

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES
AND SPECIAL EDUCATION**

**Developmental Disabilities Committee
Meeting Minutes**

LOCATION

**Governor's Council Conference Room
3601 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska
Teleconference**

Meeting Date

**May 1, 2017
1:00 p.m.**

Attendees:

Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus
Art Delaune
Mark Regan
Mallory Hamilton
Mary Middleton
Elizabeth Joseph
Brittney Howell
Grace Gray
Amanda Lofgren
Caitlyn Rogers
Annette Blanas

Staff:

Kristin Vandagriff
Anne Applegate
Patrick Reinhart

Prepared by: Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

Call to Order – 1:00 p.m.
Roll Call

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus welcomed the committee members to the meeting.

INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND GOOD NEWS

Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus shared that it is graduation week in Kiana.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was reported.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

No conflicts of interest were declared.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mallory Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the agenda, **SECONDED** by Britteny Howell. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Britteny Howell **MOVED** to approve the minutes from the April 2017 meeting as written, **SECONDED** by Art Delaune. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**.

REPORTS

Chair Report and FASD Workgroup Update

Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus shared that the information the DD Committee will be presenting at the Council meeting is available if committee members want to view it before the meeting.

Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus reported that with regards to the FASD Workgroup

activities, she and Christie Reinhardt made a presentation to the Trust to try to secure funding for the FASD planning committee to develop a five-year plan. She stated that they were encouraged to communicate with the Trust on a regular basis on the activities of the workgroup. Jeanne noted that they are looking forward to a favorable response from the Trust. Their planning committee will begin meeting towards the end of June.

I/DD Unit

Caitlyn Rogers gave a brief overview of the 1915 (c) supports waiver the Department is in the process of developing. She reported that in response to diminishing grant funding, they are developing and implementing a new 1915(c) waiver to help transition people from state funding to federal-match funding. It is intended to have the same level of care criteria that is currently part of the 1915(c) comprehensive waiver as far as eligibility. The Department has been sending notices encouraging people to get on the waitlist through the DDRR to ensure they have Medicaid eligibility and to hopefully draw out those people that they have not captured in their analysis. They are working with the Home and Community-Based Services contractors and CMS through the Trust to develop a work plan, and they are hoping to go live January 1st.

Caitlyn Rogers reported that there are 463 people on the I/DD waitlist. She noted that the number last year got down to 535, and they attribute that to having a strong support staff team who are diligent about sending out notices to update DDRR. Caitlyn reported that the Department is on target to finish the year with 50 draws.

Mental Health Trust Authority

Amanda Lofgren reported that the Trust staff said good-bye to Jeff Jesse this week. Jeff is leaving the Trust and beginning a new chapter at the University, and although he will be missed, they are happy for him.

The Trust is beginning the FY19 budget planning process. They have scheduled a board meeting this week to address the second year of the two-year cycle. The next steps include a stakeholder's meeting in June, and a board meeting in August with an anticipated budget approval in September.

Amanda Lofgren stated that the Trust will give an in-depth report at the full Council meeting May 9th that will include updates on the CEO recruitment and the organizational assessment.

**AHFC
AADD
Key Coalition/Campaign**

There were no reports available from the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, AADD, and Key Coalition/Campaign.

Council Update/Executive Committee

Patrick Reinhart reported that the Executive Committee met April 12th and finalized the plans for the Council meeting scheduled for May 9th. Patrick stated that the agenda was amended to accommodate SDS's public comment hearing on proposed regulations related to day habilitation and supported employment scheduled for the same day to allow for Council members to participate.

Medicaid Update

Kristin Vandagriff reported that in the month of May, the Medicaid Ad Hoc Committee will be focused on drafting comments on SDS's proposed regulations for day habilitation and supported employment.

Amanda Lofgren reported that the ICC Council meeting is scheduled for May 18th with an anticipated discussion around the limited supports waiver.

ADRD Home, Deaf Program, Intentional Neighborhoods

Britteny Howell briefly reported that the ADRD home is still working through licensing.

Mallory Hamilton reported that the intentional neighborhood project in Soldotna is in the bidding process for the construction. The families involved need to write letters of support and commitment so that Hope Community Resources can apply for a variance to build six group homes at

a time as opposed to the two they are allowed.

OLD BUSINESS

Level of Care Application Follow Up

Caitlyn Rogers followed up on the query the DD Committee forwarded from their discussion on the I/DD application checklist related to renewals. She stated that although there was a checklist for initial and interim applications, they did not include a checklist for renewal applications, because typically when someone is already on the I/DD waiver, the documents requested are not necessarily the same as the documentation requested for initial or interim applications unless there is a diagnostic change.

Workforce Development Group

Anne Applegate reported that she participated in AADD's Hot Topics teleconference related to workforce development. She stated that the meeting was focused on the survey results and outlining the next steps for the group.

Amanda Lofgren shared that when the Trust went through the stakeholder process for the shared DD vision, workforce became a priority area. Through various efforts that have been underway for several years with regards to workforce and core competencies, there was talk of an initiative with the Department of Labor around apprenticeships, promoting competencies, and potential incentives. She noted that starting this dialogue may be instrumental in leveraging additional resources to help to address the needs of the individuals while making the philosophical paradigm shift to a person-centered system and assist direct service providers in embracing those efforts moving forward.

Kristin Vandagriff stated that the DD Committee's small workgroup dedicated to workforce development is being formed and plans to meet towards the end of May/early June. Kristin will send a poll via e-mail to see who would be interested in participating in the workgroup.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Meeting May 9th

Kristin Vandagriff reminded people that the Council meeting is scheduled for May 9th and will be available through WebEx, teleconference, and in person at the Frontier Building in Anchorage. Kristin noted that the public forum will begin at 5:30 p.m. and the theme is supported decision making and guardianship.

DDRR Report 2016

Caitlyn Rogers reported on the DDRR in her I/DD Unit Report above.

DHSS Proposed Changes to Regulations

Mark Regan led a discussion regarding the proposed changes to regulations related to day habilitation and supported employment. He shared a letter the Disability Law Center wrote to the Council on their review of the proposed regulations stating the proposed limits on day habilitation are not fully consistent with recently enacted federal person-centered planning and settings regulations.

The DD Committee members had a discussion and made a recommendation to try to access any presentation that was made on the proposed changes and information related to fiscal notes to garner clarification on the Department's rationale for the changes. Kristin Vandagriff noted that the Council will be working on putting together feedback gathered from DLC, AADD, Council committees, and other stakeholders to formalize the content into a draft comment letter to present at the Council meeting.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/CONFERENCES

May 9, 2017

GCDSE Council Meeting

TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next regular DD Committee is scheduled for June 7, 2017 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mallory Hamilton **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting, **SECONDED** by Elizabeth Joseph. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**, and the meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.