

**Interagency Committee on Autism
Meeting Minutes
12/05/2018**

Family Needs Report (Autism Delaware)

- 918 Parent Contacts this quarter (split between Kent and Sussex County)
- New parent contact tracking system (started in November)
 - Gives breakdown of the nature of the parent contact to better understand areas of need
 - For Nov/Dec: majority of issues are around education
 - Will create additional categories
 - Very successful so far with good feedback
- Parent training update- 2 parent trainings this quarter
 - October- Autism 101 in Spanish
 - Nov- "What to do with your picky eater?"
 - Created 2019 Speaker and Parent Training calendar
- 5 week training series
 - Partnering with Autism Project of Rhode Island
 - Working to manualize parent to parent training
 - AD will be a pilot center
 - Training AD staff in February, offering series in March
- Parent Peer Support Providers
 - Hired 5 parent peer support providers (through HRSA funds)
 - Based in each county and working 1 on 1 with families

Recent Agency Updates

- Center for Disabilities Studies (CDS)
 - AIM (Accessible Instructional Materials): created in districts for students and is funded by DOE to enable access to the general education curriculum
 - Assistive Technology projects
 - UD College of Education and Human Development: exploring an academic ABA program with continued involvement from CDS. Plan to outline how existing or new graduate programs could work towards BCBA
 - ASD Faculty positions: 2 open positions: (1) Full time Education faculty (2) Faculty and Training position
- Parent Information Center (PIC)
 - Parent night at the Inclusion Conference (03/19) will focus on AIM
 - Conducting facebook lives and webinar to build awareness
 - Linda Wilson will be presenting at Inclusion Conference
- DSAMH
 - RFP announcement for community based mental health clinics
 - Potential linkage to high-functioning adults with ASD that are seeking services in the community

- In collaboration with DDDS
- DPBHS
 - Received system of care grant
 - Meredith Tavani is the principal investigator (PI)
 - writing the RFPs
 - Large portion of grant used for I/DD population (new services, increase current, respite, peer services:
 - open for ideas and collaboration
- Nemours
 - Swank Autism Center: hired 2 new psychologists coming from the Children's Hospital of Colorado
 - Starting in the new year: bringing additional staff to support intervention services; behavioral analyst (ABA clinic, parent training, project impact
 - Seeking an influx of kids for that right now
- Birth to Three/Part C
 - Life Conference- January 31
 - vendor tables are available
 - DDC council- grant to offer free registration for individuals with disabilities and a care attendant

DNEA Updates

- Staffing
 - as of January 1; 3 full time staff (Kara, Kellene, Susan); Brian Freedman- 10% time as interim director; Dick Lytton: will bill for time on DNEA as the AAC expert
 - DNEA director position open; candidate in second round (to give presentation during this meeting)
- Subcontractors
 - Nemours was added this year
 - expanded subcontract with AD to include employment related training;
 - In discussions with ABC Consulting to work on Bayhealth/Kent General Project
- Training Updates
 - Completed Trainings
 - Outside the Box 2018 (10/5/18-10/6/18)
 - Low-incidence disability conference
 - Attendance: 126 professionals and 27 families
 - Nemours gave 2 presentations
 - Historically was a family weekend (held at the beach) and for the past few years grown to include professionals
 - Understanding Autism and Strategies for Success (10/16 &10/22)
 - Mental Health Training with DPBHS
 - Introduction to ASD and Mental Health- 2 sessions
 - Approx: 130 professionals w/ diverse roles (outpatient, inpatient, school-based, case managers)
 - Positive feedback and growth in knowledge/application

- PEERS (10/23)
 - Trained 45 educators in PEERS curriculum
 - Waiting to hear on feedback and follow up from schools
 - Upcoming trainings
 - Autism 101s for Professionals (AD)
 - 2/1/19; 5/15/19; 8/5/19; 10/10/19
 - Akin to lunchtime learning style and video conference available
 - Held in different locations throughout the state
 - School-based trainings
 - Classroom Management (12/11)
 - Understanding Autism and Classroom Strategies (2/6)
 - Success with Social Skills (3/26)
 - Instructional Strategies (4/10)
 - Evaluation (TBD)
 - Employment Bootcamp (2/25-2/27 & 6/17-6/19)
 - Delaware Association of School Psychologists (1/17/19)
 - Trainings Under Development
 - Trainings with DPBHS
 - Creating plan to support system of care with DPBHS
 - DNEA has capacity and expertise to provide training for outpatient providers
 - Employment Bootcamp
 - Leveraging existing resources of current 2 day bootcamp that is funded by DOE, DDDS, and DVR
 - DNEA will fund 3rd day with focus on ASD
 - Facilitated by George Tilson (expert in transition and employment)
 - Designed for school staff working with transition-aged youth and providers
 - Bayhealth Emergency Department
 - Delaware Psychiatry Residents

Subcommittee Updates

- Mental Health Subcommittee
 - Last met: 10/03/18 & 11/09/18
 - Gather information from the group and discuss strengths, challenges, and strategies
 - Leveraging DNEA and ICA member expertise, resources, etc. to address the ultimate impact we can have as the collective ICA
 - Nemours developing training with other medical providers on medication management
 - DSAMH incorporating ASD and MH into Spring training series
 - Presentation of logic model
 - Feedback: add DOE to inputs, add crisis services, Potential outcome: reduced number of foster care placements

- General discussions on MH system and challenges
 - Lack of wraparound services and capacity of families to accept loved ones back into the home--- need to develop family capacity
 - Can look to Behavioral Health Consortium for support
 - Need to address communication issues (especially for those who are non-verbal or communicate in others ways)
 - PIC is seeing huge challenge for teacher with students returning to school from inpatient stays, general lack of knowledge in supporting co-occurring ASD and MH needs
 - Need for systems to communicate with each other
 - Re-entry of students into the school system with supports
 - Inpatient facilities aren't aware of their responsibilities in terms of the educational services for students
- Childcare Subcommittee
 - Last met: 12/3/18
 - Working towards creating quality assured trainings for the DE STARS program
 - DNEA created training content and will incorporate changes and feedback as discussed by committee members in 12/3 meeting
 - Cindy Brown (subcommittee member) discussed revamping of STARS for specific requirements in order to obtain levels (currently agencies can pick and choose)
 - DIECC and ICA members can advertise trainings
- Education Subcommittee
 - Needs Assessment sent out 11/19/18 and due back to DNEA by 12/21; reminder will be sent
 - As of today: heard from 6 Districts/Charters
 - Bringing together stakeholder group in January to give feedback on implementation plan
 - Will meet with Districts/Charters who submitted assessment to further determine readiness → subcommittee will evaluation and determine who to work with
 - 2-3 year commitment

Annual Report Update

- Report is in its final form and should be ready early next week
- Substantial changes made since first draft based on feedback from ICA
 - Priorities have been highlighted and trainings now correspond to priority areas; Reduced language on background information
- Will send out report for final feedback (small window to return)
- For future reports:
 - The report as identified in SB 93 is to summarize “the progress towards all recommendations adopted by the ICA and the activities of the Network and the ICA”

- Working on process and development of worksheet on how to summarize ICA activity on the Blueprint
 - Draft of worksheet has sections broken up by outcomes/areas as outlined in the Blueprint
- We are currently not capturing the work of the community (ICA members) on the goals of the Blueprint and need to show the collaboration
- Concern was discussed among members such as DOE that all their work is ASD related (even if it does not specifically identify ASD)

ICA Retreat

- Held on January 28th from 9-4pm at Dover Downs, facilitated by Jerry Petroff
- Retreat will focus on identifying ICA policies and procedures of operation, understanding the role of the ICA and the role of the DNEA, and understanding the relationship between the ICA and the DNEA
- Asking for a minimum of 2 individuals per agency
- Kara will send email with details and confirmation of participants

Complimentary Project Updates

- Building Bridges
 - Project Impact training: comprehensive early intervention- parent mediated model
 - Colonial and Easterseals identified
 - Working to identify others (Part C, Districts, etc.)
 - Connecting with developers of the training
 - Have DNEA coaches as part of the training to ensure sustainability
 - Will collect data in different settings to ensure fidelity of the model; child outcomes
 - Developing family-focused early childhood resources
 - Working with DNEA to coordinate with their development of resources for professionals
 - Grant ends in August 2019 → HRSA will release new funding opportunities
Dec/Jan
- **Spectrum Scholars**
 - Currently hiring staff for program (by the end of the month)
 - Doing trainings for faculty and staff to support current students with ASD
 - Working with the Office of Disability Support Services to spread the word to students and offer supports/resources

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 6, 2018 @ 1:00 – 4:00 PM
Troop 3 Community Room, Camden, DE