

LOUISIANA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL
July 21, 2016
MEETING SUMMARY

Holiday Inn South
Baton Rouge, LA

8:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sue Berry, OPH/CSHS
Craig Blackburn
Randall Brown Jr.
Carmen Cetnar
Donnica Conway
April Dunn
Kristopher Hebert
Michelle Hurst
Raymond Jasper
Mark Martin, LRS
Margaret McGarity, GOEA
Paula Moreau
Lou Ann Owen, BHSF
Robert Paddy
Stephanie Patrick, AC
Bambi Polotzola, GODA
Delery Rice
Stuart Simon
Mary Tarver
Mark Thomas, OCDD
Patsy White
Jamie Wong, LDOE

MEMBERS ABSENT

Bonnie Buckelew
Tara LeBlanc
Tara Smith
Phil Wilson

GUESTS PRESENT

Donna Breaux
Tiffany Dickerson
Rebecca Ellis, Northshore FHF
Julie Foster Hagan, OCDD
Liz Gary, Partners in Policymaking
Lynsey Hebert, Transcriptionist
Brandi Kelly, OCDD
Ashley McReynolds, LaCAN/LaTEACH
Scott Meche, Capital Area Human
Services District
Kelly Monroe, Arc of Louisiana
James Sprinkle, FHF at the Crossroads
Mauricia Walters, FHF of Acadiana
John White, LDOE Superintendent

STAFF PRESENT

Brenton Andrus
Brandi J. Chatelain
Shawn Fleming
Kourtney Gaines
Robbie Gray
Derek White
Sandee Winchell

SUMMARY OF JULY MEETING

MOTION PASSED. Motion to accept the summary of the July Council meeting made by Randall Brown, second by Kristopher Hebert, passed without objection.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Delery Rice

Ms. Rice announced Vickie Davis resigned from the Council and recruitment has begun for applicants from Region nine.

Ms. Rice appointed Bambi Polotzola to serve as Chair of the Act 378 Sub-Committee.

Twenty-three members were appointed to the Community and Family Support System Task Force. See the list here: <http://www.laddc.org/files/CFSTaskForceUpdate.pdf>

Ms. Rice appointed Shawn Fleming, Liz Gary, Julie Comeaux and Shawn McCants to serve on the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline.

April Dunn represented the Council at the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Technical Assistance Institute and the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities 2016 Conference. Ms. Dunn shared a few remarks of key topics and points from her participation at the Conference.

Ms. Rice discussed results from advocating with the Department of Education, Department of Health, and the Legislature. Council member participation in advocacy opportunities was also discussed.

A request was made for future Chairperson's reports to be provided in writing.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MOTION PASSED. The Executive Committee's recommendation to accept the revised Council Member Responsibilities passed without objection.

MOTION PASSED. The Executive Committee's recommendation for the following plan for new Council member orientation passed without objection: If four or less new Council members need Council orientation, an abbreviated version will be provided at the Council office. If more than four new members are appointed, a full orientation is to be completed on Tuesday evening/Wednesday morning prior to the Council meeting and include interactive activities. In addition, continuing education for all Council members will be provided Wednesday nights reviewing various topics in short segments.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Sandee Winchell

Ms. Winchell discussed and answered questions about the legislative sessions, the five year plan and the changes to Council member orientation.

BUDGET REPORT – Shawn Fleming

Mr. Fleming opened the floor for questions on the budget. There were no questions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EDUCATION/EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE – Patsy White

The Education/Employment Committee did not have any recommendations for the Council but made two decisions. First, was for future E/E Committee meetings to have as a standing agenda item a presentation on the status of implementation of Medicaid's Home and Community Based Services setting rule regarding employment. The second decision was for the E/E Committee to work with the Louisiana Department of Education to develop a plan for parents to be more involved in special education monitoring of school systems.

MOTION PASSED. Motion for the DD Council to provide public comment to the Notice of Intent for proposed rule changes in Bulletin 1922 regarding parental involvement and to include the following language made by Robert Paddy, seconded by April Dunn, passed with vote of fourteen to four and three abstentions: to remove the strike-through within Section 101C, Section 305A, Section 305B, and Section 311B, and provide for an endorsement by SEAP of all recommendations related to monitoring in order to ensure that parents of children with disabilities maintain a role in on-site monitoring within the Local Education Agencies.

SELF DETERMINATION/COMMUNITY INCLUSION/ COMMITTEE – Michelle Hurst

MOTION PASSED.

The Self Determination/Community Inclusion Committee's recommendation that the Council hold regional workshops and re-establish the Partners in Policymaking ad hoc committee to determine topics and logistics should the minimum number of Partners in Policymaking applications (20) not be received by the September 30th deadline passed without objection.

MOTION.

The Self Determination/Community Inclusion Committee recommended that the Council write a letter to Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) Secretary, Dr. Rebekah Gee, requesting services based on evidenced-based practices for persons with co-occurring disorders be added to the Children's Choice and New Opportunities Waiver for people with the highest level of need and that LDH seek funding for this service in their budget request for State Fiscal Year 2018.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION

A substitute motion was made by Stephanie Patrick for the Council to write a letter to LDH Secretary, Dr. Rebekah Gee, requesting that LDH add additional services with an enhanced rate to the Children's Choice, ROW, and New Opportunities Waiver for people with DD and behavioral health diagnosis with the

highest level of need and that LDH seek funding for this service in their budget request for State Fiscal Year 2018. Randall Brown seconded.

AMENDMENT TO SUBSTITUTE MOTION

Stuart Simon offered as an amendment to the Substitute Motion for the Council to write a letter to LDH Secretary, Dr. Rebekah Gee, requesting that LDH add additional services with an enhanced rate to the Children’s Choice, ROW, and New Opportunities Waiver for people with DD and behavioral health challenges with the highest level of need and that LDH seek funding for this service in their budget request for State Fiscal Year 2018. Kristopher Hebert seconded.

AMENDMENT TO SUBSTITUTE AMENDED MOTION – PASSED

Motion to amend the substitute amended motion for the Council to write a letter to LDH Secretary, Dr. Rebekah Gee, requesting that LDH add additional services with an enhanced rate to the Children’s Choice, ROW, and New Opportunities Waiver for people with DD and complex behavioral or medical needs with the highest level of need and that LDH seek funding for this service in their budget request for State Fiscal Year 2018, made by April Dunn, seconded by Stuart Simon, passed without objection.

Public Comment: Dr. Scott Meche recommended ensuring pass through of rate enhancement to workers.

The Committee also reviewed an update from OCDD on plans to prioritize the waiver waiting list and move toward a tiered waiver.

ACT 378 SUB-COMMITTEE – Bambi Polotzola

MOTION PASSED. The Act 378 Sub-Committee’s recommendation for the Council to accept the following six goals for the Community and Family Support System passed without objection.

A Community and Family Support System that:

- is based on the guiding principles in Act 378;
- is person- and family-centered and person- and family-driven;
- provides access to the same level and quality of supports and services, regardless of where one lives in the state;
- is adequately and equitably funded to ensure the needs of all service populations in all regions can be met;
- utilizes consistent policies across the state;
- provides consistent high quality customer service across the state.

COUNCIL AGENCY REPORTS

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT CENTER (HDC) – John Johnson

HDC conducted training in self-determination for teachers through funding from the South Dakota Council on Developmental Disabilities then opened up the training online

through LSU. Dr. Johnson also shared LSU-HDC received a five year grant to implement leadership education for people with developmental disabilities.

ADVOCACY CENTER (AC) - STEPHANIE PATRICK

The AC is looking into a number of school related issues such as school resource officers' involvement with arresting students with disabilities and access to communication devices and Applied Behavior Analysis. Ms. Patrick also shared activities related to preparing people with disabilities to vote.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH (OPH) – SUE BERRY

Dr. Berry explained some of the changes related to OPH's major reorganization. The Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program has been without a director since October. Dr. Berry shared how Louisiana is eligible for funding related to Zika viruses and the recent award of \$1.1 million to expand lead surveillance and restoration efforts. Information on the Transportation Assistance Program through the Families Helping Families of the Crossroads was shared.

LOUISIANA REHABILITATION SERVICES (LRS) – MARK MARTIN

Mr. Martin shared the fiscal situation facing LRS through the legislative session and the end result was a loss of 51 employees since January. LRS is reorganizing the structure of programs. An agreement with the Department of Corrections to work with individuals who are incarcerated provided \$1.6 million of funding. Mr. Martin also discussed pre-employment opportunities through the Workforce Innovations and Opportunities Act (WIOA).

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF DISABILITY AFFAIRS (GODA) – BAMBI POLOTZOLA

GODA is looking at four areas: accessibility, education, employment and transportation. Nominations for the Governor's Outstanding Leadership in Disability (GOLD) awards were requested.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ELDERLY AFFAIRS (GOEA) – MARGARET MCGARITY

Ms. McGarity shared information on the Councils on Aging and a new statewide ombudsman program seeking to rectify the needs of residents in nursing homes.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (LDOE) – JAMIE WONG

Ms. Wong discussed LDOE's activities to build accessibility of academic standards to students with significant disabilities. She also highlighted the increased rate of the childcare assistance program for Centers serving children who meet certain eligibility criteria to receive increased rates and considerations related to employment requirements for the parents of some children to participate in childcare.

A request was made for the LDOE report to the Council to contain enrollment numbers of the La. Special Education Center.

OFFICE FOR CITIZENS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (OCDD) – MARK THOMAS

Mr. Thomas shared work on the prioritization of the waiver waiting list and the tiered waiver system. OCDD will be coming out with a strategic communication plan and requested assistance with reaching as many people as possible. One communication has been monthly provider calls, with close to 200 provider organizations participating, to improve understanding of policy by people implementing it. Mark requested Council members to offer any recommendations for agenda items on those provider calls.

Mr. Thomas answered questions regarding OCDD moving forward with electronic visit verification across all services; activities related to diversion of people into large residential settings; plans for offering ROW slots to people in group homes; and the NOW renewal amendments being prepared for public comment in August.

OFFICE OF AGING AND ADULT SERVICES (OAAS) – ROBIN WAGNER

A request was made for future OAAS reports to include information on Permanent Supportive Housing.

BUREAU OF HEALTH SERVICES FINANCING (BHSF) – LOU ANN OWEN

Ms. Owen shared updates on Medicaid expansion, with over 270,000 individuals already enrolled in expansion. She also clarified that ABA therapy is not just for children with autism.

GUEST PRESENTATION – JOHN WHITE

State Education Superintendent John White discussed proposed timelines and activities related to submitting a state plan in accordance with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

COUNCIL LISTENING SESSION WITH THE OFFICE FOR CITIZENS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – BRANDI KELLY

Dr. Kelly, with OCDD conducted a listening session to hear suggestions, ideas, thoughts and issues to consider in improving access to and planning of individualized services and delivery of more person-centered services in the OCDD system.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Liz Gary expressed appreciation for the Council’s support of her and Ashley McReynolds’ trip to Washington D.C. to participate in the National Association of Developmental Disabilities Council’s Conference and meet with Louisiana’s Congressional delegation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Council meeting is January 18th to 19th. Sandee Winchell asked members to complete the evaluation forms.

Members were encouraged to promote Partners in PolicyMaking. Applications are due by September 30th.

The Council's DSP social media spotlight was mentioned.

Council members were reminded to try to participate in the regional LDOE listening sessions related to ESSA.

Council members were encouraged to sign up to the People First International website.

ADJOURNMENT OF BUSINESS MEETING

MOTION PASSED. Motion to adjourn by Patsy White, seconded by Craig Blackburn, passed without opposition.