

Strengthening Chicago's Youth (SCY)

Quarterly Meeting

Leveraging Health System Reform with Innovative Collaborations

May 5, 2016

Opening Remarks

Peter Palanca, MA, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

TASC (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities)

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Leading TASC's strategic planning, development, service enhancement, and diversification efforts, Peter Palanca serves as executive vice president and COO of TASC. TASC is a statewide, nonprofit agency in Illinois that advocates for alternatives to incarceration and community reentry services for people with substance use and mental health disorders. Peter is a board member of the National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers (NAATP), co-chair of the National Association for Children of Alcoholics (NACoA), and past chair and current board member of the Illinois Alcoholism and Drug Dependence Association (IADDA). He serves on the advisory board of Prevention Partnership, a non-profit prevention and health promotion agency in Chicago. He also was appointed to the Children's Mental Health Partnership, the policy guiding group for children's mental health issues in Illinois.

Prior to joining TASC in 2003, Peter had established his career in the field of substance abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery, serving as executive director and regional vice president with Hazelden Foundation in Chicago, executive director with Parkside Behavioral Health Services in Chicago, and deputy director of the Illinois Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse. He developed and led adolescent behavioral healthcare programs at South Suburban Council on Alcoholism, Ingalls Memorial Hospital, and Lutheran Center for Substance Abuse.

Presenters

Deb McCarrel, Policy Associate

Illinois Collaborative on Youth (ICOY)

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Deb joined ICOY as a Policy Associate in September 2015. Prior to joining the ICOY staff, Deb spent 30 years working to improve the lives of children and youth and transform the state systems that serve them. Over the course of her career, Deb has served in a variety of capacities at several state agencies. She worked to improve social service systems for the developmentally disabled at the Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities and improved food stamp employment and training programs under welfare to work reform at the Department of Public Aid. At the Department of Human Services she managed youth services and delinquency prevention programming. At the Department of Children and Family Services, she served in a variety of leadership positions furthering the department's goal of ensuring the safety of children and families. Most recently, Deb has analyzed and implemented Medicaid policy and programming at the Department of Healthcare and Family Services and lead DHFS's efforts to reform the children's behavioral health system before retiring. She is currently an adjunct faculty member at the University of Illinois, Springfield campus, teaching in their social work program. She earned her bachelor's degree in social work from the University of Illinois in Springfield and her master's degree in social work from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Deb is also a Licensed Clinical Social Worker.

At ICOY, Deb is based in Springfield and will be representing ICOY members in the development of state policies and practices to improve behavioral health outcomes for children and adolescents, and to support ICOY members in preparing for and participating in a transformed behavioral healthcare system. She'll also work to bring ICOY members together on a regional basis to discuss Systems of Care, managed care, service array, and other ways in which providers can work collaboratively to navigate the managed care system.

Emily Smith, LCPC, CADC, MBA, Director of Partner Relations & Marketing**Be Well Partners in Health****esmith@bewellpartnersinhealth.com**

Emily has worked with Be Well Partners in Health since July, 2014. As a new care coordination company that began business in January, 2014, her first major task was to successfully establish the company in the behavioral health marketplace and develop relationships with medical, specialty, and agency providers. She continues to work on developing partnerships with mental health agencies throughout the City of Chicago with an emphasis on collaborative projects and development of Be Well co-locations at various agency sites.

Since May of 2015 Emily has managed the Be Well/CCDOC Therapeutic Diversion Project. Collaboration with the Cook County Sheriff's Office has enabled Be Well to provide care coordination to individuals who are justice involved, have identified mental health and/or substance abuse needs, and are awaiting court dates on I-Bond of electronic Monitoring (EM). She has overseen the program of community-based services since implementation and is responsible for tracking and reporting data in accordance with the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) – the granting agency for the project.

Prior to joining Be Well Partners in Health, Emily was the Director of Clinical Operations at MacNeal Hospital in the Department of Psychiatry. She also served as the Director of Intensive Outpatient (IOP) at Methodist Hospital of Chicago, as well as several other agencies totaling 16 years of experience working with individuals with serious mental illness and/or substance abuse. Emily received her MA in Dance Movement Therapy and Clinical Counseling from Columbia College Chicago in 2000, and an MBA with concentrations in finance and nonprofit management from North Park University in December 2010. Emily continues to maintain board certification as a dance/movement therapist.

Sherie Arriazola, Health Policy Administrator**TASC (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities)****sarriazola@tasc-il.org**

At TASC, Ms. Arriazola works with multiple departments as it pertains to health care reform policy, advising operations on internal program implementation policies and executive leadership on state policy strategy. She was recently appointed to the Public Education Subcommittee of the Medicaid Advisory Committee, a federally mandated body of stakeholders tasked with advising the Department of Healthcare and Family Services on Medicaid policies. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminology, Law, and Justice from the University of Illinois at Chicago, and is pursuing a Master's degree in Public Policy and Administration from Northwestern University.

Prior to coming to TASC, Sherie Arriazola worked for the Illinois House of Representatives as a research and appropriations analyst in the areas of public safety and healthcare, where she specialized in drafting legislation, legislative process and strategy, and the appropriations process. She staffed the House Public Safety Appropriations Committee and assisted legislators in crafting the state's public safety budget, which includes agencies such as the Illinois Department of Corrections and the Illinois State Police. She drafted the initial State Health Insurance Benefits Exchange (marketplace) legislation, which was used as a foundation for all future bills related to the creation of a state-based exchange to date. Prior to her work with the Illinois General Assembly, she served as research assistant at the Chicago Justice Project where she played a crucial role in the analysis of a 10 year span of Chicago Police Board cases, the findings of which resulted in reform of the Chicago Police Board Ordinance to mandate written rationales for decisions be posted online.