

Developmental Disabilities Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

November 29, 2023

I. Call to order

Lorie Regier called to order the regular meetings of the Developmental Disabilities (DD) Advisory Committee at 10:00 am on Wednesday, November 29, 2023.

II. Roll call

The following persons were present:

Advisory Members Present:

In Person – Lorie Regier, Diane Focht, Kristen Larsen, Stacy Bliss, Mike Browne, Mark Shriver, Suzanne Wahlgren, Jennifer Hansen

Virtual - Angela Willey, Jennifer Miller, Peg Huss, Kizzie Vaughn, Debbie Salomon, Dorothy Ackland, Christina Zeleski, Dianne DeLair

Advisory Members Absent:

Linda Clemens, Lisa Pruitt, Cris Petersen

DHHS Staff: In Person: Tony Green, Tyla Watson, Jenn Clark, Kristen Smith, Jenna Meyer Virtual: Britt Sommer

Other/Meeting Presenters: Paul Murdock, Liberty Health Care; Edison McDonald, Arc of Nebraska; Joe Valenti, Advocate; Rick Nelsen, Mosaic

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Mike Browne made a motion to approve minutes as presented, motion 2nd by Kristen Larsen. Minutes were approved as presented.

IV. Quality Update presented by Paul Murdoch, Liberty Healthcare & Kristen Smith

➤ The Mortality Review and Critical Incident quality systems have been improved to expand data collection.

➤ Liberty/DHHS is hosting a Stakeholder Strategic Feedback Session on December 6, 2023. Committee members and stakeholders are encouraged to attend. Information about the session is on the DHHS website. There is also a flyer. Please note this session does require registration.

Follow-up: Tyla Watson to send a copy of the stakeholder feedback session flyer to committee members.

➤ Currently working to fill the committee member list on the newly developed Human and Legal Rights Advisory Committee. Both volunteer and suggested members are being considered for the committee. Reviewed the current list of people invited to be on the Human and Legal Rights Advisory Committee. Current affiliations included are: Self-Advocates, Advocate, University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) – Munroe-Meyer, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN), Pharmacist, Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)-DDD, Centers for Independent Living, Consultant – Aging & Disabilities Field, Parent/Teacher. Also currently looking to include Medical Provider and Occupational Therapy/Physical Therapy (OT/PT) representation.

V. Developmental Disabilities Updates:

➤ Registry of Unmet Needs Update

- HANDOUT: Registry Statistics November 1, 2023;
 - 2,606 of Registry of need, this is 31 additional since the October meeting.

➤ DD Court-Ordered Custody Act Update:

- HANDOUT: DD Court-Ordered Custody Act Statistics – November 1, 2023;
 - 47 Active DD COCA Cases, this is one additional since the October meeting.
 - Follow-up: Advisory committee would request a breakdown on average length of commitment by County.

➤ Family Support Waiver

- The Family Support Waiver has been submitted to CMS. The department is currently waiting to hear back if there are any questions from CMS.
- Families with children on the waitlist have been asked to complete a survey. Have received back approximately 900 out of 1,300 surveys.
- Committee discussed people receiving services having leases to protect both the landlord (whether that is an SLP or someone else) and the individual in services. Follow-up: Committee would like to continue this discussion about Leases at a future meeting.

VI. Public Comments:

- Kristen Larsen: The Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities is issuing a request for applications (RFA) to increase knowledge on the Home and Community-Based Services Final Settings Rule.
- Joe Valenti: Meyer Stauffer Report. Asking if the report is public or if the hearing has been scheduled. Answer is not at this time. The report is due to the Legislature December 15, 2023. Once the report is submitted to the Legislature it would be a public document.
- Mandi Wilson: Re: Shared living providers. She's hearing people are concerned about being anonymous/speaking out because they are concerned about backlash from employers and/or the state.
- Letters submitted for public comment regards concerns with upcoming shared living provider policy:
 - Mandi Wilson– 11/17/2023
 - Melody Stobbe – 11/16/2023
 - Debra Redmacker – 11/16/2023
 - Heather Kozak – 11/16/2023
 - Mandi Wilson #2 – 11/17/2023
 - Jim & Sally James – 11/12/2023
 - Tori Sorensen – 11/17/2023
 - Claire Wilkins, Anew Shared Living Providers, LLC – 11/20/2023
 - Peggy Lang – Omaha

- Follow-up: Committee would like to know how many of the 137 people who will have a change with the Voc/Res SLP setting have located other services to state as of 1/1?

VII. Old Business:

- Committee structure/bylaws update – Mike Browne
 - Subcommittee met one since the last meeting.
 - Would like input from Tony Green, Director on how he thinks the committee can be better organized.
 - Discussion items:
 - Would like to get idea/input from multiple angles.
 - What level on involvement does the committee need/want to have.
 - Term limits.
 - What sub-committees/topics should the committee be tackling.
 - Sub-Committee to meet again prior to the next meeting.
 - Attendance
 - Term Limits
 - Roles of people on Executive and who would that be.
 - What types of subcommittees would the committee like to see.
 - Discussion followed.

VIII. Adjournment:

Diane Foct made motion to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Debbie Solomon. Meeting adjourned at 1:46 PM

Next Meetings:

Wednesday, January 10, 2024