

**Coordinating Subcommittee for
Division of Developmental Disabilities
Meeting Summary
February 5, 2013
AIDT Center (10:00 a.m.)**

The Coordinating Subcommittee for Intellectual Disabilities Services met at the AIDT Center in Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called to order by Courtney W. Tarver, the Chair.

Voting Members Present

Steve Lafreniere (Andy Slate), DMH/DD Representative
Jeff Williams, DMH/DD Representative
Anne Penney, Alabama Council Representative
Myra Jones (Sophia Whitted), DD Council
Earl Brightwell, MR/DD Representative
Jo Poates, MR/DD Representative
Wallace Davis (DeAnna Ferguson), Other Provider Representative
Darren Morris, People First of Alabama Representative
Amanda Ward (Tom Holmes), The Arc of Alabama Consumer Representative
Lou Vick, ACE/Arc Representative

Visitors

Audrey McShan/DMH
Patti Martin, Region 4 Providers
Lee Conner, Visitor
Susan Ford, DMH
George Neal, DMH
Dianne Durbin, DMH
Cassandra Odom, DMH/Region 2
Ellen Gillespie, ADAP
Bill Hoehle, The Arc of Jefferson County
Renee'King-Holley, King CRF, AL Providers Association.
Carolyn Little, Little CRF, AL Providers Association.
Rose Hill, Life Enrichment
Mike Martin, DMH/Region 4
Eleanor Tolbert, DMH/Region 3
Any Slate, DMH/Region 1
Daphne Rosalis, DMH
Byron White, DMH
Acquanetta Knight, DMH
Peggy Olson, DMH
Cynthia Daniel, DMH, Region 4
Anthony Couch, DMH, Region 1
Lori Leathers, DMH, Region 3
Barbara Brunson, DMH/ Region 5
LaGretta Ratliff, DMH/Region 1
Rebekah Mathews, DMH/Region 5
Al James, Alabama Statewide Provider Association
Ken Oliver, Resources for Independence
Gary Edwards, UCP
Jeff Ridgeway, People First of Alabama

Donna Foster, Alabama Statewide Provider Association
Carol Paris, Rainbow Omega, Inc.
Stentson Carpenter, Rainbow Omega, Inc.
Terry Pezent, The Arc of Clarke County
Wendy Hicks, Alabama Head Injury Foundation AHIF
Patricia Houston, Region 3
Regina Savage, Region 3

Recorder

Shirley Hicks

Approval of December 4, 2012, Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Brightwell to approve the December 4, 2012, meeting minutes as presented, and the motion was seconded by Dr. Penney. The motion passed.

Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda by Mr. Lafreniere, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Williams. The motion passed.

Associate Commissioner's Report

A written report of the Associate Commissioner's activities for the past couple of months was attached to the distributed minutes. In addition, Mr. Tarver gave an update of the recent legislative and budget activities. He related the Commissioner did submit the Department's preliminary budget request. After further stakeholder input, DMH asked for a significant increase in ETF funds that was supported by the Governor's Office and submitted to the Legislature. A portion will be used to restore the 3% cut to providers, if the requested budget passes.

The division continues to look at other costs that could be shifted to the ETF particularly.

Mr. Tarver asked for questions on the Budget and there were none.

Mr. Tarver indicated the Division continues to work towards analysis of resources and opportunities in regards to employment initiatives. The Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program Community of Practice, under the U.S. Department of Labor, has accepted Alabama at our request, and will help us learn what other states are doing to bring together agencies to work together to provide employment services to people with disabilities.

Mr. Tarver related the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, Alabama Medicaid Agency, Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, and the Department of Mental Health will be meeting to share ideas about employment for individuals with developmental disabilities. He indicated that

twenty states adopted Employment First values and principles, and seven of those states have done so by statutes. DD will be seeking whether Alabama needs to put employment first in place by an executive order, agency pronouncement, or by statute (through a statute is preferred). A bill for employment first has not been drafted yet, but it is hopeful that a bill will be drafted soon. Mr. Tarver welcomed suggestions of components for this statute. Mr. Williams and Dr. Ferguson agreed to assist with drafting the statute for the employment first bill.

A discussion was held regarding Washington being a model state for the employment first program. It was noted that the National APSE website has great information on employment first.

Mr. Tarver informed the subcommittee that a DD Division Writing Team group is still working on the DD plan and will have a draft plan developed soon. Currently, they are working on developing objectives and strategies for the draft plan. Since DMH has begun developing a new Strategic Plan, now the DD Plan will be incorporated therein.

Mr. Tarver updated the Subcommittee on Medicaid Managed Care and related the Division is evaluating the recommendations from the Governor's Commission and the potential impact on populations we serve. This report recommends restructuring the Medicaid system into regional PCCNs and applying for an 1115 Demonstration Waiver. At this time, it appears that Long-term Care services are excluded from the recommendations. The report is available on the Medicaid website.

Waiting List/Call Center Update

An update on the waiting list status and the referral/resource calls for the call center was given by Mr. Williams. The waiting list status is 3,173. The waiting list documentation by county was distributed. The call center received 526 calls last quarter (October, November, and December of 2012). Ellen Gillespie asked how many people work in the call center. Mr. Williams reported 4 staff work in the Call Center and they handle all types of calls and function as Information and Referral for the division.

An inquiry was made regarding if day habilitation services on the waiting list can be divided into a separate category. Barbara Brunson commented that the information collected at the time someone is determined eligible for the waiting list may not be as complete and accurate to make such a definitive determination at this time.

Combined Workgroup Update

The combined workgroup update was given by Mrs. Martin, Dr. Ferguson and Ms. Rosalis. Ms. Martin related the workgroup has been very dedicated and is

working very hard toward developing strategies and recommendations. Mr. Tarver related the content the combined workgroup report was great. He noted that emphasis is being put on case management services and employment services because they need to take place.

He added, within the next three months, a consensus needs to take place on what waiver amendments should be submitted to Medicaid and CMS. The recommended waiver changes need to be submitted as soon as possible.

Ms. Martin noted dates of the combined workgroup upcoming meetings will be sent out soon.

Supported Employment Work Group (written report attached)

The supported employment work group update was given by Mr. White. He noted the workgroup continues to discuss job coach services, job developer services, and other issues related to supported employment. The next supported employment workgroup meeting will be held today at 1:00 p.m. at AIDT. Mr. White asked for questions about workgroup activities? No questions.

New Business

No new business at this time. Mr. Tarver asked the Subcommittee member to look at Se. Bill 29 (Ward) and get comments back to Jane Davis. Mr. Tarver noted he will like for the workgroups to continue to meet the remaining of this fiscal year and until some things are further addressed.

Dr. Edwards asked for the status of the Money Follows the Person (Act II Waiver).

Announcements

Tom Holmes reminded the Subcommittee that April 17th will be their Legislative Day.

Next Meeting

The next subcommittee meeting will be held April 2, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

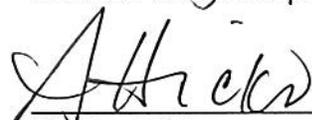
Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned.



Courtney W. Tarver, Associate Commissioner
Division of Developmental Disabilities

4-18-13
Date



Shirley Hicks
Recorder

4-18-13
Date