

Developmental Disabilities Advisory Committee

Meeting Notes

January 12, 2023

I. Call to order

Lorie Regier called to order the regular meetings of the DD Advisory Committee at 10:09 am on Thursday, January 12, 2023.

II. Roll call

The following persons were present:

Advisory Members Present: Lorie Regier, Stacy Bliss, Debbie Salomon, Linda Clemens, Lisa Pruitt, Diane Focht, Kristen Larsen, Angela Willey, Mark Shriver, Cristal Petersen, Jennifer Hansen, Suzanne Wahlgren

Advisory Members Absent: Michelle Summers, Dorothy Ackland, Kizzie Vaughn, Dianne DeLair, Christina Zelesi, Peg Huss, Jennifer Miller

DHHS Staff: Tyla Watson, Jenn Clark, Kristen Smith, Colin Large

Other Attendees: Jennifer Quigley - Liberty

III. Approval of Agenda

- Lorie requested that virtual meeting be added to new business.
- Angela Willey moved to approve with the addition to the agenda, 2nd by Diane Focht.

IV. Approval of Minutes from December 1, 2022 meeting

- Kristen Larsen made a motion to approve minutes as presented, motion 2nd by Jennifer Hansen.

V. Quality Update – Kristen Smith, DHHS & Jennifer Quigley, Liberty:

- State Transition Plan
 - Do we have the number and/or name of places being considered for heightened scrutiny? 66 Assisted Living and 12 CLS
- Final Setting Rule
 - **FOLLOW UP:** Committee would like to Invite Sarah Swanson, Munroe Meyer to provide some training/information to the committee if interested – Suggested/offered by Mark Shriver.
- Liberty Update:
 - HANDOUT: 2023 Roadmap shared with committee. Was presented to providers January 5, 2023 and will be posted to the webpage.
 - Discussion Followed.
- Follow up from December meeting: Provided update on committee session.

VI. Family Support Waiver - Colin Large

- Family Support Waiver Update presented by Colin Large.
- Presented 16-18 services to CMS for technical guidance. List of those services are below:

Existing Services

- Respite
- Assistive Technology
- Child Day Habilitation
- Community Integration
- Day Supports
- Environmental Modification Assessment
- Home Modifications
- Homemaker
- Independent Living
- Personal Emergency Response System (PERs)*
- Support Family Living
- Transportation
- Vehicle Modifications

New Services

- Family Caregiver Training
 - Family Peer Mentoring Supports
 - Participant Directed Goods and Services
 - Music Therapy (Potentially Medicaid Services)
 - Equine Therapy (Potentially Medicaid Services)
- Do not have to take services off, want to make sure we are being cognizant of what the intent of the waiver and are providing services needed. Committee asked for thoughts on essential of services:

Discussion Feedback:

- Specific Services discussed as essential included: Respite, Assistive Technology, Community Integration, Home Modification, Family Caregiver Training, and Family Peer Mentoring Supports.
- Personal Emergency Response Systems (PERs) believe families are looking for help with things like home security such as alarms in case of elopement not actual PER's.
- Services are tied together. To do community integrations you might need transportation but may need vehicle modifications to use transportation.
- Flexibility and choice are the most important.
- Inequity between the rural vrs urban. There anyway to have help for those that need more services in rural areas?
- Recommend looking at what actual definition vs. what people thought it covered. Example given: Transportation – getting a gas card vs. having someone provide transportation.
- ***FOLLOW UP:*** Could service animals be covered? Department will check and report back at February meeting.

- **FOLLOW UP:** Committee would like to know more about actual services so they can give additional feedback. Do not feel they have enough information to give additional feedback. To present at next meeting.
- CMS suggested DHHS review waivers:
 - Wyoming Supports Waiver (1060.R01.00)
 - Pennsylvania Person/Family Directed Support (P/FDS) (0354.R04.00)
 - Florida Familial Dysautonomia comparison Waiver (40205.R03.00)
 - Missouri Partnership for Home (0841.R02.00)
- **FOLLOW UP:** Division currently reviewing the suggested waivers to provide an update to the committee at February meeting.

VII. DD Updates

- **Registry – Jenn Clark:**
 - HANDOUT: Registry statistics 01/01/2023;
 - Currently 2304 people on the registry;
 - Discussion followed.
- **DD Court-Ordered Custody Act – Jenn Clark:**
 - HANDOUT: DD Court-Ordered Custody Act (COCA) Statistics;
 - Currently have 47 active Court-Ordered Custody Act cases;
 - Discussion followed.
- **Provider Meetings – Jenn Clark:**
 - Pre-Covid DHHS had quarterly provider meetings, have started again, had first meeting January 5, 2023;
 - Copy of the PowerPoint presented at that meeting is on the DHHS website on the DD Waiver Provider page: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/DD-Providers.aspx>;
 - Discussion followed.
- **Shared Living Provider (SLP) Workgroup – Kristen Smith**
 - DHHS intends to present information to NASP next week, after that will send information to all providers workgroup and the committee before final decisions are made;
 - **FOLLOW UP:** To provide update at February 2023 meeting;
- **2022 State Tour – Tony Green:**
 - November 2022 - Tony held 7 in-person meetings across the state and 1 virtual meeting for stakeholders.
 - Discussion followed.

VIII. Public Comments:

- No public comments.

IX. Legislative Session – Kristen Smith:

- Asking the committee what information and how the committee would like to receive that information Bills are still being introduced. Some the committee may be interested in include:

- Legislative Bill 265 – Require protective vests and safety training for correctional officers and allow DHHS employees to use justified force in defense of self or others.
- Legislative Bill 278 – Provide duties for the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority and the Department of Economic Development relating to housing for persons with disabilities.
- Discussion Followed

X. Old Business:

- Committee Goals
 - Communication and Education about the programs:
 - Person centered planning – Community of Practice
 - Education online needs to be more interactive/visual. Needs to be simple, accessible, less scary and overwhelming. Example given “scheduling your trip” through Disney.
 - Discussion Followed.
 - Supported Employment:
 - ***FOLLOW UP:*** Dr. Lisa Mills is writing a report on supported employment. Kristen Larsen - would like the opportunity to discuss and share with the committee to have discussions about how we support people with disabilities seeking employments?
 - Active advocacy and advisory the Director/Governor.
 - Education/partnership with police.
 - Guardians –LB 156 & 157

XI. New Business:

- **Virtual Meeting Option:** Committee would like the February 9, 2023, meeting be hybrid with a virtual. Members are encouraged to attend in person.
- **April Meeting Date:** Currently a conflict with April meeting date. Motion made by Debbie Salomon to move the April meeting to April 12, 2023. 2nd by Cris Petersen. Motion carried.

XII. Adjournment

- Lorie Regier adjourned the meeting at 2:00 PM.

Thursday, February 9, 2023
 Hybrid Meeting – In person and Zoom
 Conference Room P
 5220 South 16th St
 Lincoln, NE