

The regular monthly meeting of the NE FYSPRT was held on December 5, 2019 at Passages Family Support, 1700 S. Assembly, Spokane, WA 99224. Ashley James, Youth Co-Lead welcomed seventeen (17) youth, parents, agencies, and system partners who attended in person or via phone.

Statewide FYSPRT

Becky Hammill provided an update from the statewide FYSPRT meeting. They discussed the loss of respite beds and FYSPRT organizations indicated it was a concern among all members.

They also discussed the utilization of non-Medicaid General Fund State dollars that had previously gone to the BHOs and now is provided to the MCOs. This funding was to provide services to individuals who don't receive Medicaid and who are now unable to receive services. Health Care Authority and MCO representatives were present at the statewide meeting.

The new legislation regarding family-initiated treatment was also discussed. There are varying degrees of how FIT will be implemented and there remain many unknown areas. All providers are still waiting further direction. It is unknown at this point if any agency has experienced a family-initiated request for assessment/treatment under the new law.

Presentation

Mariah Rhodes, MCAT Director at Frontier Behavioral Health, provided NE FYSPRT with information on the Mobile Assertive Community Team. It is in its 5th year and was developed due to the increased census at Eastern State Hospital. The team is multidisciplinary and they work during the week until 11 p.m. with a smaller group on the weekends until 7 p.m. There is no age requirement but they provide services in Spokane County only. No insurance is required.

MCAT does not supplant a client's existing services. If a provider has a client in crisis, they can call MCAT to check on the individual. They do not provide services to WISE as WISE has its own crisis response outreach.

MCAT is an intervention and potential diversion from the emergency department or law enforcement contact.