

**Coordinating Subcommittee for
Division of Developmental Disabilities
Meeting Summary
December 4, 2012
AIDT Center (1:00 p.m.)**

The Coordinating Subcommittee for Intellectual Disabilities Services met at the AIDT Center in Montgomery, Alabama.

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by Courtney W. Tarver, the Chair.

Courtney W. Tarver, Chair

Voting Members Present

Steve Lafreniere, DMH/DD Representative
Jeff Williams, DMH/DD Representative
Anne Penney, Alabama Council Representative
Jim Dill, Alabama Council Representative
Myra Jones (Sophia Whitted), DD Council
Earl Brightwell (Lee Conner), MR/DD Representative
Jo Poates, MR/DD Representative
Wallace Davis (DeAnna Ferguson), Other Provider Representative
Murray Townsend, The Arc of Alabama Representative
Darren Morris, People First of Alabama Representative
Amanda Ward (Tom Holmes), The Arc of Alabama Consumer Representative
Lou Vick (Terry Pezent), ACE/Arc Representative

Visitors

George Neal, DMH
Cassandra Odom, DMH/Region 2 Community Services
Ellen Gillespie, ADAP
Bill Hoehle, The Arc of Jefferson County
Audrey McShan, DMH
Wade Reese, Arc of Fayette/Lamar/Marengo, Co.
Renee'King-Holley, King CRF, AL Providers Association.
Carolyn Little, Little CRF, AL Providers Association.
Rose Hill, Life Enrichment
Patti Martin, MARC
Mike Martin, DMH/Region 4 Community Services
Eleanor Tolbert, DMH/Region 3 Community Services
Andy Slate, DMH/Region 1 Community Services
Daphne Rosalis, DMH
Byron White, DMH

Recorder

Shirley Hicks

Approval of August September 4, 2012, Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Conner to approve the September 4, 2012, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Dr. Penney, and it passed.

Agenda

The following item was added: 1) Medicaid Rates Issue. A motion was made by Dr. Penny to approve the agenda as modified. Mr. Townsend seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Associate Commissioner's Report

A written report regarding the meetings that Mr. Tarver attended during the month of September and the first week of October was shared with the subcommittee. Mr. Tarver gave a summary of the October 2, 2012, Legislative Joint Committee on Medicaid Policy Meeting. He briefly expounded on Donald Williamson being appointed to chair a workgroup to revamp the Medicaid Agency's funding stream.

He pointed out that the Alabama Medicaid Agency is structured in a unique way. He thinks it will not be advantageous for the DD delivery system unless fundamental changes are made to the Alabama Medicaid program.

He suggested the subcommittee develop ideas which describe how the DD delivery system operates and how it fits into Alabama's Medicaid program. He also suggested the subcommittee develop funding strategies. Members agreed,

After much discussion, it was agreed to establish work groups to assist with shaping ideas, plans, and funding strategies to be presented to elected leaders. Gillespie pointed out to everyone that the joint committees are being heavily covered by healthcare providers.

Budget Update

Mr. Tarver shared although the passing of the Constitution Amendment saved several millions dollars, it did not take care of the entire deficit.

Currently, DD does not have guidance on how the \$8.5 million will be addressed. Internal meetings have been scheduled regarding what steps to take. Hopefully, there will be guidance and more information related to rates and contracts at the upcoming Management Steering Committee meeting, October 25, 2012.

Mr. Williams inquired about the University of Alabama purchasing Partlow, and Mr. Tarver replied the University of Alabama and also other agencies are interested in purchasing Partlow's property.

The subcommittee held a discussion about revenues.

Mr. Tarver suggested the subcommittee discuss how the waiver should operate. It would be a great if the group research some of the issues that reconstitute ways to get revenues.

There was a brief discussion about DD waivers and how certain waivers are designed to help states reorganize and redesign programs.

Mr. Tarver related it will be advantageous for DD to have a plan that will educate the Legislature about DD's needs and about its service delivery system.

Another discussion was held, and the subcommittee agreed to establish two work

groups: 1) Financial Services Work Group and 2) Waiver Services Workgroup. Representatives on both work groups are listed as follows:

Financial Services Work Group

Jim Dill, Alabama Council
Anne Penney, Alabama Council
Jo Poates, MR/DD
Murray Townsend, Arc of Alabama
Lou Vick, ACE/Arc
DeAnna Ferguson, VOA (Other Provider)
Darren Morris, People First of Alabama
Steve Lafreniere, DMH/DD
Jane Davis, DMH/DD
Andy Slate, DMH/DD
Daphne Rosalis, DMH/DD
Jeff Williams, DMH/DD
Lori Leathers, DMH/DD, Community Services
George Neal, DMH/DD

Waiver Services Work Group

Earl Brightwell, MR/DD 310
Anne Penney, Alabama Council
Tom Holmes, Arc of Alabama
Terry Pezent, ACE/Arc
Susan Klingel, ACE/Arc
Patti Martin, MASPMPR
DeAnna Ferguson, VOA (Other Provider)
Ellen Gillespie, ADAP
Darren Morris, People First of Alabama
Jeff Williams, DMH/DD
George Neal, DMH/DD
Daphne Rosalis, DMH/DD
Andy Slate, DMH/DD
Steve Lafreniere, DMH/DD
Byron White, DMH/DD
Susan Ford, DMH/DD
Cassandra, DMH/DD (Community Services)
Mike Martin, DMH/DD (Community Services)
Anna McConnell, DMH/DD

Mr. Tarver pointed out subcommittee meetings should be based on making decisions about recommendations from work groups. With this being the case, he asked members if they objected to the subcommittee meeting every other month to plan and make decisions based on written recommendations from the work groups and during the months the subcommittee does not meet, the work groups will meet. Subcommittee members concurred.

It was recorded that the DD Subcommittee will meet every other month. Dr. Dill asked Mr. Tarver to keep a handle on not losing sight of the work groups. Mr. Tarver asked that the work groups meet bi-monthly and prepare to present their recommendations at the December 4, 2012, Subcommittee meeting.

It was decided that the Financial Services Work Group meet October 30, 2012, and the Waiver Services Work Group meet October 31, 2012. The Subcommittee next meeting will be held December 4, 2012, at AIDT.

Local Match

Mr. Tarver indicated the Department obtained definition for funding and the different rules attached to it. With the local dollars, particular with the charitable dollars (the dollars that are not suppose to be dedicated for particular programs), cannot be earmarked and returned to the originator.

He would like for the financial services work group to address the local match issue and present written recommendations to the subcommittee.

Mr. Tarver noted other states don't use local match. Other states' funding streams are different from Alabama (they have a different governmental process). In the other states that are set up like us, their charitable dollars cannot be dedicated. He will provide the work group resources from the other states.

The local match letter will not be process until written recommendations from the work group are received

Waiting List

The waiting list by county was distributed to the subcommittee by Mr. Williams.

The waiting list status is 1,901
1,085 (individuals partially served)
71 (individuals receiving no services/who are not critical)
101 (individuals waiting/who are partially served)

20 individuals were served this quarter (9 received residential services, 8 received day habilitation services, and 11 received support services)

132 individuals were added to the waiting list. Out of the 105 individuals, 36 received day habilitation services and 51 received support services.

Mr. Williams noted that the Call Center update will be presented at the subcommittee's next meeting.

Mr. Tarver reported DD is currently reviewing how DD is organized in terms of funding and the delivery of funding. DD is also reviewing case management services as well as reviewing ways to improve internally. Subcommittee members were asked for feedback regarding this.

Rates at Medicaid

Several providers/members were concerned about the Medicaid rates issue. DD staff noted when the rates changed, they were not adjusted in ADIDIS. The Department sent out an email stating if providers billed case management for RN services, they were short. When the corrections are made and adjusted in ADIDIS, the Department will inform providers. Presently, there is not a process to do a batch void.

Ms. Rosalis explained Medicaid restructured their organization. Case management services is now under the Managed Care Division. She was fully aware of this problem and has already notified the Managed Care Division at Medicaid. Hopefully, before the next check write, providers can rebill.

New Business

No new business at this time.

Announcements

ADAP organized "What Can You Do" Campaign. Information regarding this campaign is located on whatcanyoudocampaign.org.

Ms. Rosalis announced there were 38 providers Medicaid re-enrollment last Friday and there were also two enrollments today. Mr. Tarver gave appreciation to providers for their prompt assistance. For the record, he also had to complete a consent form Medicaid (which included all of his confidential information). He emphasized that all new board members need to submit their information. This process ensures individuals are not on the Medicaid Federal Exclusion List.

Next Meeting

With no further business, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be held December 4, 2012.

Courtney W. Tarver
Associate Commissioner
Division of Developmental Disabilities

Shirley Hicks
Recorder