

## DD Stakeholder Transition Plan Task Force Meeting Summary

A meeting of the DD Stakeholder Transition Plan Task Force was held 1:00 pm June 25, 2021 via Zoom.

### Members Present:

Connie Batiste, ADMH	Arvy Dupuy, ID 310 Boards
Ken Oliver, Glenwood/Alabama Council	Terry Pezent, ADMH/DD
Susan Ellis, People First of Alabama	
Carla Stallworth, Other Providers	James Tucker, ADAP
Wade Reese, Ace of ARC	Jamie Herren, Alabama Council on MH Centers
Kathy Sawyer, ADMH/DD Consultant	Vivian Warren, ADMH
Jo Poates, ID 310 Boards	Carrie Bearden, BHAA
Anne Riddle, The Arc of Alabama	DeAnna Ferguson, Other Providers
Donna Foster, Future Living Community Services	Mattie Jackson, Alabama Medicaid Agency
Zina May, ADMH Advocacy	

### Members Absent:

Susan Klingel, ACE	
Jerry Pike, Eagles' Wings	

### Guests:

Chris Stewart	Riyyah James, State Medicaid Agency
Delshonda Thomas	Paula Brown
Christopher Robinson	LeVander Towner
Florine Croxton, ADMH/DD	Lee Prestige
Ginger Wettingfeld	Jessica Odem
Kimberly Holyfield	Lashonda Foster
Barbara Hughley	Zina Hatcher
Andy Slate	
Rebecca Wright	

### Recorder:

Velma McElrath	
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### Welcome and Introductions:

Kathy Sawyer called the meeting to order and welcomed task force members and guests. She also welcomed and thanked the regional directors, who were invited by Amy Warren, in view of their HCBS work.

**Agenda and Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed. The agenda for the meeting was also approved.

**Task Force Chair Report:** Kathy Sawyer provided a brief overview of HCBS Rule compliance activity over recent months. She also expressed the importance of these meetings on keeping stakeholders informed and engaged.

**Work group Reports:** Ms. Sawyer asked each of the workgroup chairs to give an overview of their work since the last meeting. The following reports were given:

**Support Coordination/Person Centered Planning: Christopher Robinson provided the following updates on behalf of Francilla Allen:**

- The last Person-Centered Planning meeting was held on December 22, 2020. At this meeting, Inclusa provided updates regarding the progress of the Roles and Workflow Workgroup, the Strategic Planning Committee and the Self-Directed Services Handbook.
- It was also reported that collaboration is still on-going with Inclusa regarding PCP trainings for new hire SCs and internal ADMH staff. The next training session is July 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Residential and Non-Residential: Amy Warren provided the following updates:**

- The last meeting was held on June 14, 2021.
- Letter to providers were sent out on June 24, 2021.
- Although the preliminary validation data indicates 43 sites without compliance plans, it appears this is an error and will be verified.

**Education: Malissa Hubert-Valdes emailed the following updates:**

- Community waiver- Promotional flyer, social media messaging, ppt created – Will check with Harrison to ensure all info is still correct in anticipation of October release
- HCBS posters and flyers remain in the Office of Public Information. Regional offices can request to have mailed to them for Provider meetings.
- We are still promoting the 'We the People' website on social media per Zina May, the next meeting will be in July or August.

**Medicaid Update on STP: Rebecca Wright and Mattie Jackson provided the following updates:**

- ADMH and Medicaid have been working together to get the Statewide Transition Plan submitted to CMS. The plan will be posted for public review for 30 days prior to submission around September 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be a public comment period for heightened scrutiny, which will include the disclosure of settings determined to not be in compliance or likely to come into compliance by the March 17, 2023 deadline.

- There have been many meetings between Medicaid and ADMH/DD reviewing the validation process. ADMH/DD will submit the updated validation data to Medicaid by August 15<sup>th</sup>; after which, Medicaid will finalize the State Transition Plan and submit to CMS.
- ADMH/DD has to determine that as of July 1<sup>st</sup>: 1) settings that are currently in compliance with Prong 3 (no isolating practices); 2) settings that still have some isolation features/practices but have a transition to compliance plan and is expected to remediate by March 17, 2023 and 3) settings that are not in compliance but not have a remediation plan and thus, will not continue to receive HCBS funding. Medicaid will report these settings and their statuses to CMS by October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Announcements:**

- Ms. Sawyer reported that Kevin LaPorte, Community Waiver Director, retired at the end of May and that she has been appointed to provide administrative oversight and supervision of the CWP on an interim basis.
- Ms. Sawyer provided the following CWP updates: ADMH/DD has been working very hard on the Community Waiver Program and awaiting a decision very soon. Responses have been provided to all CMS questions and the CWP is in the final stage of review. Ms. Sawyer also reported working with the CWP Support Coordinators to get them prepared for the program's start.
- Finally, Ms. Sawyer acknowledged and applauded that Partners in Policymaking will be returning to the DD Council.

**Next meeting:**

Two months (TBA)