

**DDS South Region
Regional Advisory and Planning Council
Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2019
Henry Carter Hull Library
6:00 PM**

Members Present: Chair David Cassano, Robin Brewer, Leslie Bridges-Parent, Dawn DeMatteo, Heidi Earle, and Thomas Dailey, DDS South Region Director

Public Present: L. Constantino, S. Piersall, and D. Tift

Scribe: Jolie Crescimano-Goss, DDS South Region Executive Secretary

Chairperson's Report:

- **Call to Order** – The meeting called to order at 6:00 PM. All made introductions.
- **Citizen Comment** – None.
- **Approval of Meeting Minutes** – *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Council voted to approve the minutes of the June 2019 meeting.*
- **Field Activity Report** – None.

Regional Director's Updates: Regional Director Dailey provided updates on the following:

- Staffing changes
- Prep for the next legislation session
- Universal Assessment Pilot
- Electronic Visit Verification requirement
- Assistive Technology initiatives (remote support options)
- Step-Down Unit
- Enhanced Family Support Services
- Emergency Transitional Housing Program Partnership
- Programmatic Administrative Review (PAR) policy and procedures
- What DDS is doing to build private providers' capacity to serve people with complex behavioral needs
 - Provider wage increase
 - Provider rate increase

Following, Director Dailey stated that he would show a Channel 8 news story on MidState Arc's use of assistive technology at a future Council meeting.

New Business:

- **Executive Officer Nominations** - Current officer terms expire October 2019. Nomination ballots distributed to all attending members. Those not in attendance will receive their ballot electronically. Once nomination ballots are turned in, the RD's office will contact nominees to determine their interest in serving as an officer. Then, the RD's office will prepare an election ballot based on feedback received.

Council Open Discussion: Discussion ensued on children's services at DDS. DDS focuses on in-home services for children. The DDS Behavioral Services Program (BSP) is an in-home program available to individuals age 8 to 21 with intellectual disability who have been diagnosed with a serious and persistent mental disorder. Council members expressed an interest in learning more about BSP and Enhanced Family Support services at DDS.

Adjournment: With no further business at hand, Chair Cassano adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jolie Crescimano-Goss

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Executive Secretary

DDS South Region