

**DDS South Region
Regional Advisory and Planning Council
Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2019**

Members Present: Leslie Bridges-Parent, David Cassano, Carol Cooney, Heidi Earle, Kathleen Stauffer, and Thomas Dailey, DDS South Region Director

Public Present: Nancy and Robin Brewer

Scribe: Jolie Crescimano-Goss, DDS Executive Secretary

Chairperson's Report:

- **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM. All made introductions.
- **Citizen Comment** – Comment made regarding residential placement options for individuals who are insulin dependent in settings supported by DDS. Director Dailey discussed some data on the issue as it relates to individuals served by DDS. DDS is focusing its efforts on finding additional community based residential options for individuals who are insulin dependent.
- **Approval of Meeting Minutes** – *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Council voted to approve the minutes of the November 2018 meeting.*
- **Field Activity Report** – Arc CT/IDD Caucus Family Hearing Day is scheduled for 2/25/19 from 10AM – Noon at the Legislative Office Building, Hartford. All are encouraged to attend.

A suggestion was made to ask former RAC member Lauralynn Lewis if she would be willing to provide the Council with updates on field activities via email going forward, as she continues to advocate for the IDD community at the legislative level and stay on top of a variety of matters affecting the DDS community.

Wait List Report Presentation: Due to an unavoidable conflict for tonight's presenter, this presentation is rescheduled to the Council's March meeting. Director Dailey reported that DDS has collected and published the data required by statute.

Regional Director's Updates:

- Budget
- Vehicle modifications
- CCH program expansion
- DDS Step-down Unit
- DDS expanded IFS Support Teams
- Private providers and hardship funding for providers under the rates
- Private providers and funding for direct care staff raises and benefits
- Private providers and direct Medicaid billing
- Streamlined Utilization Resource Review (URR) process
- Commissioner Scheff's nomination for reappointment

Membership and Recruitment: Steve Harney has been relieved of membership as he is unable to attend Council meetings regularly. This puts the Council's vacancies at three. Members are doing what they can to recruit replacements. A RAC recruitment flyer has been posted to the DDS website, shared with staff, and distributed via the CTFSN list serve.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Ms. Robin Brewer expressed her interest in becoming a member of the Council. At Chair Cassano's request, the Regional Director's Office will recommend to Commissioner Scheff Ms. Brewer's appointment to the DDS South RAC.

Council Open Discussion: Discussion focused on DDS' budget for the biennium ended 6/30/21. DDS' current budget was fully funded and the department is hoping that the Governor's proposed budget for the next two years remains favorable to DDS.

General discussion ensued on case management services in Intensive Care Facilities (ICF) and Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF). Case Management services for people in ICF settings are included in the ICF rate, so DDS CM Services end at the time of admission. DDS Case Management Supervisor Susan Klemm serves as liaison for individuals in ICFs.

Individuals in SNFs who become eligible for the Money Follows the Person (MFP) program under OBRA, the Federal Nursing Home Reform Act, are assigned a DDS MFP case manager at that time. OBRA prohibits leaving people with ID or mental health needs in nursing homes unnecessarily.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jolie Crescimano-Goss

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Executive Secretary

DDS South Region

Next Meeting: March 20, 2019 / 6:00 PM / **Henry Carter Hull Library, Clinton, CT**