

## Lobbyist Report

Month May 2022



Meetings/Workgroups attended

May 4 Workforce and Rates Subgroup Meeting

May 13 WMHCA Board Meeting

May 17 Behavioral Health Comparison Rates Stakeholder Meeting

May 17 Rep. Griffey/Rep. MacEwen fundraising event

May 18 Workforce and Rates Subgroup Meeting

May 18 Workgroup Planning Meeting

May 26 Rep. Berg

May 31 Rep. Leavitt

May 31 Rep. Goodman

Legislative Summary for Mental Health Specifically (To Send to Members)

May has been a relatively slow month legislatively but for WMCHA we have been busy putting together a meeting with stakeholders to discuss barriers to licensure. This meeting will include key players so we can discuss barriers and ideas to recruit and retain providers. We are the main hosts of this meeting, which puts WMHCA in the spotlight once again!

Legislators are campaigning and this is the perfect opportunity to meet with your legislators. If anyone is interested, please email me directly at [sara@sarastewartinc.com](mailto:sara@sarastewartinc.com). These meetings are typically over a cup of coffee and it's a great way to give your input of current behavioral health issues you are seeing in your practice and in the state in general. These meetings are casual and easy going - we hope you take this opportunity to get your voice heard.

Meetings Requested

N/A

General Legislative News

Half of the Senate and all House members are up for re-election and many members are retiring making this upcoming election potentially very contentious. There are many open seats and the Republicans have put some strong candidates forward to vie for Democrat held seats. The following legislators are not seeking re-election:

- Rep. Steve Kirby, D-Tacoma
- Rep. Laurie Dolan, D-Olympia
- Rep. Jeremie Dufault, R-Selah
- Rep. Bob McCaslin, R-Spokane Valley
- Rep. Larry Hoff, R-Vancouver

Rep. Eileen Cody, D-West Seattle  
Rep. Jesse Johnson, D-Federal Way  
Rep. Mike Sells, D-Everett  
Rep. Emily Wicks, D-Everett  
Rep. Kristin Harris-Talley, D-Seattle  
House Majority Leader Rep. Pat Sullivan, D-Covington  
Rep. Brad Klippert, R-Kennewick  
Sen. Tim Sheldon, D-Potlatch  
Sen. Sharon Brown, R-Kennewick  
Sen. Reuven Carlyle, D-Seattle  
Sen. David Frockt, D-Seattle

*Several lawmakers will not be seeking re-election to the House because they are seeking terms in the Senate:*

- Rep. Drew MacEwen, R-Union
- Rep. Matt Boehnke, R-Kennewick
- Rep. Jesse Young, R-Gig Harbor
- Rep. Javier Valdez, D-Seattle
- Rep. Noel Frame, D-Seattle

As you can see, there is an exponentially high amount of turn-over about to occur and WMHCA will be supporting incumbents that helped us greatly in the 2022 session.

What's on the Horizon?

On June 14th, WMHCA will be hosting a workgroup to discuss barriers to supervision.

Other things I've been tracking or paying attention to:

I'm watching the candidates and incumbents campaigns, including how much money they have raised - this is very telling of likely winners this fall.

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