

**Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Service Improvement  
Working Group  
Thursday, July 24, 2014  
Legislative Office Building – Room 2B  
Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Deborah Chernoff, Judy Dowd, Terry Edelstein, Tom Fiorentino (Co-chair), Terry Macy, Tom McCann, Barry Simon, Jonathan Slifka (Co-chair), Jennifer Fournier for Andrea Barton Reeves, Katie Rock for Morna Murray and Elisa Velardo for Julia Wilcox

Members Absent: Emily Angeloff, Tesha Imperati, Lisa Roland, Varian Salters and Tracey Walker

Guests: Kathy Bruni, Department of Social Services and Siobhan Morgan, Department of Developmental Services

Call to Order – The meeting convened at 2:10 p.m.

Introduction of Members

Business from Last Meeting - Chris LaVigne, Director of Rate Setting at the Department of Social Services, was available to answer questions about rates for public and privately operated services. Many of the members were missing because of vacations or being late so there were no questions at the time. Chairman Slifka said that if there were questions by members at a later time, he could be asked back.

Presentation on 1915c Medicaid Waivers –

Kathy Bruni presented an overview of the 1915c waivers operated by the state:

- Katie Beckett Waiver
- PCA Waiver
- ABI Waiver
- Mental Health Waiver
- CT Home Care Program for Elders

Questions/Discussion

There was a question regarding PCA changes and which waivers would be effected. It was explained that all waivers will be impacted, but that the impact is still being analyzed.

There was a question about how many individuals can be served as a result of the changes in the Affordable Care Act. Kathy said that the number of people cannot be capped if the services are in the state plan, as the services would be an entitlement.

### Presentation on DDS Waivers –

Siobhan Morgan presented an overview of the DDS Waivers:

- Comprehensive Waiver
- Individual and Family Support Waiver
- Employment and Day Supports Waiver
- Autism Waiver
- Early Childhood Autism Waiver

### Questions/Discussion

There were questions on the process of writing waivers and whether or not they were being re-written or amended and how changes would be incorporated. It was explained that amendments are planned for the Comprehensive, Individual and Family Support and Employment and Day Supports, that some changes may be substantive and the process will allow for public comment. Amendments will be submitted to CMS who will ultimately make the final decisions. DDS follows specific criteria and adheres to federal guidelines.

There was a suggestion that DDS look at opportunities under the waivers to be more creative about ways to serve more people with different levels of needs in different ways.

DDS is not currently looking at new waivers and is confident that nothing has been put forward by CMS that has not been explored for a potential to expand services. They feel that the state is meeting the needs of individuals with existing waivers and does not want to add services to waivers that aren't capped. The state also pursues incentives when applicable to get the most federal dollars available.

Future Meeting Dates/Times – The next meeting is scheduled for August 14, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at the LOB.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.