



**State of Connecticut**  
**Department of Developmental Services**  
**Council on Developmental Services**



*Dannel P. Malloy*  
Governor

**Minutes of Thursday, April 9, 2015**

Location: Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Central Office, Conference Room A

**In attendance:** Patti Silva, Chair; Adrienne Benjamin, Vice Chair; Jamie Lazaroff, Secretary; Jack Frost; David Hadden; Rick Lenz; Diana Mennone; Dr. Neil Stein; Deborah Ullman; Lisa Weisinger-Roland

**Absent:** Commissioner Morna Murray, Ex-Officio; Jennifer Carroll; Sheila Mulvey; Patrick Vingo

**Staff:** Christine Pollio Cooney, Legislative and Executive Affairs; Margaret Valentino, Executive Secretary

**Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes for the March meeting were reviewed and approved with changes.

**Legislative Update – Christine Pollio Cooney**

For the past three weeks, Christine has been coordinating information to respond to the second set of Appropriations Health Subcommittee questions as well as responding to the report from ARC Families to Families group regarding overtime at Southbury Training School (STS). To date, the legislature has not been in session for much other than executive nominations. Next Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, is Husky Day and both the House and the Senate will be in session. It is expected both chambers will start to be in more days as committee deadlines pass and committees complete a large portion of their work. The Appropriations Committee will be coming out with their version of the budget within the next couple of weeks. Information will be shared once it is available. Christine summarized DDS's response to the Appropriations Health Subcommittee which mostly focused on the Voluntary Service Program (VSP), workers compensation and overtime. A cost comparison analysis for different residential settings is still being worked on. Christine answered questions from the group. She also shared information about the most recent rescissions to three DDS accounts: Personal Services, Autism and Supplemental Payments for Medical Services.

**Old Business**

Council members who toured Southbury Training School spoke about their visit.

**New Business**

- Council members want the agenda for the May meeting to focus on hearing from the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner regarding their priorities and initiatives for DDS.
- Members also agreed the main focus of the Council for the short-term should be the state budget.
- Council members are interested in arranging a tour of the regional centers.

**Motion to Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.