

**Coordinating Subcommittee for
Developmental Disabilities Services
Meeting Summary
July 10, 2012**

The Coordinating Subcommittee for Developmental Disabilities Services met July 10, 2012, at the AIDT Center in Montgomery, Alabama.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by the Chair and Acting Associate Commissioner, Courtney Tarver.

Courtney Tarver, DMH/DD Chair

Voting Members Present

Jeff Williams, DMH/DD Representative
Steven Lafreniere, DMH/DD Representative
Jim Dill, Alabama Council Representative
Anne Penney, Alabama Council Representative
Earl Brightwell, MR/DD Representative
Jo Poates, MR/DD Representative
Murray Townsend, Arc of Alabama Representative
Wallace Davis (DeAnna Ferguson), Other Provider Representative
Lou Vick, ACE/Arc Representative
Amanda Ward (Tom Holmes), Arc of Alabama Representative
Myra Jones, DD Council Representative

Voting Members Not Present

Darren Morris, People First Representative
Elouise Woods, People First Representative

Visitors

Dianne Durbin, Jeff Ridgeway, Danny Grant, John VanCamp, Susan Klingel, Patti Martin, Bill Hoehle, Lee Conner, Bill Summer, Ellen Gillespie, Greg Carlson, Amy Warren, Wade Reese Jane Davis, Dan Byrne, Donna Akins, Byron White, Audrey McShan, Mary Kemp, John Oakes, Becky Mathews, Cynthia Daniels, Vicki Hicks-Turnage, Meagan Compton, Barbara Brunson, LaGretta Ratliff, Cassandra Odom, Mike Martin, George Neal, Lori Leathers, Anthony Couch, Andy Slate, Carolyn Little, Gwendie Davis, Rose Hill, Renee' King-Holley, Donna Foster; and Terry Pezent

Recorder: Shirley Hicks

Approval of June 5, 2012 Minutes: Mr. Brightwell made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Martin, and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Introductions: Mr. Tarver introduced the new Commissioner, Jim Reddoch. Commissioner Reddoch shared with the subcommittee the history of his work experience.

He related Courtney Tarver was appointed Acting Associate Commissioner for the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DD) and Beverly Bell-Shamley was appointed Acting Associate for the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (MH/SA).

He also related the Department of Mental Health has undergone 3 years of proration which has been tough. It appears that the Department will get through at budgeted levels for FY12. For FY13, there will be a \$24 million shortfall over the level of funding, depending on what happens with the MH hospitals and other budget measures taken by DMH.

On the MH/SA side, the Department is looking at closing two facilities, Greil and Searcy. The census at Greil and Searcy is higher than it was back in April 2012. In his closing comments, Commissioner Reddoch expressed his desires to meet with everyone but right now things need to slow down until he gets a handle on things.

DD Updates/Workgroup Reports

Transition Workgroup: Mr. Lafreniere reported the transition workgroup has met since January and discussed strategies on how to serve individuals with developmental disabilities. At its June 27th meeting, Rebecca Wright presented on the "Money Follow the Person (MFP)" State Grant. Another workgroup meeting will be held in the near future.

Ms. Rosalis gave a brief overview about the Medicaid meeting held with Rebecca Wright and Ginger Wettingfeld.

- Medicaid is currently writing a systems change grant entitled, "Money Follow the Person". This grant is due August 8, 2012, and DMH is actively involved. Several other agencies including the MH side of DMH are involved as well.
- This systems change grant entails moving individuals from the facility to the community.
- Medicaid has held discussions about creating a second Alabama Community Transition (ACT) Waiver. The ACT II Waiver eligibility requirement will be nursing home level of care. The focus will be on moving some individuals not currently eligible for waiver services from

nursing homes to HCBS. This Waiver will not be paid out of the Department's budget; the funding will come from Alabama State Medicaid's budget. This waiver would also give the Department potential to serve individuals with developmental disabilities. There will not be a waiting list for the ACT II Waiver. An individual must be Medicaid eligible for this waiver (age 22-65). Under the ACT II Waiver, DD will be the operating Agency and Medicaid will be the funding agency.

Standards Update: Mr. Williams updated the group on the standards. The final draft of the regulations, guidance manual, and assessment tools were sent out to stakeholders. An approval from Commissioner Reddoch needs to be given before DD can proceed to the next step. Action also needs to be taken by August 2, 2012, in order for the standards to be codified. The plan is to conduct additional field tests runs of the assessment tools and certification process.

Waiting List Update: Mr. Williams updated the group on the waiting list. The waiting list status is 3,075:

1,843	receiving no services
1,058	receiving some services
71	waiting for services/not critical
<u>103</u>	receiving partial services/not critical
3,075	Total

During the quarter (April 2012 to June 2012) 20 individuals were served:

9	residential services
8	day services
<u>11</u>	support services
20	Total

This Fiscal Year, 105 new individuals were served:

52	residential services
36	day habilitation services
<u>51</u>	support services
139	services were given

From October 2011 to present, 505 individuals were added to the waiting list, with an average of 800 individuals added to the waiting list annually.

A discussion was held regarding whether the Living At Home Waiver could be expanded so that more individuals can be served off the DD waiting list. In summary, it was noted waiver slots cannot be expanded without additional state funding.

IRBI Rates Workgroup: Mr. Slate reported the workgroup will move forward and continue to look at all rates. Workgroup members will be contacted regarding the next meeting which will take place in the near future.

Supported Employment Workgroup/Trainings and Conferences. Mr. White reported a consultant attended their last workgroup meeting and gave a presentation on Washington and Oregon supported employment practices.

The supported employment workgroup's goal is to continue to create pathways for employment for individuals. The workgroup is still in the transition phases and does not currently have any formal recommendations. The workgroup continues to gather information about different programs and demographics to aid in the analysis, planning, and recommendations.

Budget Status: Mr. Slate reported the budget status for May 31, 2012, showed the same budget status as April 2012. There is a deficit of \$4.8 million with a \$4.1 million proration. The plan is to make up the deficit with the 2012 Land Sale.

Mr. Tarver related the budget is heavily dependent upon the passing of the Constitutional Amendment. If this amendment does not pass, there will probably be a special session. As more information is received from the Governor's Office, it will be passed on to subcommittee members. It was suggested that a Fact Sheet be developed. The subcommittee held a discussion about how a narrative in simple language regarding this Constitution Amendment would give individuals a clearer understanding.

New Business: The subcommittee was asked to present any issues related to new business. Members did not have any new business.

Mr. Tarver gave a formal introduction and shared with the subcommittee the history of his work experience and education. Individual introductions and concerns were then given by the group.

After introductions, Mr. Tarver related that he realized that there is a need for the subcommittee bylaws to be addressed. Plan is to move toward order and process during meetings and taking action on recommendations. Minor reconfigurations of seating during subcommittee meetings which may involve subcommittee voting members sitting together might take place. Members were asked to think about suggestions regarding the subcommittee bylaws and planning.

An inquiry was made regarding the expansion of Medicaid on ACA. Mr. Tarver will look into this issue and explore ways on how to marshal individuals into this analysis and shape it to meet DD consumers' needs. It was noted as the subcommittee gets information about major policies; it should be shared with all stakeholders.

An inquiry was made regarding the cost for DMH to participate in the expanded Medicaid Program. It was noted that it will cost DMH 90/10 until 2020 to participate in the expanded Medicaid Program.

In closing, Mr. Tarver encouraged everyone not to focus on our differences; instead we need to focus on our commonalities. Mr. Tarver will be making visits to community programs and learn more about their daily operations.

Announcements

- ADAP will be hosting a Public Hearing Friday August 24, 2012, from 12:30-2:30 at First Presbyterian Church, in Tuscaloosa. The public is invited to share their thoughts on ADAP's work on behalf of persons with disabilities. Flyers will be sent out.
- The Alabama Disability Conference will be held September 17-18, 2012 at Perdido Beach.

Next Meeting

The next DD Subcommittee meeting will be held August 7, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the AIDT Center.

Meeting Adjourned

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Courtney W. Tarver, Chair
Associate Commissioner
Division of Developmental Disabilities



Shirley Hicks
Recorder