

**Coordinating Subcommittee for Division of Developmental Disabilities
(Meeting Summary)
October 6, 2015**

The Coordinating Subcommittee for Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) Services met at AIDT. The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Courtney W. Tarver, Associate Commissioner.

Voting Members Present

Jeff Williams, ADMH/DD
Jo Poates, AADD Representative
Earl Brightwell, AADD Representative
Wallace Davis (Terry Bartlett), Other Providers Representative
Terry Pezent, the Arc of Alabama Representative
Beatrice McLean, ADMH/DD
Chris Stewart, ACE/Arc Representative
Brittany Gore, People First of Alabama
Anne Penney, Alabama Council Representative

Visitors

Wade Reese, The Arc of Fayette/Lamar Counties
Barbara Huguley, ADMH/DD Region 2
Eleanor Tolbert, ADMH/DD Region 3
Patti Martin, ADMH/DD
Beverly Hudson, ADMH/DD Region 4
Susan Ford, ADMH/DD
Connie Batiste, ADMH/DD
Sonja Banks, TriCounty ADD
Andy Slate, ADMH/DD
Anthony Couch, ADMH/DD
Zane Welch, PHP of Alabama
Joann Bennett/ADMH/DD
James Tucker, ADAP
Gary Edwards, UCP
Lou Vick, The Arc of Walker County
Renee' King-Holley, King CRF
George Neal, ADMH/DD
Brooks Greene, The Arc of Jefferson County
Ed Dorsey, DHC/DD
Rose Hill, Hill's LLC
Carolyn Little, Little CRF
Karen Stokes, The Arc of Shelby County
Jess Butrica, AWE/Arc
Jan Seegars-Frye, AWE Arc
Susan Ellis, People First of Alabama
Karen Willis, People First of Alabama
Zane Welch, PHP of Alabama

Recorder

Shirley Hicks

Agenda

A motion was made by Dr. Penney to accept the agenda as distributed, and Mr. Stewart seconded motion. The motion was approved.

Approval of July 7, 2015, Meeting Minutes

Mr. Williams made a motion to adopt the minutes as presented, and the motion was seconded by Ms. Gore. The motion was approved.

Associate Commissioner (AC) Report

In addition to the distributed report, the following information was noted:

- In regards to the budget, the Department of Mental Health was leveled funded. The group was encourage to continue the advocacy work of letting legislators know about stakeholders' financial situations regarding the needs and impacts without additional funding.

As communicated in the cancellation notice of the September 2015 Subcommittee meeting, October's meeting is the initial strategic planning session. AC Tarver did a power point presentation that illustrated where we have been, where we are, and where we are trying to go. The presentation included an update and refresher of the 2012 Strategic Plan goals and objectives.

An update was highlighted on the following goals and objectives:

- The personal outcome measures, person focused planning, and the employment first goals are currently ongoing.
- Activities that are involved in accomplishing the employment objectives, such as the Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) activities through the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) project, are ongoing as well.
- The Employment First website has been developed. The website is located at Employmentfirst.bama.org.
- The Waiting List elimination project is ongoing.
- In relation to the Employment First goals, the housing coordinator has been hired. The regional housing specialists will be hired in the near future.

At the conclusion of the presentation, feedback and input was solicited for expansion of strategic plan goals. **It was recommended that the following be incorporated into the strategic plan:**

- Family support, self-directed services, and expansion of crisis services (recommended by AC Tarver).
- Case management services for kids transitioning out of school (recommended by Mr. Williams).
- Dentistry/oral health, occupational therapy assistant, autism waiver, technology, early intervention for kids at risk services (recommended by Dr. Edwards).

Mr. Tucker provided comments in regards to the strategic plan presentation. He wanted to make sure that the vision and goals stated translate to implementation for individuals in programs. Also, the implementation of the person centered plan and realization of personal goals need to materialize. The comments from Mr. Tucker were noted.

Mr. Stewart mentioned that the State Medicaid Plan was rejected by CMS. Does this means the DD plan is rejected as well since it is rolled into the Medicaid Plan? It was clarified that this is not the case. The DD Transition Plan which is embedded in the DD Waiver was not rejected. Further discussion was held.

Ms. Ellis expressed the need for individuals with developmental disabilities to experience how to participate in meetings. They also need to be trained on how to implement their rights as individuals.

Mr. Williams expressed his concerns regarding person-centered planning training. Whenever he interviewed people and staff on person outcome, he perceived there had not been much commitment and empowerment of teams. Somewhere, the process stops in the middle. For example, a 21 year old who had personal goals and everyone insisted on getting him "ready." This readiness mode has the tendencies of holding individuals back by not following through with their person-centered plan. Mr. Stewart noted that this process can get challenging when the support direct staff turnover rate is 50%. The direct support personnel quit or leave by the time they are trained. Mr. Williams indicated that his plans in reference to Direct Support Professionals will hopefully address this issue.

Mr. Stewart requested that the IRBI for ICAP be reviewed for modification. Since the Rate Structuring Workgroup meeting will be reconvening, this issue can be addressed during that time. The IRBI issue in regards to hours for day hab and how to expand the day hab services. Please forward recommendations to AC Tarver.

There was a discussion about case management pilots. Ms. Pezent inquired about whether agencies can implement some of the activities related to the person centered pilots. Ms. Martin explained she would like to complete the pilot process and conduct an assessment first before implementing activities.

A member suggested to AC Tarver that the pros and cons of targeted case management services be reviewed.

Waiver Transition Plan

Mr. Williams presented an update and shared information regarding leases and keys for individuals in residential services. In addition, the Administrative Code changes will be collected for Debbie Popwell, Director of ADMH/Certification. The policy for leases and keys falls under this Administrative Code, and October 1, 2015, is the timeframe for lease, room, and board agreements. This is an updated requirement for all Directors of DD Programs.

In addition, we are officially in Phase II of the waiver implementation plan.

People First of Alabama

Ms. Gore noted the following:

- People First of Alabama held its Board Meeting, September 18, 2015.
- A new Chapter has been established in Jefferson County.
- People First of Alabama is working to strengthen old and new chapters. Regional chapter meetings are still being held.
- The first training for the Young Leaders Grant was held. Participants for the training will do a project on a topic.
- A webinar on closing institutions will be held.
- She plan on attending the upcoming Alabama Disability Conference.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

No new business.

Announcements

AC Tarver announced that the next subcommittee meeting, November 3rd, will be focused on Employment First. The subcommittee's December 1, 2015, meeting will focus on refining of the strategic planning goals. Also, the Quality Council will be a part of the December meeting.

Mrs. Pezent announced that the registration fee for the Alabama Disability Conference has been extended to October 16th. The conference will be held October 28-30, 2015. The conference program is located on the Arc of Alabama website.

Next Meeting

The next DD Subcommittee Meeting will be held November 3, 2015, at AIDT.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Courtney W. Tarver, Associate Commissioner
Division of Developmental Disabilities



Shirley Hicks
Recorder