



**Governor's Advisory Council
To The Division of Developmental Disabilities**

January 17, 2019

1056 Governor's Avenue
Dover, DE

Council Members:

Terri Hancharick, Chair
Tim Brooks
Tom Rust
Sue Pereira
Stan Trier
Angela Sipple
Gail Womble

Staff Members:

Marie Nonnenmacher, Director
Marissa Catalon, Deputy Director
Katie Howe, Director of Program Integrity
Terry Macy, Director of Community Services
Jim Dickinson, Director of Service Integrity & Enhancement
Darlene Sturgeon, Chief of Administration
Kamin Giglio, Assistant Director of Community Services, Chief of Policy & Planning
Stacy Watkins, Assistant Director of Community Services, Chief of Operations
Jennifer Tozer, Manager of Family Engagement
Nicole Lawless, Executive Secretary (Minutes)

Guests Present:

Terry Olson, The Arc of Delaware

Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

Council members reviewed and approved minutes from October 18, 2018.

Meeting Minutes

Expanding Options, Inc. (ExpO) Advocacy Group Presentation by Jane Miller

Jane Miller from ExpO, introduced herself to the Council and gave a brief description of her background. ExpO is a community group for caregivers as well as high functioning IDD adults, in an effort to provide an opportunity for adults and caregivers to engage socially, and to improve social skills that may assist with locating future employment.

Caregivers began ExpO, which originated in Wilmington in order to

Cx360 Update

DDDS postponed the previously scheduled "super user" training session due to technical issues with entering provider information. The training session is in the process of being rescheduled. DDDS will continue to use Therap until training has taken place.

Budget Update

DDDS is actively working on their presentation for the Joint Finance Committee. The presentation will include a brief overview of accomplishments from the past year, plans for the coming year, demographic charts, and the proposed budget. At this time, DDDS believes that the door opener requests for additional funding, made by DDDS, for new residential placements and new school graduates will likely be included in the Governor's budget.

Legislative Agenda

DDDS provided the council with a copy of the 2019 Legislative & Policy Agenda for review. Council members discussed the need for pay raises for attendants and direct support professionals (DSPs). DDDS and council members also discussed the difficulty Providers experience with recruiting DSPs given the competition with other employers who pay a higher wage. Council members suggested the potential for people with ID to enter the workforce as DSPs.

Lifespan Waiver Update

Stacy Watkins, Assistant Director of Community Services led a presentation for the council on the upcoming waiver renewal. Many of the changes made to the waiver were technical such as language clean up, etc.

Beginning July 1, 2019, individuals living in a provider managed setting will be able to receive their acute medical care benefits through the managed care system. This will allow individuals to have an increased provider network for meeting needs. Council members asked how people affected by this change would be supported with the change and with selecting between the two MCO options. Stacy explained that the Health Benefits Managers would help individuals pick a plan that will help them keep the services they are currently receiving.

Under Participant Services, all previous services are still included in the waiver. Medical Residential Habilitation was added as a sub service to residential habilitation, allowing Authorized Providers of Residential Habilitation to hire nurses and use RNs to provide skilled nursing care to people who require this level of support. This would also apply to Shared Living Providers who are RNs and expected to provide skilled nursing care to people living in the Shared Living setting who require skilled nursing care. This service will serve as an alternative to private duty nursing.

The notice of the Lifespan Waiver Renewal is scheduled to be posted for public comment to the Delaware Register of Regulations beginning on February 1, 2019. The proposed changes to the Lifespan Waiver are made in red to allow the public to see what has been changed or added. The Division is publishing the notices of the scheduled public hearings in the News Journal and Delaware State News.

Stacy also announced the addition of Colleen Jones as one of two Lifespan Waiver Managers. Colleen worked as a Family Support Specialist for over 20 years before officially joining DDDS as the TCM Liaison for New Castle County. Colleen will assume the role of the Director of Lifespan Supports to Families from Stacy Watkins.

Family Engagement Presentation

Jennifer Tozer, Manager of Family Engagement led a presentation for the council about plans to increase family engagement. Jennifer shared information about current strategies for engagement, community of practice, and current initiatives.

Strategies for Engagement

- Meet People Where They Are
 - Attending advocacy group meetings, school events, meeting in the home, agency events.
- Be Responsive
 - Leveraging provider and district relationships to increase accessibility with families, creating avenues for feedback, hand on approach.
- Consistent Message & Access to Resources
 - Website re-design, establishing a Facebook presence.
- Strengthening Stakeholder Partnerships
 - Working collaboratively in shared initiatives (DVR & DOE, Work Based Learning).
- Developing relationships and facilitating connections
 - Parent to parent, group to group, person to person, person to group.

Community of Practice

- Completed Community of Practice Ambassador Series.
- DE Ambassadors are participating in ACL evaluation study for COP.
- Reengaging with COP DE Adopters.
- Life Conference – Showcasing the framework and tools live and in action.
 - DDDS will complete trajectories with individuals on the spot that the 2019 Life conference.
- Annual Visit from National Team – June 27th & 28th

Current Initiatives

- Self-Advocate Networking
 - Community Connectors, Expanding Options, Inc.
- Technology Innovation
 - Enabling technologies, State Consortium on Technology, Simply Home
- Deaf Community Initiative
 - DDDS is conducting an internal survey to see how many supported individuals are hearing-impaired.
- DVR, DOE, and REACH
 - Addressing WBL experiences for students with multiple accommodation needs.
- Project Search
 - Meetings with DFS, PBH, and Independently Living Coordinator – State Agency cross training to best support individuals collectively supported by all three groups.
 - Review timelines and ensure students and parents have supports in place to focus on training.
- Website & Facebook Page

Council members suggested Jennifer add Aging in Place to the list of initiatives to acknowledge the needs of people who are supported by DDDS and are aging as well as aging caregivers.

Provider Enrollment Update

As of January 1, 2019, provider enrollment has transferred from the Office of Professional Services to Service Integrity and Enhancement (SIE) under Laurie Smith. Lynda Lord will continue to work with all providers in process prior to December 31, 2018 to ensure they complete the process. SIE is working to

have a completed transition and updated process in place by the end of February 2019. Upon completion provider enrollment will transfer to Laurie Smith full time.

NASDDDS Conference Update

The council agreed to table this item until the February 2019 meeting.

Staffing Update

DDDS announced the promotion of Stacy Watkins and Kami Giglio to Assistant Directors of Community Services. Stacy is now the Manager of Operations and Kami is the Manager of Policy.

GAC Retreat Topics

The council agreed to table this item until the February 2019 meeting.

Other Business/Announcements

Site Selection Criteria - DDDS is seeking software solution that can assist pulling current accessibility and universal design of residential/home sites as a batch instead of combing through the 600 plus sites.

DDDS received approval from the Centers of Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for the Assist Assertive Community Integrated Support Team (ACIST) Health Home State Plan Amendment. The Division is now able to leverage a 90% federal match for this program for two years from the date of approval.

Future Meetings

February 28, 2019	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
March 21, 2019	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
April 18, 2019 (Retreat)	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
May 16, 2019	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
June 20, 2019	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.