

KAAP Zoom meeting notes - March 25, 2020 - 4 PM

In attendance: Steve Kearney, Colin Thomasset, Deb Stidham, Shirley Murray, Dana Schwartz, Steve Denny, Stacy Kratz, Dave Anderson, Leslie Sewester, MHA of South-Central Kansas – Shawna, and Michael Brewer.

Topics discussed:

- Deb Stidham provided an overview of the guidance that has come out from KDADS, SAMHSA and SB 123 regarding changes to practice during this time of state of emergency:
 - Verbal consent is allowable. Providers need to document the verbal consent and attempt to secure releases at a later date.
 - Consent to Treat
 - Releases of Information
 - Block Grant eligibility: income and residency
 - KAAP will ask KDADS about treatment plan signatures and impact on block grant allocations for next year
 - Telephonic (as well as televideo) services are allowable for outpatient services (see attached)
 - Received verbally from KDADS: for billing purposes, practitioners are to use the facility location when providing services from a home or other location.
 - SAMHSA has issued clarification regarding 42 CFR Part 2 regulations to remind providers that “medical emergency” is one of the listed exceptions to a signed release of information and that is up to each provider to determine whether such emergency exists.
 - We have no approval at this time from SB 123 regarding the ability to conduct assessments over the phone or televideo. It is allowed for individual and group therapy. There was discussion about use of the SASSI and the difficulty conducting that screen over the phone or televideo. We discussed alternative screening tools that are available.
- COVID-19: Those on the phone discussed measures that each agency is utilizing to modify their service delivery. Most have developed screening tools for new admissions and staff. ***If anyone needs any assistance with how to manage COVID 19 with staff and clients, please e-mail Deb Stidham who will reach out to the membership for assistance.***
- Kim Nelson, SAMHSA Regional Administrator is hosting a call on Friday, March 27, 2020 at noon to allow for exchange of information to occur among residential providers.
- Watch for additional information from KAAP as members share resources of benefit to others similarly situated.