



GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

FASD Workgroup

LOCATION

Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education
3601 C Street, Suite 740
Anchorage, Alaska

June 4, 2014
3-4:30pm

Attendees:

Aileen McInnis, Anna Attla, Michael Baldwin, Michael Jeffery, Patrick Pillai, Teri Tibbett, Travis Hedwig, Trish Smith, Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus (Chair), Art Delaune (Co-Chair), Carrie Predeger (Staff)

CALL TO ORDER

Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus called the meeting to order at 3:02pm.

ROLL CALL

Jeanne took roll call.

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

Jeanne welcomed the group and announced that Christie was attending another meeting, so Carrie Predeger would be acting in her absence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeanne announced that she will be leaving care coordination to work for the STAR Program.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Aileen McInnis motioned to approve the agenda. Trish seconded the motion. The agenda was approved with the addition of "Announcements".

OLD BUSINESS

Into Action Training: Jean delivered *Into Action* Training at UAA during the first week of June. Thirty-four people were registered and funds were available to bring in representation from a variety of ages, locations and providers. The training was 2 days (16 hours).

NEW BUSINESS

1. **DD Eligibility:** The Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Registration and Review (IDRR) Workgroup met on June 3rd. Art Delaune attended. The meeting was a "IDRR 101" training, wherein the entire eligibility and registration process was reviewed. The purpose of the Workgroup is to review the waitlist (IDRR) and eligibility process to see if it can be more streamlined and/or if it needs updating. This is anticipated to be a one-two year project.
2. **Service Home:** Jeanne noted that FASD belongs in the DD "home".
3. **Educational Services:** Jeanne noted that, with a diagnosis of FASD, an individual can potentially be served as "other health impaired" in the schools. The issue is, if the individual does not have a diagnosis, how will they be served and get the services that they need? Also, even if they have a diagnosis of FASD, they might not get the services they need (the school may not accept the diagnosis).
4. **Birth through Life Supports, Accommodations and Services:** Judge Jeffery read testimony from a woman (CJ) who experiences FASD. She wrote about the stereotypes and stigma of living with FASD. An interview occurred in November with Judge Jeffery's by the Anchorage Daily News. The article was published on May 31, 2014 and can be found here: <http://www.adn.com/2014/05/31/3496090/call-him-minimum-mike-if-you-like.html>.
5. **Prevention of Secondary Disabilities:** Jeanne presented to the ABADA and AMHB on May 21st on FASD. The group was very receptive, but she is not sure what will come out of that meeting, but at least FASD is on their radar. Also, Teri Tibbett stated that she met with Adam Rutherford at the Department of Corrections (DOC), who is a supervisor for mental health services within DOC to discuss cultural awareness for prisoners and *Into Action Training*. Additionally, Teri stated that in July, DOC will be hiring someone to investigate a better screening tool for FASD and other diagnoses within the DOC. This position will be Trust-funded. Teri stated that she sent the Workgroup a list of the legislation from the 2014 session pertaining to FASD, as well as FY15 budget items that support FASD...the most she has seen in 20 years, which shows that there is a much larger awareness within the legislature. Teri also reported that the Juneau FASD Working Group is planning a conference, to be held March 2-3, 2015, for families and those centered on FASD, such as attorneys, foster parents and individuals involved with DOC.
6. **Self-Advocacy:** (SAFA Chapter) Jeanne read Christie's update on a SAFA Chapter. In short, Alaska has non-monetary support at the national level, but will not be able to contribute funds for the foreseeable future. Anna stated that the Washington, DC meeting was very good and that a plan was made, but it is now time for the plan to be updated, especially with the court system, as they have a hard time helping those with FASD. (Youth in FASD Workgroup) Jeanne told the Workgroup that she spoke with an individual (Eliza) from AYFN during the Into Action meeting in Anchorage and she is very interested in reinventing the old Youth in FASD Workgroup. Jeanne will be in touch with her and Teri Tibbett will offer staff support. The goal is to invite and gather individuals who are interested in FASD. (Substance Abuse Treatment for Individuals with FASDs)

Jeanne stated that, if accommodations were provided firsthand, substance abuse could be avoided.

7. **FASD Media Campaign:** There is \$500,000 in the FY15 Trust budget as of July 1, 2014 for a public campaign on raising the awareness of FASD and combating FASD stigma. The scope is not defined yet.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

What are some action items for raising awareness on FASD and reducing the stigma (i.e. dropping off brochures, etc.)?

Check out the SAMSA website on FASD readiness and order brochures: Tip #51 on FASD Prevention, Intervention and Treatment.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm, with the next meeting to be held on July 1, 2014 from 3-4:30pm.

Creating Change That Improves the Lives of People with Disabilities