

**ADMH Division of Developmental Disabilities
Coordinating Subcommittee Zoom Meeting Summary
December 8, 2020**

Participants: There were 196 Participants (DDD Subcommittee Members, Provider Network, and Stakeholders).

Voting Members Present:

DeAnna Ferguson, Ph.D., Other Providers–VOA Representative
Jo Poates, AADD Representative
Arvy Dupy, AADD Representative
Darryle Powell, Sr., Alabama DD Council Representative
Wade Reese, ACE/Arc Representative
Jamie Herren, Alabama Council/MH Centers Representative
Connie Batiste, ADMH/DDD Representative
Ken Oliver, Alabama MH Centers Representative
Diane Durbin, ADMH/Advocacy
Susan Ellis, People First of Alabama Representative
Byron White, ADMH/DDD Representative

Voting Members Absent:

Jane Cameron, Arc of Alabama Family Representative
Ann Riddle, Arc of Alabama Representative

1. Welcome and Called to Order

AC Pezent called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented by Mr. Arvy and seconded by Mr. Reese. The motion was approved.

3. Approval of November 17, 2020 Minutes

A motion was made by Dr. Ferguson and seconded by Mr. Arvy to approve the meeting minutes as presented. The motion was approved.

4. COVID-19 Workgroup (Terry Pezent)

Dr. Landers, Alabama Department Public Health, attended the COVID-19 workgroup meeting. The discussion centered around the vaccination roll-out for the different phases. The vaccination roll-out plan is located on APDH website.

The Community Services Directors are in the process of compiling data regarding congregated setting with underlying conditions by county, number of people, and age with underlying health condition. Dr. Ferguson requested that front line staff be included in Phase I.

AC Pezent suggested she will send a request to all providers asking them to submit the data by counties of individuals who have underlying conditions by this Friday. Dr. Ferguson encouraged providers to include in the data anyone who has direct support with the individuals being served.

A discussion was held about the vaccination rollout and whether providers should mandate that an individual should receive vaccination. Further discussion was held regarding the vaccination roll out plan.

- A. Trend Analysis Data** – The trend analysis has an upward trend in COVID-19. From November 18, 2020 to December 7, 2020, hospitalizations increased.

Are providers submitting the weekly COVID-19 data to the employment specialists as requested? Are providers aware that the data should be submitted every Friday? Ms. Batiste pointed out that based on data being received, less than 50% of the providers are reporting data which means the trend analysis really doesn't reflect an accurate picture. The data should include, number of people tested, number of positive, number of hospitalizations, number of mortalities. A reminder will be sent out to all providers. It was mentioned that something will be sent out to providers about submitting COVID-19 information on their staff.

- B. Day Program:** A survey related to day program closures was sent out to all day programs. Out of 118 day programs, only 38 providers responded. It is very important that all day programs respond to the survey because this provide information related to the status of day programs reopening, the effect on the number of people being served, the effect on whether the programs are providing the same services.

- C. PPE Payments:** The PPE payments are being processed, and the supplemental payments for day services are still being discussed. There was a discussion regarding how to request to use the unused CARES Act monies.

5. Office of Autism Services (Robyn McQueen, Cody Farmer, Andrea McCoy)

An in-depth presentation was presented on Autism Services. Autism services are available for Medicaid-eligible children and youth with autism, aged birth through 20, who require more intensive supports such as intensive care coordination, therapeutic monitoring, behavior support, in-home therapy, psychoeducational services, and peer support. Please visit <https://mh.alabama.gov/autism-services/> or contact 800-499-1816 for more information.

Currently, 60 individuals are being served. Susan Ellis requested the percentage of the ID population receiving autism services and how many individuals being served by region. Ms. McConnell will provide this information later.

6. Community Waiver Program Update (Kevin LaPorte and Harrison Black)

An overview was presented on the CWP waiver.

- Provider Training began August 25, 2020
- Enrollments begin February 1, 2020
- Outreach began December 2020
- Support Coordinators begin January 4, 2021

7. Alabama Medicaid Agency Update

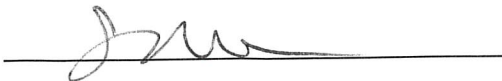
Ms. Jackson indicated that the Electronic Visit Verification Monitoring (EVVM) requirements for self-directed personal care services goes into effect January 1, 2021. Pilot training has begun. In response to Susan Ellis' question about questions and concerns recipients have about the program, Ms. Jackson suggested sending an email regarding those concerns to Monica Abron at Medicaid. AC Pezent asked that she and Lori Leathers be copied. In response to the question about the status of the service codes for same day/same service sent to Medicaid, Ms. Jackson stated that the request had been submitted to Gainwell (formally DXC) and hopefully become effective in the system by the end of the week.

8. Announcements

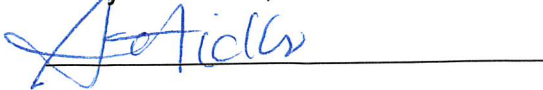
There were no announcements.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held January 5, 2021.



Terry L. Pezent, Associate Commissioner/ADMH/DD



Shirley Hicks, Recorder, ADMH/DD