



State of Connecticut Council on Developmental Services

Minutes of September 20, 2018 Meeting

Location: DDS Central Office, Hartford, CT

In attendance: Adrienne Benjamin, Chair; Jamie Lazaroff, Rick Lenz, Diana Mennone, Rick Rothstein, Christine Hainsworth-Straus, Dawn Oduor, Pamela DonAroma, Karen Hlavac, Arlene Reith, Joseph Duffy, Lisa Weisinger-Roland (via telephone), Deborah Ullman (via telephone) and Dr. Neil Stein

Absent: Kevin Zingler, Vice Chair

DDS Staff: Jordan A. Scheff, Commissioner; Yeraida Reinheimer, Executive Assistant

Invited Guest Speaker: Dr. Valencia Bagby-Young, DDS Director of Health Services

Introductions

Adrienne Benjamin, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

Public Participation

Fey Lenz
Jill Hall
Jack Frost
Stan Soby, Oak Hill

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the July meeting were approved with no corrections. The motion for approval was made by Rick Lenz and seconded by Dawn Odur.

Chair's Report, Adrienne Benjamin

- **Meeting Time** – On the recommendation of Ms. Benjamin a motion was made by Joseph Duffy, seconded by Karen Hlavac to change the start time of the meeting to 4:30 p.m. The motion was approved on a voice vote.
- **CT Council on Developmental Disabilities** - Ms. Benjamin shared an email thread that was exchanged with Mr. Glomb, Executive Director of CT Council on Developmental Disabilities. Some of the council members shared their opinions about the discussion that took place at the last council meeting.
- **Proposing a change to our scheduled visits** – Ms. Benjamin has suggested that the Council postpone the next meeting's invited guest speaker and ask the Executive Director of HARC, Andrea Barton Reeves, to meet with the council next month to discuss what she and her agency are doing to prevent sexual abuse at private providers like HARC. The other proposed suggestion is that the Council invite both to the October meeting. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that both would be invited to attend the next council meeting.
- **Director of Health Services, Valencia Bagby-Young** – Dr. Bagby-Young has worked on last session's Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) legislation. She is also working with the Health Services staff in the region to build DDS's own standard of care. Mr. Rothstein inquired about the development of a procedure requiring a flu shot and any other vaccine when individuals are in DDS programs. Ms. Reith addressed patient safety from the bacterial point of view. Ms. Reith will be conducting training on October 20, 2018 at the Otis Library. The ARC of New London is co-sponsoring the event. Dr. Bagby-Young mentioned that she also is working to update the Health Services memos on the DDS website and make more seasonal advisories available through the DDS webpage. She briefly discussed OBRA, the Mortality Review Board and the Med Administration Certification

process. Dr. Bagby-Young also is working on a cross-agency standard med administration process because it is vital that DDS have good communication with hospitals when individuals DDS serves go to these hospitals.

Commissioner's Report, Jordan A. Scheff

- **Communications** - Having been without a Director of Communications, the Commissioner's Office has been very busy responding to various news stories that involved DDS.
- **Town Hall Meetings** – Commissioner Scheff discussed the visits he has been making to all DDS offices and centers this summer. Most of the discussions on these visits were on eligibility and DDS's new Individual Plan (IP) process. DDS is providing lots of training and has just graduated a class of IP mentors. The Commissioner discussed his positive visit and discussions at the Southbury Training School.

Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: October 18, at 4:30 p.m.