

**ADMH Division of Developmental Disabilities
Coordinating Subcommittee Zoom Meeting Summary
January 5, 2021**

Participants: There were 241 Participants, which included DDD Subcommittee Members, Provider Network, and other Stakeholders.

Voting Members Present:

Connie Batiste, ADMH/DDD Representative
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
Ken Oliver, Alabama MH Centers Representative
Susan Ellis, People First of Alabama Representative
Steve Meggs, 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

Non-Voting Member

Diane Durbin, ADMH/Advocacy

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. Reese and seconded by Mr. Arvy. The motion was approved.

3. Approval of December 8, 2020 Minutes

There was a minor correction to the minutes on Page 3, Under “Next Meeting Date”, the minutes were corrected to reflect January 5, 2020. A motion was made by Mr. Oliver and seconded by Mr. Wade to approve the meeting minutes as corrected. The motion was approved.

4. Associate Commissioner Comments (Terry Pezent)

AC Pezent shared the DDD Subcommittee membership list on the Zoom screen and acknowledged the voting members listed for each Association. She encouraged stakeholders to reach out to the designated representatives for their associations regarding issues, comments, or ideas. As a reminder, the subcommittee representatives serve on the behalf of providers, family members, and advocates.

Please note that one huge thing that was accomplished was the alignment of dates of the ID/LAH Waivers.

Dr. Ferguson wanted clarification regarding the Quality Council role. AC Pezent indicated that the Quality Council role is to review and collect the data for the performance measures, review aggregate data, and identify any systemic changes. She can possibly have a presentation of the performance measures during a future DDD Subcommittee meeting. Dr. Ferguson feels this is a great opportunity for training as performance measures are embedded in the waivers, but there need to be a simple way to retrieve data that is not cumbersome and is valid across all organizations. Many of the performance measures were not relevant for long term services and supports. Some of the performance measurements were based on a medical model. Drew Nelson, Medicaid, acknowledged the concern and noted Medicaid has been working diligently with ADMH/DD on the performance measures for the waivers. Everything will be formulated and presented clearly so that everyone could understand it. It is important to provide training and education to providers. He noted Medicaid is trying to streamline the performance measures across all seven HCBS waivers for the State of Alabama, which also include the three waivers for DDD.

- **Person Centered Planning (PCP) Transformation** - On October 1, 2020, the PCP was implemented. DDD is now conversating with Inlusa about what type of changes need to be made. We will continue to work over the next few months with the transformation.
- **Staff vacancies** - There are staff vacancies within the DDD Division. Please apply on ADMH website.
- **Home and Community Based Setting (HCBS) Rule** - CMS extended the HCBS Rule Setting compliance to a year. More information is forthcoming from CMS. Just recently, the collected data was reviewed by DDD along with Medicaid. The information from the validation report for the transition to compliance plan will be revisited. More information is forthcoming.
- Susan Ellis requested AC Pezent to prepare a written document reflecting DDD activities and plans so that it can be shared with everyone, specifically families.

5. Bureau of Special Investigations (Jo Rittner)

A report regarding the investigation process implemented for community programs was presented by Mr. Rittner. A summary report of incidents and cases was shared. Dr. Ferguson requested that Mr. Rittner participate on the Abuse/Neglect Registry Workgroup.

The Abuse/Neglect Registry workgroup meeting will be scheduled in the near future. Mr. Rittner was asked to provide a written report at that meeting.

6. COVID-19 Workgroup (Terry Pezent)

The COVID report will be provided at next month's meeting. Also, the DDD Subcommittee voting members are requested to participate on the COVID Workgroup going forward.

Appendix K - The Appendix K will be ending. Thoughts will be given to "How should resources be utilized in the coming months to address the needs of individuals and providers"? Ms. Wettingfield verified that Appendix K has been extended to July 2021.

AC Pezent noted that virtual services will continue until July 23, 2021. The status of the Electronic System will be provided at the next meeting. The vaccination guidance was sent out recently, and the Regional Community Services directors will resend the same vaccination guidance to all providers again.

7. ADMH Commissioner Office (Commissioner Boswell)

Commissioner Boswell provided a brief summary of the budget meeting she had with State Finance on December 21, 2020. The feedback she received is that this year will be a conservative year. She provided an explanation regarding the discrepancies with the CARES funding original request and the amount that was received. Questions were entertained.

8. Community Waiver Program (CWP) Update (Kevin LaPorte)

The waiver is on track for waiver enrollment to begin on February 1, 2021. There are a few things to resolve. The CWP Support Coordinators Onboarding Training started yesterday.

9. ADMH/DD Office of Behavioral Services (Dr. Eliza Belle)

Dr. Belle shared a presentation regarding behavioral services for persons with intellectual disabilities. Procedural guidelines have been established and anyone providing behavioral services support through the HCBS waiver is required to receive behavioral services procedural guidelines training. The upcoming training will be held:

January 14, 2021 (10:00am-12:00pm)
January 21, 2021 (10:00am-12:00pm)
January 28, 2021 (10:00am-12:00pm)

Detail information on how to register and access training will be posted on ADMH/DD website under the Provider Portal. This information will also be sent to the Regional Community Services Directors to distribute to all providers. Additional training will be offered January – March 2021, to supplement behavioral services and provide resources for providers of Behavioral Supports. This will also be posted on the website.

Ms. Ellis would like for families to be able to participate and have access to the training. Dr. Belle noted that the training will be available for anyone to access.

10. HCBS Workgroup (Kathy Sawyer)

- The Home and Community Based Settings Rule FY20 Year Ending Report is

located on ADMH/DD website at <https://mh.alabama.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Pathway-to-Change-HCBS-Progress-in-FY20.pdf>.

- The validation data is being evaluated.
- The educational/advocacy materials are available.
- The plan is to resume meetings with Alabama Medicaid regarding the Transition Plan.

11. Alabama Medicaid Agency Update

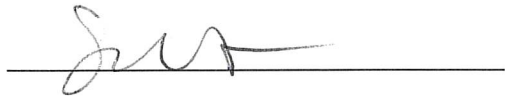
There was no update.

12. Announcements

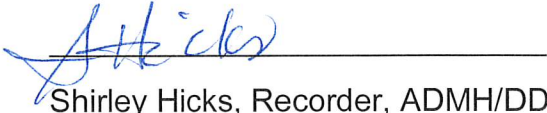
There were no announcements.

13. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held February 2, 2021.



Terry L. Pezent, Associate Commissioner/ADMH/DD



Shirley Hicks, Recorder, ADMH/DD