

STATE OF CONNECTICUT OR

EDWARD R. MAMBRUNO



for Developmental Services

DDS Council Monthly Report



Ned Lamont
Governor

Jordan Scheff
Commissioner

February 2019

Personnel contacted

Regional Directors, Assistant Regional Directors, Case Manager Supervisors, Case Managers, Quality Management Director, QI Supervisors, Abuse/Neglect Director and/or liaisons and Division heads if I needed specific additional info regarding the issues and concerns of individuals who contacted my office.

In addition, I spoke with other contacts at agencies eg. DCF, Public Health, DSS and the Client Rights and Grievance Specialist, Office of the Commissioner DMHAS.

MEETINGS

New England ADA Center, Director of ADA Training and Assistance

Council on Developmental Disabilities

DORS CDHI met regarding interpreters.

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Client Rights and Grievance Specialist

Quarterly Private Provider Meeting

Meeting with members of Deaf community to go over issues

Met with Training department to go over ADA PowerPoint presentation

Met with University of Hartford, Doctoral PT students.

Meeting with members of Deaf and Hard of Hearing community

- **Communication Meeting DDS CO**
- **ADA Video Presentation Completed**
- **ADA Notices Placed in DDS Public Areas**
- **ADA Legal Notices published in Hartford Courant**
- **a will and Distributed DVDs of ADA video presentation to private providers**

- DDS ADA Training Video linked to YouTube
 - DDS at 100% compliance for ADA Training Video
- ❖ Attended Leadership Meeting in Waterbury to show ADA Training Video to Private Providers and Staff and answered any questions they may have regarding the content of the video.
 - ❖ Attended ADACC (ADA) Conference in Newington
 - ❖ Met with Department of Mental Health and Addiction Service sure that s, Client Rights and Grievance Specialist, Tit a le II ADA Coordinator to go over handicapped parking standards
 - ❖ Served on interview panel for selection of Director Position in region.
 - ❖ Attended March 16th Disability Summit at Mohegan Sun. Dropped into DDS Individual and Family support table as well as CCH informational booth.



Concerns \ Issues

- Guardian called me in regards to finding a residence that would be within a specific area that will accommodate a comfort animal. Currently the individual is without the comfort animal due to a move into a residence where a roommate is allergic to pets. Guardian is questioning whether DDS understands the importance of the comfort animal to individual and the issue that a long absence may bring. Told Guardian that I am sure DDS understands however, finding the right residence with conditions is difficult.

Asked Guardian if they're working with case manager. They stated that yes they were but haven't heard from them and was taking it upon themselves to look for a place but wanted to know if they found a suitable residence could DDS reject it. Called region.

Region stated that the case manager was on medical leave however, they were very aware of individual and were working hard to find a suitable residence.

Called Guardian, informed her of reason, told her that even though case manager was out they were aware of situation and working hard to find a suitable residence. Spoke with ARD regarding

this individual and how they can accommodate the comfort animal. Inquired about recent apartments they have looked at and whether they encountered any that were adamant against having the comfort animal live in the residence with individual.

A residence was found that was agreeable to all involved.

- Replied to deaf individual receiving services from DDS about specific questions he had regarding the Stipulated Agreement DDS had with the Department of Justice. This stipulated agreement was voluntarily signed by DDS, which will provide information to the public, coordinating compliance with the ADA, investigating complaints, and serving as a resource to DDS staff regarding the ADA.

Additionally, DDS plans to provide training, which has already been approved by the Department of Justice, to both DDS staff and qualified providers on how to provide effective communication for individuals with disabilities and how to interact with people who are deaf or hearing impaired; or have other disabilities. The training will also focus on making sure that individuals who receive supports through DDS know their rights and know how to protect those rights.

- Spoke with Commissioner DAS, the State ADA Director regarding how to make call boxes to enter parking lots accessible to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Contacted DORS. Asked for and received the list of registered interpreters and credentials for the end of 2019 per the signed MOU with DAS.

Areas of Concern

○ Case Management -	4
○ Case Management Requests -	4,
○ Day Program –	3
○ Eligibility -	4
○ Funding/Budget -	5
○ Guardianship –	3
○ Health & Safety –	1
○ HIPAA -	1
○ Placement –	2
○ Birth to 3-	-
○ School District services-	-
○ Autism-	2
○ Mental Health Issues	2
○ DDS Information/Referral	9
○ NON-DDS Referrals	11
○ ADA, compliance, insurance, disability, housing,	17

ISSUES/CONCERN TOTAL –68