

**Coordinating Subcommittee for
Division of Developmental Disabilities
Meeting Summary
August 14, 2012**

The Coordinating Subcommittee for Intellectual Disabilities Services met at the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services (ADRS) in Montgomery, Alabama.

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. by Courtney W. Tarver, the Chair.

Courtney W. Tarver, Chair

Voting Members Present

Steve Lafreniere, DMH/DD Representative
Anne Penney, Alabama Council Representative
Earl Brightwell, MR/DD Representative
Jo Poates, MR/DD Representative
Myra Jones, DD Council Representative
Bill Hoehle, ACE/Arc Representative
Wallace Davis (DeAnna Ferguson), Other Provider Representative
Murray Townsend, The Arc of Alabama Representative
Darren Morris, People First of Alabama Representative
Elouise Woods, People First of Alabama Representative
Amanda Ward (Tom Holmes), The Arc of Alabama Consumer Representative
Lou Vick, ACE/Arc Representative

Visitors

Jane Davis, Byron White, Daphne Rosalis, Regina Savage, Danny Grant, Patricia Eston, George Neal, Rose Hill, Carolyn Little, Glendie Davis, Gwendolyne Johnson, Patti Martin, Susan Ford, Lee Conner, John VanCamp, Gary Edwards, Bill Hoehle, Donna Basden Akins, Karen Stokes, Dianne Durbin, LaGretta Ratliff, Shannon, Byrd, Terry L. Pezent, Eleanor J. Tolbert, Ellen Gillespie, Beverly Pepper, Raytheon Scott, Cindy Haber, Mike Martin, Greg Carlson, Barbara Brunson, and Vicki Hicks-Turnage

Recorder

Shirley Hicks

Approval of July 10, 2012 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to approve the July 10, 2012, meeting minutes by Mr. Vick and seconded by Ms. Jones. The minutes were approved.

Agenda

The agenda was modified to include the "Waiting List". A motion was made by Mr. Townsend to approve the agenda. Mr. Vick seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Supported Employment Work Group

The recommendations from the supported employment work group were distributed to the subcommittee for review and approval. A discussion was held regarding the non-loss of an individual's slot at day habilitation and the 4-hour per day prevocational issue. After much discussion, it was agreed that the recommendations be modified to address the non-loss of an individual's day habilitation slot and the 4-hour per day prevocational issue.

Dr. Penney made a motion to accept the supported employment work group recommendations provided that the presented recommendations be revised to address 1) the non-loss of an individual's slot at day habilitation and 2) the 4-hour per day prevocational issue. Mr. Townsend seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Standards/New DD Regulations

A memorandum dated, August 3, 2012, was sent to all providers and case management agencies from Mr. Tarver, regarding the decision to move forward with the new standards. Four pilot tests with certification have already been conducted. Two more pilots test will be conducted prior to the October 1, 2012 implementation date. More training will be given and technical assistance will be available to assist providers with meeting the new requirements.

Report from the Associate Commissioner

- The Associate Commissioner's report was distributed to the subcommittee.
- Summaries of pertinent meetings held with Medicaid, CMS, and NASDDDS were shared with the subcommittee.
- Mr. Tarver related the whole country is moving forward and Alabama needs to help individuals we serve to become as independent as possible. This translates into assisting people with moving into their own homes and supporting individuals and their families along with helping individuals attain competitive employment.
- Mr. Tarver also related that CMS from Chicago and Medicaid Long-term staff held an informal meeting about DD provider certification application process, enrollment and re-enrollment procedures, and program integrity. Mr. Tarver related this is only reinforcement of how we should conduct business in community services. CMS is very serious about how waiver services providers provide services, and how states meet waiver contract assurances with CMS. DD needs to strengthen processes of following up on continuous background checks. The subcommittee held discussion about the providers' re-enrollment process. Ms. Rosalis has a list of providers who need to be re-enrolled, and they will be notified. Members indicated they were not aware of the re-enrollment process for providers.

Another discussion was held, and it was pointed out that it was important for providers to prevent disenrollment from Medicaid by going through the re-enrollment process.

- It was noted that Mr. Tarver will be making visits in the community; some announced and some not announced. This is not an attempt to catch providers off guard—it is only to assist Mr. Tarver with getting a good sense of how the individuals being served in the community programs are doing.
- It was related that Alabama is viewed as a model in certain areas, and Commissioner Reddoch has been invited to speak at the National Medicaid Directors Conference. A lot of federal agencies have been looking at Alabama as a model for some things being done well.
- The subcommittee was encouraged to assist the Department in any way it can to help with the closing of hospitals and transferring of individuals.
- A discussion was held by the subcommittee about the Medicaid Money-Follows-The Person Grant and its use as seed money to expand services, in DD and other long-term care areas.
- There was an inquiry about providing services to individuals with new technology.
- Discussion was entertained relating to approaching the Legislature for funds to serve individuals off the waiting list. It was suggested that this should be put in a five-year plan.
- It was requested that the numbers of people on the DD Waiting List By County be sent to the subcommittee periodically.

Budget

- Mr. Tarver related that the 2012 DD Budget, as passed by the Legislature, should be met sufficiently for ending the year with DD in the black. For the residential rates that were cut, DD is still looking at ways to help restore as much as it can. The Commissioner is looking within and outside DMH regarding resources.
- It was acknowledged that providers have approached the division about use of local dollars, and the Department has agreed; within limits that comport with CMS regulations. Mr. Tarver explained, if appropriate local donors desire to participate and have any remaining dollars for this year, DD is open to using it for match dollars. The match dollars will have to be put in a state match pool and DMH will draw its federal share, and use it across the board to cover providers' rates and services. The priority will

be given to residential services that were cut this fiscal year. Again, it will be used for residential services across the board and will be to lessen (and, with enough local dollars submitted), possibly eliminate further cuts if reductions in state budgeted dollars have to be cut through proration, for example. It was emphasized again that the local dollars will be used to assist providers across the board, and if any local dollars are not used for match, they will be sent back to the providers in the locale the dollars came from. It was also noted that a waiver amendment might be required for the use of local match.

- The subcommittee was informed that contracts will be attempted to be sent out by this week's end.

New Business

The subcommittee was reminded about the Constitutional Amendment vote to maintain the General Fund Budget for FY 2013. Since the Alabama Disability Conference will be held September 17-18, 2012, individuals were encouraged to complete an absentee ballot for this Amendment if they were not returning home in time to vote on Tuesday, September 18th.

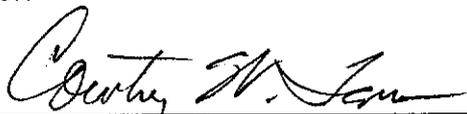
Announcements

- The subcommittee was reminded about the ADAP Public Hearing which will be held Friday, August 24, 2012, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

Meeting Adjourned

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

The next meeting will be held September 4, 2012 (10:00 a.m.), at the AIDT Center.



Courtney W. Tarver, Chair
Associate Commissioner
Division of Developmental Disabilities



Shirley Hicks
Recorder