

**Coordinating Subcommittee for
Division of Developmental Disabilities
Meeting Summary
August 6, 2013
AIDT Center (10:00 a.m.)**

The Coordinating Subcommittee for Intellectual Disabilities Services met at AIDT in Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Courtney W. Tarver, at 10:00 a.m.

Voting Members Present

Murray Townsend, Arc of Alabama Representative
Earl Brightwell, MR/DD Representative
Jo Poates, MR/DD Representative
Jeff Williams, ADMH/DD
Wallace Davis (Deanna Ferguson), Other Providers Representative
Jim Dill, Alabama Council Representative
Lou Vick (Terry Pezent), ACE/Arc Representative
Steve Lafreniere, ADMH/DD

Visitors

Patti Martin, Provider Representative/Region 4
Lee Conner, Visitor
Cassandra Odom, ADMH/Region 2
Ellen Gillespie, ADAP
Eleanor Tolbert, ADMH/Region 3
Mike Martin, ADMH/Region 4
Barbara Brunson, ADMH/Region 5
Andy Slate, ADMH/DD
Donna Basden Akins, Arc of Shoals County
Danny Grant, People First
John VanCamp, Provider Representative, Region 2
Byron White, ADMH/DD
Lori Leathers, ADMH/Region 3
Anthony Couch/ADMH/DD
Wade Reese/Arc of Fayette, Lamar, Marengo Co.
Renee' King-Holley, King CRF, AL Providers Inc.
Dianne Durbin, ADMH/Advocacy
George Neal, ADMH/DD

Recorder

Shirley Hicks

Approval of June 4, 2013, Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Lafreniere to approve the minutes of June 4, 2013, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pezent, and the motion passed. The subcommittee did not meet July 2013.

Agenda

Mr. Townsend requested that "Day Programs" be added to the Agenda. Mr. Tarver noted that "Day Programs" will be discussed under Supported Employment. A motion was made by Mr. Townsend to approve the agenda. The

motion was seconded by Mr. Williams, and it was approved.

Associate Commissioner's Report

A written report of the Associate Commissioner's activities since the last DD subcommittee meeting was provided.

Medicaid Managed Care Update

There was no new information on managed care. The group was encouraged to periodically monitor the Alabama Medicaid website at www.medicaid@alabama.gov for updates.

Employment First Developments

Mr. Tarver relayed that on August 19th the Supported Employment Leadership Network (SELN) surveys will be sent to advocates, families, and providers. The survey has a window of a 10-day turnaround. The data will give SELN a good baseline on how to proceed with providing technical assistance regarding employment. Also, SELN Representatives will be making their on-site visits next month, September 30-October 3, 2013.

Contracts Progress

All contracts have been signed, and hopefully they will be mailed soon.

Waiting List Update

Mr. Williams gave an update of the waiting list. Currently, the waiting list status is 2,967. Copies of the waiting list data and the waiting list by county were distributed to members.

Mr. Brightwell commented since we are moving toward employment, will it be logical to add "supported employment" as a category to the waiting list and delete day program. A dialogue was held regarding this comment.

Combined Workgroup Update

Mrs. Martin gave an update. She relayed the workgroup's seven recommendations regarding day programs and supported employment were submitted to the supported employment workgroup. She noted recommendations from the combined workgroup are not ready to be submitted to the DD subcommittee yet. A summarized update was provided.

Supported Employment Workgroup Update

The next supported employment workgroup meeting will be held Monday, August 12, 2013, in Pelham, Alabama.

Mr. Tarver expressed the supported employment workgroup needs to be focused on employment. Workgroup will not be entertaining whether the Department is appropriately interpreting the Olmstead Law about sheltered workshops. The decision to go forward with employment has already been made, and the purpose of the supported employment workgroup is to assist with determining

best ways in accomplishing this goal. While doing this, we also need to give people an informed and meaningful choice about employment.

A discussion was held about providing the proper supports for individuals who want to work, and about individuals who will require substantial supports in order to work.

Dr. Gillespie relayed that in the next couple of months, ADAP will be submitting a report about day programs and employment. She added, there is no reason why Alabama should be at the bottom of the national list for employment of individuals with developmental disabilities. She inquired about the data on individuals who are currently working and their current wages. She thought this data was in the process of being compiled.

A dialogue was held about Region I - VR programs and the lack of success.

Dr. Ferguson noted a plan need to be developed regarding how to shift services back to day services or residential services when individuals retire.

New Business and Announcements

Consideration of Management Steering Committee Framework

Mr. Tarver conveyed at the last Management Steering Committee (MSC) meeting a discussion was held about the framework of the MSC. Dr. Dill relayed that the MSC Administrative Code needs to be realigned with how it supposed to operate or repealed. Mr. Brightwell commented at least at the DD subcommittee meetings stakeholders get an opportunity to voice their opinions.

Members were asked to review the distributed MSC Bylaws and Administrative Code and submit their feedback and input to Mr. Lafreniere. At the September 3rd meeting, the MSC framework recommendations will be discussed.

Cost of Living

Mr. Townsend indicated providers have not had a cost of living since 1999. He requested Mr. Tarver to put in a request for a cost of living for providers. Mr. Tarver noted even if he submits a request this does not guarantee a cost of living increase, but that he would submit the request.

Mrs. Martin and others extended big thanks to Mr. Tarver and the Department for the providers' 3% rate restoration. They really appreciate it.

Announcements

Dr. Ferguson announced she is a member of ANCOR, and they are recognizing, September 8, 2013, as the National Direct Support Professional Week. She would like to request a Governor's Proclamation. Mr. Brightwell made a motion to request a proclamation from the Governor, and Mr. Williams seconded the motion.

Ms. Pezent reminded everyone about the September 15-17, 2013, Alabama Disability Conference to be held in Period Beach Resort, Orange Beach, Alabama.

Next Meeting

The next subcommittee meeting will be held September 3, 2013, at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

With no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Brightwell and seconded by Mr. Lafreniere to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Courtney W. Tarver, Associate Commissioner
Division of Developmental Disabilities

Shirley Hicks
Recorder