

Developmental Disabilities Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2022

I. Call to order

MaryAnn Schiefen called to order the regular meetings of the DD Advisory Committee at 10:05 am on Thursday, April 14, 2022.

II. Roll call

The following persons were present:

Advisory Members Present: MaryAnn Schiefen, Linda Jespersen, Kristen Larsen, Mark Shriver, Jennifer Miller, Lori Regier, Suzanne (Suzie) Walgren, Diane Focht, Diana DeLair, Christina Zeleski, Dorothy Ackland, Lisa Pruitt, Angela Willey

Advisory Members Absent: Cathy Martinez, Debbie Salomon; Kizzie Vaughn, Stacey Bliss, Margaret Huss, Michelle Summers

DHHS Staff: Tony Green, Tyla Watson, Shauna Adams, Aaron Smith

Other: Darryl Millner

III. Approval of Agenda

Addition to Agenda: Tony Green requested to amend the agenda and add Legislative Updates to the Agenda.

Diane DeLair moved to approve the agenda as amended, 2nd by Linda Jespersen. Agenda approved as amended.

IV. Approval of Minutes from December Meeting

Correction to minutes: Dorothy Ackland's name was misspelled under Roll Call. Dorothy Ackland made a motion to approve minutes, motion 2nd by Diane Focht. Minutes approved.

V. DHHS Division of Developmental Disabilities – Updates/Review of Action Items

a) Registry Update

- HANDOUT – Registry Statistics
 - 2,958 on Registry as of April 1, 2022;
 - 32% on the Registry are receiving other waiver services.
- **Follow up:** Requesting additional data on people that have applied for services. Not just those on the registry;
- Discussion followed.

b) Developmental Disabilities Court-Ordered Custody Act (DD COCA)

- HANDOUT - DD Court-Ordered Custody Act Statistics;
- 41 Active DD COCA Cases;
- Discussion followed.

- c) Independent Provider Enrollment Update – Shauna Adams
 - ARPA Spending Approval – Fiscal Intermediary/Agent to help manage and oversee the independent provider network. Possible services could include: training, billing/financial support, enrollment, and general support;
 - Comment from Lori Reiger: Would like to see the system remain flexible. Would like to request to be part of any stakeholder engagement for this project;
 - Discussion followed.

- d) 2021-2022 DHHS Business Plan
 - 1) Person Centered System
 - The Division joined NASDDDS Community of Practice December 2021;
 - A state-wide Stakeholder Kick-Off Meeting was held on March 9, 2022;
 - The Division has activity engaged with Answers for Families to develop Charting the Life Course training to go live in April 2022;
 - The Division has begun meeting with stakeholders from DD and AD waiver programs to redesign the ISP to include Charting the Life Course principles and tools. Meetings are being held in Lincoln, North Platte, Omaha, Scottsbluff, Kearney, and Norfolk. These engagement activities are on the DHHS website.

 - 2) Aged and Disabled Rate Modeling
 - Intent is to establish a rate model for services to the Aged and Disabled;
 - Contractor CBIZ Optuma, has been secured for the project;
 - Communication sent out to all external partners (including independent providers).

 - 3) Home and Community-Based Services Single Case Management
 - Intent to streamline the processes;
 - Notification sent out to all external partners Service Coordinators about train opportunities;
 - May 1, 2022 - Therap open for Service Coordinators and the requirement to start entering information begins;
 - Discussion followed.

- e) American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – HCBS
 - All documents are on the DHHS website: <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Medicaid-Providers.aspx>;
 - Discussion followed.

- f) Waiver Updates
 - Amendments to HCBS Aged and Disabled waiver and the Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver:
 - Submitted to CMS on March 18, 2022, anticipated effective date July 1, 2022;
 - Copy of proposed amendments and summary of changes are available on the public website: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/DD-Public-Comments.aspx>.
 - DD Waivers Renewals submitted to CMS in November 2021 were approved and became effective date March 1, 2022.

- Appendix K: All 4 HCBS waivers were approved by CMS of March 18, 2022 for January 1, 2022-June 30, 2022.

g) Legislative Update

- LB 376 - Family Supports Waiver – If passed as currently written, this committee is listed in the bill. The committee shall “assist in the development and guide the implementation of the family support program.”
- Discussion followed.

VI. Quality Update – Aaron Smith & Darryl Millner

- PowerPoint: Quality and Liberty Updates:
 - Requested feedback from committee on Strategic Planning Sessions In-Depth Analysis presented at Previous committee meeting;
 - Approach to Implementation Changes;
 - Incident Reporting;
 - Incident Management Pilot;
 - Mortality Review Committee - HANDOUT: Mortality Data 07/15/21-02/28/22;
 - Discussion followed.

VII. Public Comment

- No Public comments presented to committee.

VIII. New Business

- Review Notice of Rights and Obligations Form:
 - HANDOUT: Copy of Notice of Rights and Obligations;
 - Would like to see this document more in plain language or possibly with pictures. Help people understand what this means in a way they can understand;
 - Discussion followed.
- Supporting People’s Person Centered Choices:
 - Create a Support network for those people that don’t qualify
 - Suggestions that a Survey be sent to people that do not qualify for services but may need help to check in on them.
 - Pre-vocational services: if you gain the skills to do a job you can work, but then if you work you lose your SSI and services. The system says it wants people to work but does not actually support it.
 - **Follow Up:** Would like to invite Eastern Seals, SSI, or Bradley Meurrens with Disability Rights Nebraska come to speak on SSI at an upcoming meeting.
 - How do we make sure people are not being exploited?
 - Discussion followed.
- ENABLE Account
 - Some committee members had questions about ENABLE account.
 - **Follow Up:** Would like to invite someone to speak to the committee about Enable accounts.

IX. Adjournment

MaryAnn Schiefen adjourned the meeting at 1:21 PM.

Next Meetings:

Thursday, June 2, 2022

10:00-2:00 PM

Nebraska State Office Building

Lower Level C

301 Centennial Mall South

Lincoln, NE 68509