMHI Language in Senate Bill 1620

Commissioner Kathleen Moore, Executive Director of the Florida Mental Health Institute (FMHI) and Abigail Shockley, Director of the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, & Substance Abuse Technical Assistance Center provided an overview of FMHI. The overview included the legislative charge in Senate Bill 1620 requiring the submission of a report that will analyze substance abuse and mental health services provided in the state through publicly funded programs, including Medicare by June 30, 2026.

Public Comment

Laurie Gerhard commented on the Department of Children and Families, Florida Assertive Community Treatment Teams. Ms. Gerhard also provided feedback on the Managing Entities.

Closing Remarks

Subcommittee Chair Rouson provided closing remarks.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:05 am.