

DRAFT Advisory Council to the Division of Autism Services
Minutes, March 17, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nancy Bagatell, Maggie Casciato, Jennifer Carroll, Judy Dowd, Ruth Eren, Jan Galloway, Ann Gionet, Jacqueline Kelleher, David Daniel Klipper, Sara Lourie James Loomis, Sara Reed, Nikki Richer, Lois Rosenwald, Jonathan Ross, Stan Soby, Larry Wood and Jennifer Ureta

MEMBERS ABSENT: Catherine Abercrombie, Mary Franco, Chera Gerstein, Angela Klonski, Joseph Stobierski, Tricia Winter

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS: Kathy Reddington, Lori Conchado

There were no members of the public present.

Announcements

Jennifer Carroll shared an invitation (Attached) for Adults on the Spectrum to spend a day at the UCONN School of Pharmacy on April 16th.

Update on the Autism Waiver (Kathy Reddington, Nikki Richer and Sara Lourie)

Kathy has been working closely with DMHAS and DCF on development of the Services to be offered in the 3- Tiered Waiver. The waiver will provide services for low, medium and high need consumers on the spectrum. This is a revenue enhancement waiver for approximately 300 individuals already receiving services through DMHAS, DCF and DDS. DCF will transfer approximately 52 individuals to DDS who are between the ages of 3 -8, and 100 individuals between 9 -21.

Kathy has been working with Nikki and Sara to gather information on individuals that qualify for the waiver. A Level of Need (LON) Assessment will be used to determine which waiver each individual will qualify for. Targeted case management will be offered to individuals enrolled in the waiver.

Kathy reviewed the 20 categories of services to be offered in the waiver. The complete list of services will be e-mailed to all once changes are made.

Kathy has requested approximately 10 staff positions to provide case managers, IT support, fiscal support and clinical support. This request is pending.

Data Committee

Jacqui Kelleher has been in touch with the State of Pennsylvania regarding a survey they have utilized to gather information on housing for those with ASD. A critical factor in doing this is determining the “hidden costs” of not having the housing. Stan Soby and Nancy Bagatell have volunteered to work with this committee. The Data Committee needs to look at needs not funded through a waiver. How do you get HUD funding to open up apartments? How can we develop information for families on how to do a project?

Housing Committee

Larry Wood discussed his relevant experience and wants to be involved with this Committee.

Public Affairs Committee

Sara Reed has received a copy of the 22 minute webcast filed at UCONN and is working on cutting this down to approximately 5 minutes. This shortened version can be used for Legislative Events and Forums. The full webcast is available for viewing on the DDS website at: www.ct.gov/dds under “Video Library.”

Council members discussed the possibility of a Press Release or Press Conference to make the public aware of the Autism Waiver. Kathy would like to check with our legislative liaisons on this as it involves DDS.

Next Meeting is scheduled for May 19th.