

Act 378 Subcommittee

July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Hi everyone. We'll be starting the meeting shortly. Just want to remind our committee members, if you can make sure that you can be seen by the camera and maybe just test your mike to make sure we can hear you. I think we are still waiting on a few people to have a quorum.

BRENTON ANDRUS: You have two committee members here. You and Kim. So, you need three more to have a quorum.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Okay.

SHAWN FLEMING: While we are waiting, maybe it would be a good time I see Tanya Murphy is on. I don't know if we got a response from that email about LGEs. I got some answers about it. It wasn't what it appeared to be. We asked a specific question. I don't know if you were involved in all the other exchanges explaining that.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Are you asking me or Tanya.

SHAWN FLEMING: I am kind of asking you if you were aware.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I was aware.

SHAWN FLEMING: Was just a confusion and wasn't really a cut, a reduction. Before the budget information even came. We had asked Tanya to answer some questions. I don't personally think those questions are necessary or would have yielded what was sought based on the information I received.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Okay.

TANYA MURPHY: I got my audio to work here.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Bambi. It looks like you are on three times or something.

TANYA MURPHY: At least twice.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I see it four times.

TANYA MURPHY: Wow. Interesting.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: It looks like we now have four committee members.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Correct. You just need one more and you will have a quorum.

TANYA MURPHY: I think it list me every time somebody I forwarded it to joins maybe.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Any of the links you get via email are linked specifically for you. So, if you share it it signs everybody in as you. If anybody is listening to this if you signed in and your name, usually has a name, can you please change it to whatever your name is. We have a lot of Tanya Murphys on.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Hi everyone. We're just waiting to have one more committee member to join to start so we can have a quorum.

BRENTON ANDRUS: F you are an attendee can you check and make sure your name is showing up. If you shared any of the links, it's not going to pull up your name. If you could change your name so we can reflect in our documentation who was actually attending the meeting.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: To change your name if you click on the box where the name is there is three little dots at the top right-hand corner. If you click on that I think it will say rename. Give you the option to rename.

KELLY MONROE: Can you hear me. Thank you. Sorry, I was having a lot of trouble.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I see Robert is an attendee. He needs to be moved to panelist. Okay, so we have a quorum. Hi everyone. I will call the meeting to order. And those of you who are the committee members, if you would use your camera so we can see you. And anyone else who is speaking if you have the option to use your camera. I will go ahead and do the roll call now. Whenever I call your name if you will just say here or present. Kim Basile.

KIM BASILE: Here. Present.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Randall Brown. Carmen Cetnar. Julie Foster Hagan.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Here.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Hyacinth McKee. I will just go

on. Hyacinth, if you get your mike unmuted indicate you are here. Robert Paddy

ROBERT PADDY: I am here.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: And myself Bambi Polotzola. Mary Tarver. Crystal White. Hyacinth, I see your name here. Just have to verify you are on. While we are waiting for Hyacinth to unmute her mike and her camera, we will go ahead and do an introduction of the other people who are going to be speaking. I see Kelly Monroe is here with the Arc of Louisiana. Tanya Murphy with OCDD. We have another member of our committee, Randall Brown if you just want to say present so we can verify you are here.

RANDALL BROWN: Present. Thank you.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: And let's see who else do we have. I think everyone else is staff. So, we have a quorum with Randall. Hyacinth is also listed. Make sure to get connected. The first thing on our agenda is the approval of the minutes. Brenton, can you click on the link so everyone can see that. Just need a motion to approve.

RANDALL BROWN: I make a motion to approve the minutes.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Thank you. Do we have a second?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: I will second.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Randall made a motion and Julie seconded the motion to approve the minutes from our January meeting. Do we have any objections? Can I ask one of the staff members or someone to put the link to the meeting in our chat so if anyone needs to just access that really quickly so they can look at documents. Cause it's hard to see the entire document that Brenton is showing on the screen. So, if someone wants to access that in a different way. So, our next item on the agenda is our Office of Aging and Adult Services, Arc of Louisiana. And Kelly you can share that report. You are muted Kelly.

KELLY MONROE: Sorry. I guess Hannah must be sharing it right now. Either one. Thank you. So, I was able to, first I apologize for not getting the

report done and sent to you guys with the rest of the reports. But I really wanted to just close out the year cause it just becomes difficult. So, I apologize you got it a week later than all the other reports. When we closed out the year in the fourth quarter, we served 46 people. But a cumulative total of 50 people throughout the entire contract year. Of those in the fourth quarter we served, 21 of those were African American and 29 of those were Caucasian. Twenty-eight of those were male and 22 female. If you turn the page it kind of breaks down where people were as far as in Louisiana. Five in region one. Eleven in region two. Four in region three. One in region four. Six in region five. One in region six. Nine in region seven. Six in region eight and nine. And one in region ten. Did have some changes from last time we reported. So, if we turn to the next page it talks about like what services people-- and I see a typo. It says the second quarter, that should actually say the fourth quarter. So sorry about that. But all of the individuals, all fifty received support coordination. Thirty-six of those people received personal care assistance. Three of them were utility and rental assistance. Twenty-eight were medical supplies. And three were home modifications and vehicle modifications. So, the contract year for direct services kind of set aside 827,075.51. We didn't quite spend the full amount. What we actually wound up spending throughout the whole contract was 814,971.41. A little over 12,000-dollars. And that was really due to one person going in the hospital and one person, because of covid, they couldn't finish the work that we needed. So, we had to move it onto the next contract year. It was a home modification. It has the breakdown right there of the different services and like how much was spent in each one of those services. And so, of course, the highest is always going to be the personal care assistance and with the lowest being the rental assistance. If you turn the page where we have the waiting list information. And its broken down by region as well.

For whatever reason, like we have nobody in region one, which is so odd. But right now, we just don't. A couple people, but we served them using one-time funds last year. There was some medical supplies and a medical procedure that we had paid for or helped pay for. And it cleared up those two people. So, at this time we don't have anybody on the waiting list in region one. The breakdown of what is needed is a little over a million dollars. This past legislative session we were supposed to go back and ask them for additional funds to kind of clear out the waiting list. Would have cost the state about 600,000 in state general funds in order to clear out the current waiting list of 65 people. But due to everything that was going on, we decided that it just would be best to kind of like let's just move on and wait until next year before we make an ask. Because we knew we were already in a not so great position with the budget. If we were to serve all 65 people, we would need a total of 1,000,216-dollars. But I think in state general funds was close to 600,000-dollars in order to get to that amount. That is all I have for you today. Unless you have some questions, I would be happy to answer them.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: First, I would like to welcome, we have another one of our committee members, Dr. Hyacinth. I think she has her camera and mike working now so welcome Dr. McKee.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Greetings.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: And also, I think when I went through who was on the meeting Dr. Savicki with OBH is also on. Just wanted to acknowledge her. Do we have any questions for Kelly for this report? Kelly, did you say that you had the 12,000-dollars under budget and you explained why. I don't know if I missed it or not. Do you get to use that in this budget year?

KELLY MONROE: We were able to roll that over to the next contract year. We are going to use it what we intended on using it before covid. We're going to use it for the same thing. Some home modifications and medical supplies.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Okay.

KELLY MONROE: Some of the medical supplies we had to wait because there was a limit on what you could get. Of course, there wasn't before, but because of the shortage everywhere there is a limit on some of those medical supplies. Had to switch gears a little bit.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Okay. Any other questions for Kelly with the Arc? Kelly, you're off the hook.

KELLY MONROE: That's the way I like it.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Next is Office of Behavioral Health and Dr. Savicki will give that report.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: Can you hear me okay?

BRENTON ANDRUS: Yes. We can hear you.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: Great. All right. Thanks everyone. Looks like we have the report up on screen. Thank you to the team over there. This is going to be a little hard to review over zoom. We are looking at the child report for the CCR and flexible family funds used for kids with behavioral health needs. And I will just do a quick review and then ask if anyone has any questions. So again, this is our quarter four report. Not the closeout report. In fact, multiple LGEs specifically let me know, as per usual, they are not at all done spending for the year. They have certainly plenty of June invoices they still have to process. They weren't processed by the time they submitted this to us. In general, for the CCR funds. Thanks for extending that, we see a lot of progress in the expenditures. I think you may recall for the quarter three data several LGEs where spending was very, very low particularly due to a number of LGEs how they structure their spending. For instance, using their mental health block grant funding first. And then only using act 378 dedicated funds. You'll see for those LGEs may be a couple at 0 percent expenditures for quarter three. And obviously there has been a lot of progress on expenditures since then. There are some LGEs who are reporting some difficulty with connecting with families and connecting with family needs based on

the pandemic. Certainly, families are not coming into the clinic in person the way they would have regularly. There have been a few barriers just giving changes on how families are using services in the past several months. I will pause there and just kind of open up for any questions on the particular data that is up on the screen now, consumer care resource funds.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Does anyone have any questions? Go on. Thank you.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: If you can scroll over to the flexible family funds, nothing really of note there. LGEs are typically very successful in getting those out. Certainly, maintain a waiting list of families that are interested in that support. Although there are at times certainly once kids age out. For instance, one I know is having some trouble they had a couple kids age out and one family move out of state and had some difficulty getting contact with individuals on their waiting list in order to fill those slots. But in general, most of those slots are filled and expenditures are getting out to families. Any questions on that?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I have a question regards to in Monroe LHSD a balance of almost 15,000 and I don't see in the explanation.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: That is actually the LGE that, so they have 19 slots filled out of 21. They are the organization that is having some difficulty working through their waitlist to fill those slots. A couple kids who aged out and one family moved out of state. I would believe that would explain the unexpended funds. There should have been a reference in the note section.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I see it now. Says we are working on filling. But they actually have ten people on the waiting list. Any other questions? Okay. If there is no other questions, then we will have the adult report from OBH.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: And this one pretty unremarkable. These funds are typically LGEs, only a few that have these funds allocated and pretty successful getting

these funds out the door and connecting individuals to this funding. You will see pretty much all done getting the expenditures out with the exception of Central which has a bit more to go. Likely resolved when we get the close out report because they didn't have the June invoiced tallied up yet.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Any questions on this report? Let everyone off easy today. Thank you very much.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: Thank you.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Julie, see if you are just as lucky. We have Julie and Tanya, Office for Citizens with Development Disabilities. And the first report is the act 73 compliance report. Is that what we are looking at first? The fourth quarter of act 378.

TANYA MURPHY: So, I was looking through this individual and family support section of the quarter four and just like Dr. Savicki said, this is not including all the invoices for the year. Not the end of the year report. All of the LGEs did have notes to explain if there was any money left over. I am looking at Metropolitan Human Service District, they have spent 64 percent. And they noted because of covid 19 all their day habilitation programs closed and that directly impacted the expenditures. I know generally you would budget almost 6,000 dollars per person per year. As they close those day habs you would have to cancel all those contracts and try to spend it on something else. I am sure they will have a different percentage and amount expended at the close of the year report that comes out later. I also wanted to bring to your attention to budget changes column. And note that Acadiana area added 400,000-dollars to what they had originally budgeted. Region seven Northwest Louisiana Human Services District added 340,000-dollars above and beyond. Which might explain why some of the percentages are a little lower. But most of them, from my communication with them, have all said they will be spending the maximum percentage by the end of the year once they get all the invoices and the spending is done.



BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Tanya, for Acadiana and Northwest Louisiana Human Service District, when was that additional amount added to their budget?

TANYA MURPHY: I am not sure of the date. I would have to go back and look at the previous quarters and see if the budget changes were reflected.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Wondering if that change was from our last meeting. Okay.

BRENTON ANDRUS: We do have a comment from Mylinda Elliot saying IFS money is spent on day habilitation? Is that correct?

TANYA MURPHY: Yeah. Sometimes they do do contracts if they can provide that, if an individual cannot qualify for Medicaid then they cannot get a supports waiver. Then family support provides a day habilitation so the individual can go and do something during the day. And that does help preserve the placement in the community, so it does fit into the guiding principles of the individual family support funds.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: In regard to that comment, cause I was thinking along that line, how many people are we paying for day hab programs through IFS funds. And then for your comment Tanya, what you said people don't qualify from Medicaid. And I know these people have to qualify as having a developmental disability. So, it's not on that component, could be they don't qualify for Medicaid because of their resources or income.

TANYA MURPHY: That's right

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Seems like a lot of people.

TANYA MURPHY: I don't think that would cover all of them paying through IFS. Probably some more individuals for some reason or another aren't considered priority one or two, aren't considered priority three or four on the SUN screening. So, haven't gotten a waiver offer and continuing to fund through IFS until a change in the family situation.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So, this is state general funds. Wouldn't it be a better use of the funds if they had a waiver which would have federal match. Wouldn't that

be using less general funds? This is all state general funds, right? A waiver, it would be the match of the federal and state funds.

TANYA MURPHY: It's a departmental decision whether we want to use all waiver slots. Then we wouldn't have waiver slots available for individuals in emergency situations. If they are being supported now and don't have other needs besides the day hab. It's just been a departmental decision that if they are being supported now and there's no crisis or need for additional services that they are staying where they are at. If there is some change in circumstances and have other needs, then they are being sent through the SUN screening again to see if they would get a three or four waiver offer. I hear what you are saying. They can get a match back on their waiver if they got the supports waiver instead. But we would run out of waiver slots if we gave every single person getting day hab through IFS funds a supports waiver.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Okay.

BRENTON ANDRUS: We do have two comments in the chat. The first is from Ashley McReynolds says Capital Area Human Service District finally got the money back that was going towards the Families Helping Families contract. And it was put back in January. But the changes in budget don't seem to reflect the amount. Can someone look into this or explain only a little over a thousand dollars. Then our second comment is from Mylinda asking if we have data on how many people get day hab through IFS in the state.

TANYA MURPHY: We do have that data.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Is that part of the report that you give us?

TANYA MURPHY: I think it is divided out on the information I sent in where it separates the individual services that are provided. I think it is. I can't speak towards the Families Helping Families question. I am not familiar with that.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Ashley, I am unclear on what you are saying as well. If you want to be moved in to be

able to speak to explain it that is fine.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: Can y'all hear me. Do I need to turn my camera on?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: If you can so we can verify it's you.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: Okay. Let me try and figure out how.

SHAWN FLEMING: Promote you to panelist. To show her she needs to be promoted to panelist. I promoted her. It kicks you off and back on very quickly.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: So, for a number of years the individual and family support dollars were funding the contracts at Families Helping Families. Got all of that straightened out and it was removed from the individual family support budget and just funded through capital area and they gave capital area back the money that was not expended, I believe, from January to end of fiscal year. That was done, we just had a meeting today, so in our March meeting or April meeting. So that number we should have had a fairly substantial increase in our budget. I know it's more than 1,300-dollars. So, I was just wondering if there was any additional information on that budget change for capital area. I think I had talked with you about this like when it was happening, I guess.

TANYA MURPHY: So, when Families Helping Families gave their money back is it because they weren't going to be contracting with them anymore or providing services for those funds.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: No. It was funded not with the act 378-dollars. They shifted the funding mechanism.

TANYA MURPHY: Right. They are still getting paid out of state general funds, just not being reflected as coming out of the IFS budget.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: Right. But we were told IFS got like a significant amount of money, and I don't want to quote what we were told in case I am just not accurate on my numbers. But it was a substantial amount of money that we got reimbursed for because it was wrongfully taken from the IFS money anyway.

TANYA MURPHY: I can't specifically to that. I can tell you there is a possibility that money was put back into the Capital Area Human Services Districts state general fund budget and not necessarily put into the act 378 because they have their total budget does meet what is required, which is the 9 percent. But I don't know about what was discussed in that meeting if the money that was given back was going to be earmarked for IFS or not.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: I will follow up and ask. I thought it was sent back. And I know capital area staff was excited we were getting that money to spend in IFS. I know Corilous had multiple conversations about it and she was excited we were going to get to use that money to fulfill the needs. Because we had the most requests this fiscal year than we have had all together. And I don't know if anyone from capital area is on.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Shaneatha just sent an answer. The money is already included in the total the 1358 is from flexible family funds when a participant went into the group home. The additional funds this year came from vocational contracts due to covid 19.

TANYA MURPHY: So, the money that was put back in there is already reflected. The money that is shown in the capital area initial budget and the total budget 606,000 does reflect the money that they added back in their when they stopped showing Families Helping Families contact in there.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: Okay.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Do we have any other questions on the IFS part of the report?

BRENTON ANDRUS: Another comment in the chat from Susan Reem and she was asking if it was just in region two that IFS funds were going to Families Helping Families centers

TANYA MURPHY: I think it was never, well, okay--.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Act 378 funds, right. Not necessarily just IFS.

TANYA MURPHY: It was reflected Northeast Delta's

for a short time, but they stopped showing it as part of, what they were doing showing the 58,000-dollar contract for Families Helping Families as part of their individual family support and counting that towards the 9 percent. Once we told them they couldn't count that because it wasn't for specific services then they took that 58,000-dollars, a separate expense out of state general funds now and no longer counted in IFS. I think only Capital Area Northeast Delta doing that. Not in there anymore now.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Any other questions about IFS portion of the report? Okay. So, Tanya, you can move onto the next portion.

TANYA MURPHY: Flexible family funds. Look a little bit better because it's easy to anticipate if you've got the slots filled your June expenditure is being spent. Doesn't lag behind as much as individual family support does where they have to wait for invoices to come in. Most of the regions have spent all of their flexible family fund money. The budget changes that you see reflected in there in parenthesis in red, a lot of that was the result of guidance that came from OCDD that because of covid 19 they weren't going to be able to do face to face interactions to complete the initial eligibility for new flexible family funds. So, they moved some of the money over to their IFS so they could spend it more effectively. Going to see some places where it shows the number of budgeted slots is less than the number of filled slots. And that is a result of the guidance that was given. We have recently told the LGEs that if they feel comfortable creating a socially distant safe way to complete those initial flexible family fund eligibility screenings they can proceed. Some of them were trying to do it out in the parking lot in a car or with good social distancing and masks in their office. I think all exploring how to do initial eligibility determinations again. Questions about FFF?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Doesn't seem to be any.

TANYA MURPHY: So, the next is the act 73

compliance report. So many of the LGEs have spent above and beyond the 9 percent that is expected. The couple of them that are a little bit low, Metropolitan and Central Louisiana have both indicated to me they do intend to spend all the money. And when we get the final report it will show that they have expended their 9 percent.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: It's just interesting to see the numbers, the percentages. Some are extremely higher than the 9 percent. And so just wondering what is the difference that causes that to happen.

TANYA MURPHY: I would think it would be the executive directors and their boards and how they decide to disperse the funds. If they have money from other sources, they could put towards their act 378 programs, they do. If they don't have the extra money, then they can't.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So, the 9 percent of the state general funds, right. Not including they could have other funding sources not included in that, correct?

TANYA MURPHY: Tanya. Right.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Just to confirm for next year it's the state general fund and there was some what we call interagency transfer swap related to the cares act funding to help replace where we didn't have enough state general fund. And so, clarification has been given that amount will be the state general fund and the interagency transfer means of financing swap that are considered in the 9 percent.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: This might be a technical question. So, they have this dollar amount for state general funds and then the LGEs they can bill or have other funding to pay for other services like behavioral health services.

SPEAKER: Right. OCDD services don't bring in a lot. But the OBH services they bill Medicaid for a lot of their services, so they have an income source there.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Also, other ways beyond that Bambi. And each one is a little bit different because they are considered quasi-governmental entities there

are some things they are able to do even though they are partially funded as a state agency.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So, the state, so basically the OCDD services, developmental disability services that their funding source is state general funds, right. Almost completely whereas behavioral health services are state general funds and whatever those other sources are billing Medicaid, or other federal grants, or that type of thing. Is that correct?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Yes. There is no quote unquote billing for any of the OCDD services they provide.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So, all of the billing they do in those other sources pay for behavioral health sources and then of the state general fund money 91 percent of that can go to behavioral health services. And just 9 percent of it has to go to developmental disabilities as their sole source of funding, correct?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Well, remember the state general fund they are getting is also covering the salaries for waiver staff and for the folks who do PASAR. Several different activities they do for OCDD in addition to the act 378 programs. So those funds have to cover the salaries for all of that. And Tanya, I don't know if you were going to add something else. On the DD side it has to cover all those things.

TANYA MURPHY: And covers administrative costs and all the other expenses. If it's not 91 percent Office of Behavioral Health and 9 percent to DD. That's not how it breaks down.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: And I guess the other part of that too our DD services are more centralized and have waivers. And comes from central office, where behavioral health almost exclusively comes from those local entities. That is another reason, correct.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Kristen, you may want to jump in here. On the behavioral health side, they can be enrolled as an MCO provider and do billing that way. And also, some work they do with us directly with uninsured. I am definitely not the expert on that.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: Could you repeat the question. I was getting a little lost in the act 378 stuff, which I am less familiar with.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: My question was about the breakdown of funding with LGE. Seems like for this act 378 compliance that 9 percent of the total state general fund goes to DD services. Then you have another 91 percent. Of course, some of those LGEs spent more than that requirement. Some of that money goes for the administrative costs. But then another important thing is that for our DD populations that many people receive waiver services which come from the state office. That is not part of LGEs funding really, except for administrative. But for behavioral health comes from that actual service that the LGE provides at that local level. Whereas OCDD, at the DD department of the LGEs it's basically these two different programs, flexible family funds and individual family support funds. And then just administrative type things. Just a different way the structure of those two agencies.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: Definitely. Certainly, a difference with OBH's relationship with the LGEs as compared to OCDD relationship for behavioral health services. I think as Tanya was saying, LGEs can and are enrolled as Medicaid reimbursable providers. Also, a large network of private providers out there. The LGEs are not the sole behavioral health service provider in any area. But the LGEs provide behavioral health services through funding primarily through Medicaid. At least recently in the Medicaid expansion, a pretty large of source of funding. But also, do have grant funding. The ability to serve the uninsured. So, there is a whole mix of funding sources for behavioral health source. The state general funds on the behavioral health side would be mostly used for folks who are uninsured and salaries. Everything else obviously the LGE does. Does that help with the question?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Yeah. Thank you. I see Shawn



has his hand raised.

SHAWN FLEMING: Thank you. I can't electronically raise my hand. My understanding that there is, that administrative costs are not to be considered in this 9 percent and that is not act 378 services. That has been a long understanding of the council. And so y'all kept bringing that up.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Exactly what we were saying. The 9 percent goes to the flexible family funds and the IFS funds. But it's not like 91 percent all goes to behavioral health. What they were saying the other 91 percent covers the administrative cost as well.

SHAWN FLEMING: Sorry. What I kept hearing was confusing.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Sorry, my questions were confusing. I think people sometimes get confused how those services are delivered in those different offices. Just wanted to ask some questions. Any other questions about this report? Tanya, do you have another report.

TANYA MURPHY: Nope. That is it for me.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Were you going to speak at all to approved funding report you had sent in.

TANYA MURPHY: I see. I certainly can. I provided this report as of June 10th that breaks down. I don't have a copy of that open. So vocational employment that was one of the questions y'all had and that is on this report.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I don't think the link to that, is that link in the agenda? Okay. Thank you. The second link on OCDD.

BRENTON ANDRUS: On this report if you scroll, definitely hard to see on a computer screen. But the first two pages, I think, of this report is just kind of breaking down the other seven pages of information. At the last meeting there was a request to kind of see the services that were approved pending funding whether that is in whole or part. And so, this information here is what Tanya sent in that was pulled from their system as of June 10th. And kind of lets you know the

region. I will say in this report it's every region with the exception, I guess should have my video on, every region with the exception of, region two with the exception of one request from region one. The rest of these approved pending funding's from region two. Broken down by the list of priorities ones, twos, threes, fours. Let's you know the date of the request, the amount requested and tell you if it's reviewed, I mean approved pending funding in whole or part. That's what these pages show. If you go back up to the chart here it just breaks all that information down so you can get all the information you need about incontinence supplies, household living expense, personal care assistance. That is what the chart does. A lot of information. Not really a nice clean way I can think of to break it down for you guys. I know some people prefer to just see kind of what is in the charts which is why that is there. And some people want to see this information specifically. That is why you have that broken down that way.

TANYA MURPHY: I misspoke at the beginning when I said that was one of the questions asked earlier. What was asked earlier was how much was being spent on vocational. This shows the approved pending funding report. The request that have been made, have been approved, but not enough money to cover the request.

BRENTON ANDRUS: We do have a question in the chat from Ashley. And she says are we to assume capital area is the only LGE that does this? And then from Mylinda as well, basically from region two, can we get this information from the other regions. I think it was the way it fell out.

TANYA MURPHY: Yeah. This is the statewide report. I can ask the other LGEs why they don't have any on here or why if they are not using this function. This is for the whole state. Just a few in region one and the rest are in two.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: This is what they have pending they weren't able to fulfill, right.

TANYA MURPHY: Right.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: There's no way all the other regions are filling all the requests they received. Great if that was the case. But there is something more. A function they have to input this data in order to generate this report, correct.

TANYA MURPHY: Right. There is a possibility like these are requests that are approved. They go through the committee and they are approved, but they don't have the money to fund. Could be the other regions are like we only have the money to fund priority ones and twos, so the committee is only hearing ones and twos. And holding the other ones aside. So, they are not approved pending funding just haven't been presented to the committee because they know they couldn't fund them. Different ideas as to why some of the LGEs don't have a list.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I think Jennifer Purvis from Northeast Human Service District has a comment in the chat.

BRENTON ANDRUS: She says Northeast Delta had funded all requests is why we are not listed as having people with requests without funding possibly. Ashley McReynolds had asked a question too. Does this practice not allow someone to appeal?

TANYA MURPHY: If the request isn't heard at all? Or which one?

BRENTON ANDRUS: Not sure. If she can jump on and clarify.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: Can y'all hear me. I was saying approve pending funding, does that void an individual's right to appeal.

TANYA MURPHY: They can't appeal if they were approved in whole pending funding. They can appeal if they were approved in part, which means they didn't get their full request. They can't appeal only because there is no money there to fund it.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: Okay. Thank you.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Can you just find out if that, like what is the process that is causing region two capital area to have this report and what are the

practices of the other region. Northeast Delta, they said they just approve everything. Is that the case everywhere? Or the way you explained could be a possibility. Could we find that out.

TANYA MURPHY: Sure.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Any other questions about this report?

BRENTON ANDRUS: Mylinda had a question. When do these committees meet? I don't know, specifically, what committees she is referring to.

TANYA MURPHY: Assuming the individual and family support committee that approves the requests. And every LGE does it differently. I know some meet weekly, some monthly. Just kind of depends on the need and how many requests they have they schedule them. Something in the policy about requiring them to meet a certain number of times, or quarterly, or something. But I can't remember exactly from the top of my head. As needed or more.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Tanya, also in relation to that, is there a requirement for the makeup of these committees, like who are members of these committees.

TANYA MURPHY: Yes. The policy states exactly who is supposed to be on there. We are digging up the IFS policy and it might tweak that who is supposed to be on it. It already says in the policy who is supposed to be on it. I think the new policy says a couple more things about it.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I think the next item on our agenda if I am correct. We can look at it then.

BRENTON ANDRUS: We do have a couple more comments. The first is from James Lewis. He says priority ones and twos were funded in Imperial Calcasieu and some priority threes. Some threes and fours that were not presented to the FSC because we did not have the funding. They meet weekly there. And Ashley asked if families get notified their case will not be heard if they weren't a priority one or two?

TANYA MURPHY: I am not sure. It would be best practice, of course, to let the families know they are

not hearing. I think they do let the families know if they are just not funding priorities threes or fours. But I am not sure if that is spelled out in policy.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Am I to understand that before these requests go to the committee, the family support committee, that somehow it is determined whether they are priorities one, two, three or four and who and makes that determination before it goes to the committees? Isn't that the role of the committee to determine what priority it is.

TANYA MURPHY: The priority is determined by the case manager. It can be if it's a private case management, like if somebody has a waiver then they would fill out prioritization or the community service professional at the LGEs will determine the priority. It's ultimately the developmental disability director of each LGE that assist with determining if a priority that has been established is accurate. I know that when you have somebody who goes through system entry and there is a need for a service there is usually a handoff from system entry to the individual and family support community service professional worker and the priority is established at that time. And also, it's important to keep in mind that individual needs have a different priority number. So not just a family member that is a priority one. If they have three requests one might be priority one and one might be priority four. It doesn't mean the family doesn't get anything. Just means they don't get everything depending on the priority.

BRENTON ANDRUS: We have a couple of additional comments. One is from Ashley McReynolds, I guess another comment in addition to asking about families getting notified if their case won't be heard. She asked if there is something in the manual about it and if not, can it be added with the changes that's currently happening. And Hyacinth McKee, she said can we ensure policy includes families who are priority one and priority two are notified. Families need appropriate follow up and results of the determination.

And we had another comment from, looks like the name is cut off, Shaneatha Smith, capital area meets weekly. Every request is entered in DSD and the family is notified in writing of the decision. Priority is given by CSP and supervisor signs off. The priority can be changed in the committee if needed.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: And then Jennifer Purvis said that's the same thing they do at Northeast Delta. I guess my concern, maybe I am not understanding, maybe we will talk about that in the next section, is that, and James Lewis said the same at Imcal. If some decision is being made before it gets to the committee. And so, I see Shaneatha said the priority can be changed by the committee in capital area, but if the requests aren't brought to the committee that wouldn't happen maybe at other LGES. Like to have more information about how that works.

TANYA MURPHY: Okay.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Any other questions on this report. On the pending funding of IFS? Okay. None, we can go onto the next item on the agenda which is the IFS CCR workgroup recommendations.

TANYA MURPHY: It's me again. So, the individual and family support manual revisions were completed. They were sent out for feedback and the feedback time window has closed. And I now have it back in my inbox to look over all of the feedback and incorporate that into the changes. And then we will clean it all up, so it looks pretty and hand it over to Julie and the executive management team at OCDD for a signature. So, it's sitting for me to look over right now with all the feedback.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Just to confirm Tanya, it's not too late to consider the feedback you got today, right

TANYA MURPHY: Right. No, it's not. I wrote it down cause I can still make changes. Perfect timing.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So, do we have any questions on that report?

TANYA MURPHY: Once we get the IFS manual revisions

approved then I am going to be providing training to all the LGEs. And I want to start at the beginning of a quarter, so I am hoping for October 1st.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Okay.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: That was her hint to me to hurry up. Just kidding.

TANYA MURPHY: I get almost obsessive when I know it's almost done because I don't want there to be any typos at all.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: You are a good person to have on Julie's staff. I know Julie appreciates that.

TANYA MURPHY: I'll log off so she can tell you the truth.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Any questions about that report that IFS CCR workgroup recommendations. Any questions or comments? We are way ahead of schedule. But that is good. We all have a lot of things to do. We will move onto the next item which is a discussion of flexible family funds eligibility requirements. This is added to the agenda because there was some discussion or I received communication in regard to the eligibility requirements of having school eligibility, like a 1508 type eligibility. And I think that has been addressed in the recommendations, but can you explain that Tanya.

TANYA MURPHY: Yeah. It's not a requirement anymore. It used to be it was only autism that allowed for a licensed health professional to provide a report that says the child's condition meets the criteria of that exceptionality that they are saying their child has. But the new flexible family fund policy now says that any of the exceptionalities, any of the exceptionalities that we accept family flexible fund the family can turn in a report from a licensed health professional that says the child's condition conforms to the definition in the 1508 bulletin for whatever exceptionality they are saying they have. So, you can't have, it has to be within the scope of the licensed health professional. And the LGEs, you can't just have physician write on a prescription pad a child

has autism. But we have opened that up to allow for they don't have to have a 1508 to get flexible family fund.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So, if a medical professional if they are not qualified to actually do a 1508 evaluation, but they have to, like you have to get that documentation from a medical professional to say they would meet what aligns with 1508. What happens if a medical professional doesn't have that?

TANYA MURPHY: We don't want to question licensed health professionals. They make their own decisions clinically. If they are willing to say I am a licensed health professional and writing this down in a report then we are going to trust they know what that exceptionality is. Even after they say that the child still will have to come in for the severity screening test. But it's a double-edged sword. You don't have to be in school, but then how do we decide if you have this exceptionality or this disability. You would say the LGEs have a pretty good understanding what the licensed health professional needs to have in their criteria or in their scope of practice to be able to say that this child has this disability or not.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: But on the other end say a child that is homeschooled and your medical professional that your child sees says your child clearly has whatever autism or whatever that diagnosis is. but they say I am not certified, whatever to be able to do 1508 criteria. So then that child and family is out in the link or they don't have the school diagnosis and they can't get it from a medical professional.

TANYA MURPHY: Any child, even if they are homeschooled, can go to the pupil appraisal office and have an evaluation done.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Okay. Has Liz been moved over to be able to speak?

LIZ GARY: I am here. What I just wanted to address; I know this is one of the things we addressed when we met with the FFF ad hoc a couple years ago. That was one of our concerns is they are using the



educational criteria for kids in school and those different diagnoses in determinations of eligibility to determine whether or not they can fall under the flexible family fund. My concern is only I know we changed it to the evaluation. I just want to make sure it's not going to be this difficult position. Because I think moving forward because of covid and because the amount of families are probably going to want to keep their kids home I think we are going to run into a lot of issues where these people may be facing whether they get kick off of FFF or whether or not they can't even get on it because they decided to homeschool as opposed to being in the schools. Not every parent wants to go get their child through pupil appraisal and get that recommendation or get that evaluation. That is part of their personal preference to not have to do that. Some of it is because of diagnoses not wanting to get their children, basically labeled, through the pupil appraisal. But at the same time knowing they have issues that need to be addressed and tend to be on the severity level. But also wanting to try to figure out how to make it work without having that label on them. Need to consider that. I don't know if that means opening back up the FFF and starting to look at that again. One of those things I have always had that as an issue using that as the criteria to determine whether or not these kids are eligible for flexible family fund. Thank you.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Thank you Liz. I remember we had a really robust discussion about that in that committee a few years ago. So that is concerning, like you said, people can always go to the pupil appraisal center in their area and get the child evaluated. But as Liz said, some people there could be reasons why there is barriers there. I thought we had disconnected that by having the medical doctor be able to do it, but if it's tied back to that school criteria could cause some barriers. Basically, it on that. Does anyone else have any comments about the flexible family fund eligibility requirements? Do we have any other

announcements or comments? Okay, well thank you all. We can adjourn early. I assume we need a motion to adjourn. Yes. Do we have a motion? Anybody want to leave?

HYACINTH MCKEE: I would like to submit a motion to adjourn the meeting.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Thank you Dr. McKee. Anyone want to second it.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: I would second.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: If there is no opposition, we will adjourn the meeting. Thank you, guys.