

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION

Developmental Disabilities Committee Meeting

LOCATION

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

Meeting Date

September 12, 2011
2:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Kathy Fitzgerald, Chair
Kaleene Lamb
Ric Nelson
Lucy Odden
Sean O'Brien
Steve Williams
Brian Knight
Steve Lesko
Kelly Donnelly
Art Delaune
Emily Ennis
Tara Horton
Missy Williams
Marcy Rein

Staff:

Teresa Holt
Carrie Predeger

Prepared by:

Paula DiPaolo, Peninsula Reporting

Call to Order – 2:00 p.m.

Roll Call

INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS OR GOOD NEWS

Teresa Holt announced that they have two new interns, Josie Boggs and Jasmine Woodland.

Lucy Odden announced that she will be participating in the Alliance for Full Participation in Washington, D.C.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Steve Lesko **MOVED** to approve the agenda. The motion **PASSED**.

APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Lucy Odden **MOVED** to approve the minutes from the August 1, 2011 meeting. The motion was **APPROVED**.

CORRESPONDENCE

Teresa Holt reported that they received an invitation from TSA to meet at the Anchorage office on September 16th to begin discussions about ways that TSA and people with disabilities can work better together.

Teresa Holt stated that she will be trying to set up a meeting with the folks coming up regarding emergency preparedness.

Teresa stated that she received a draft letter from the IACC to Kathleen Sebelius about restraint and seclusion. Teresa Holt reviewed the letter and its recommendations to the DD Committee members. Ric Nelson and Lucy Odden requested copies of the draft letter be e-mailed to them.

REPORTS

Chair's Report

Kathy Fitzgerald reported that she and Millie Ryan and other Executive

Committee members met with the commissioner last week. They discussed waiver costs, intensive active treatment, and the budget recommendations that the Council forwarded to the Trust.

Kathy stated that they reviewed the high-cost waiver survey that Carrie Predeger had done for the Council, and the agencies that responded to the survey were mostly the big waiver agencies. The commissioner commented that the waivers in general are pretty costly, and he cited an example of waste of Medicaid spending as unused diapers stored in a garage. Kathy stated that they need to come up with a good response to the commissioner about how they can save money through supplies funded through Medicaid.

Dayna McGuire commented that she and Ric Nelson did some figuring after the meeting with the commissioner and they discovered that the waiver costs average out to \$60,000 per person on a waiver in the state.

Ric Nelson **MOVED** that the Council form a Medicaid ad hoc committee or a healthcare committee through the Executive Committee. The motion **PASSED**. Ric Nelson will get this item on the agenda for the next Executive Committee meeting. Kathy Fitzgerald suggested that they add how to save money in traveling to that conversation.

Kathy Fitzgerald then discussed the conversation they had with the commissioner regarding intensive active treatment. In the end she didn't feel as if they had really gotten an answer from him on that.

Kathy noted that there will be a meeting on September 26th regarding intensive active treatment. Representatives at this meeting will include the Council, Disability Law Center, Office of Public Advocacy, and the three major providers of services for individuals who are in those clinics. There will be a training, a workshop, and specific follow up regarding adequate documentation in plans of care. She stated that she will follow up with the DD Committee regarding the outcome of that meeting.

Senior and Disability Services

Missy Williams referred the committee members to the DD registry report.

She noted that they discussed emergency evacuations in the manager's meeting last week and there is a plan in the works. They are trying to figure out ways to find the unaccounted people that may not be on waivers or in assisted living facilities so they can be assisted in case of an emergency.

Missy stated that they updated the website on the DD side. They tried to gear the update toward making it easier for people, who have no idea about State services, to navigate.

AADD

Noel Murray provided the report for Emily Ennis and stated that the AADD face-to-face meeting is October 13 and 14 in the Trust conference room. The meetings will start at 10:00 am. The agenda will be available by the end of the week.

Council

Teresa Holt reported that the Council meeting is October 5 – 7 at the Trust office. They will be holding a DD Committee meeting on Friday, October 7th over lunch.

Teresa stated that they presented to the Trust last week, and they approved everything. All of the Council's budget recommendations will be going to the Governor's office.

Executive Committee

Ric Nelson stated that they discussed the bylaws at the last Executive Committee meeting. They also discussed the face-to-face meeting as well as the agenda for the October Council meeting.

Kathy Fitzgerald added that the Executive Committee discussed term limits and the general idea is maybe three terms. Another issue they discussed is whether or not the DD chair should be appointed by the Council chair. They also discussed whether or not the Legislative Committee chair should go to a two-year position that corresponds to the legislative session. She stated that they will further discuss these issues at the full Council meeting.

A discussion ensued regarding whether or not the DD chair should be elected or appointed, and if elected, whether or not it should be by the full Council or the DD Committee.

A vote was taken and the DD Committee voted to recommend that the chair of the DD Committee be appointed by the chair of the Council.

Lucy Odden **MOVED** to recommend that the chair of the DD Committee be appointed for a two-year term. The motion **PASSED**.

Key Coalition

Steve Lesko reported that the heart of the 25th Key Campaign will take place February 22nd and 23rd.

OLD BUSINESS

Intensive Active Treatment

Kathy Fitzgerald covered the main topic regarding IAT in her Chair's report.

Bylaws

Bylaws were discussed under the Executive Committee report.

Face-to-Face Meeting

Carrie Predeger stated that Millie Ryan suggested the DD Committee meet in Wasilla or the Valley due to travel costs. The group decided that their first choice would be Wasilla; the second choice would be Anchorage.

The group decided to do a Doodle to determine dates for the face-to-face meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

FY'12 Work Plan

Teresa Holt stated that the committee members were forwarded a blank work plan with the priorities in order voted by the full Council. The DD Committee needs to fill in with activities under each goal. Kathy Fitzgerald suggested they look at the activities from last year's plan, forward those unfinished activities to this year's plan, and add any additional activities needed.

1. Rate Review

The recommendation is to move all the activities from the previous year's work plan to this year's plan. Kathy Fitzgerald noted that they may introduce legislation equivalent to SB 32. She also stated they can also revise these activities when the new regulations come out. Steve Lesko also recommended expanding the first activity to include other legislators in addition to Senator Ellis.

2. DSP Living Wage

Teresa Holt suggested that they need to gather existing data and obtain the wage and benefit subcommittee information before they do everything. She noted that they will probably have a Midwest Academy. Kathy Fitzgerald noted that they should add an activity to have a dialogue with trustees.

3. Autism Insurance

Teresa Holt stated that she will add an activity to have a Midwest Academy and take the last piece off. She will add Senate strategies and House strategies.

4. Alaska Comprehensive Behaviors Collaborative (The Hub)

Teresa Holt stated that they are going to be doing a Midwest Academy for the Hub. Steve Lesko suggested clarifying what they mean by "advocate" and make it something more concrete and definable. Activities added will be: Participate in Key, do a Midwest Academy and

assign ongoing activities to Council members.

5. Supporting Self-Advocacy Organizations

Teresa Holt suggested they make the activities under this goal be the objectives from the Five-Year State Plan.

1. Reestablish a statewide self-advocacy organization led by individuals with developmental disabilities.
2. Identify at least one opportunity annually for individuals with developmental disabilities, who are considered leaders, to provide leadership training to people with developmental disabilities.
3. Support and expand participation of four individuals with developmental disabilities per year in cross disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions.
4. Increase the knowledge and policymaking process and advocacy skills for 300 Alaskans with developmental disabilities.

Lucy Odden suggested adding an activity of Peer Power and attending the Alliance for Full Participation. Lucy will check with Millie Ryan to see if the Peer Power meetings will be ongoing.

Teresa continued on to note that in the State Plan they have that they will provide support by arranging regular teleconference meetings and one annual face-to-face meeting for the self-advocacy organization. Self-advocacy organization is to hold a self-advocacy conference every other year, advocating with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority for funds to have a conference.

6. Housing

Kathy Fitzgerald suggested leaving in the first activity, but taking out Eagle River and just making it an intentional community in Alaska. She also suggested adding Hope under “who”.

The last activity regarding electronic monitoring systems will be changed to: Research the ability to bill Medicaid for monitoring systems.

7. Ongoing

Kathy Fitzgerald suggested modifying D to be coordinating opportunities with self-advocates from the various provider organizations and share curriculum and information.

Carrie Predeger noted that C may need to be changed because Jennifer Jones moved into a new position.

The consensus of the group was to remove activity J.

SDS Financial Accountability Policy (Draft)

Carrie Predeger stated that she can send this out and see if anyone thinks the DD Committee should provide comment. She noted that comments are due on the 23rd. Kathy Fitzgerald noted that they need input from the AADD to have enough information to comment on this.

Other Information for the Good of the Order

Tara Horton stated that in terms of the Medicaid task force to look at efficiencies, their only task was to produce a report for the Governor and the legislature, and this particular body has disbanded at this point. Now the department is developing timelines for each of the recommendations. Tara will e-mail a copy of the report to Carrie Predeger.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next DD Committee meeting will be face to face during the full Council meeting on October 7 from 12:00 to 1:30.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.