

DDS Autism Spectrum Disorders Advisory Council (ASDAC)
Minutes
October 23, 2013

Members Present: Catherine Abercrombie, Jennifer Bogin, Wendy Campbell, Judy Dowd, Marcia Eckerd, Ruth Eren, Ann Gionet, Bill Halsey, Zachary Laudano, James Loomis, Sara Lourie, Kathy Marchione, John Molteni, Yana Razumnaya, Sara Reed, Lynn Ricci, Lois Rosenwald, Carole Ryan-Hanlon, Robert Shea, Maria Synodi, Doriana Vicedomini, Commissioner Terrence Macy

Members Absent: Beth Leslie, Nikki Richer

Guests: Sarah Abelli, Cathy Calway, Christine Damato, Michael Blaszkowski, DDS Staff, Brian Becker

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 AM

Welcome and Introductions

Public Comment:

No public comment

Overview of Council Books:

- Contents of council books were reviewed, books contain by-laws based on statute, a copy of the feasibility study, membership lists, meeting dates, etc.

Order of Business:

Co-Chair non-state employee

Lois Rosenwald, ASRC nominated Sara Reed, ASRC as co-chair

Ruth Eren 2nd the nomination

Sara Reed Unanimously approved

Subcommittee reports:¹

- Qualified Professionals and Effective Services (Jim Loomis & Brian Reichow)
Subcommittee charged with coming up with a system to credential providers and endorse effective measures. Set up a credentialing process, set up life skills credentialing process and have it be user friendly.
- Training, Consultation and Learning Opportunities (John Molteni & Tierney Giannotti) Look into who we are training. Medical professionals, educators, community providers, direct care staff and families. Funding is the barrier. Training should be competency based that incorporate the aspects of understanding ASD. A train the trainer model, videos.

- Access to Comprehensive Resource Guide (Sara Reid & Ann Gionet) Resource guide should be user friendly, model the ASRC Resource Guide, mimic the 211 Info Line, Child Development info line. It should be an online website that is database driven and maintained. It should offer local, municipal, federal level resources and include training opportunities. It should be comprehensive, include nutritional information, have multiple entry points and continue over the life span. Look into how other states are compiling resources, set up chat rooms, video productions, have real live people to help families navigate and be available in Spanish as well as other languages.
- Implement Effective Services (Doriana Vicedomini) Create social and recreational opportunities for the ASD population in schools, churches and in the community. The subcommittee has decided to focus on the in-home behavioral support pilot project. They are exploring the IICAPS (Intensive In-Home Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Services) model as one option. The committee went to Yale to sit in on IICAPS rounds. Found that IICAPS was not helpful in some cases when the child being served was on the spectrum. ICAPS is not developed for the ASD population; it's not an exact fit. They found that the clinicians do not have experience with the ASD population. Yale is open to whatever the State comes up with. Yale has their own agenda; however, they are excited to work together with the ASD population and train staff.

Other:

- Rep. Catherine Abercrombie asked that the BCBA certification requirement for State license vs. National Certificate be put on the next agenda. Interested in what other states are doing.
- Zachary Laudano would like to invite ASD individuals to come to meetings
- There was discussion about the fact that there is a critical need for more social and recreational opportunities for adults on the spectrum. Adults face significant isolation which leads to problems.
- It was suggested that the service implementation committee re-examine their choice to focus solely on the in-home behavior support piece and consider splitting into two groups.
- It was suggested that the Council bring Insurance Board Representatives to the meetings; look into autism codes and coverage.
- Connecticut was 1 of 5 states chosen to receive the Community in Practice Grant. Robin Wood, DDS to give an update at another council meeting.
- Lois Rosenwald, ASRC knows a Recreation Therapist from ASRC who would like to chair another subcommittee for recreational opportunities for adults on the spectrum.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM

Next meeting is Wednesday, January 22, 2014 10:00am-12:00pm
Location TBD

ⁱⁱ For more information see attached subcommittee reports