

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities  
 State Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting Minutes  
 Bienville Building Baton Rouge  
 January 8, 2020  
 12:30p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**Call to Order** – Mary Kay Cowen/Kathy Dwyer called the meeting to order at 12:45 pm.

A. Welcome

B. Introductions

C. Attendance:

SAC Voting Members Present:

MHSD – Penny Curran

CAHSD –

SCLHSA – Tiffany Brunet, April Young

AAHSD – Deborah Fontenot

IMCAL –

CLHSD –

NLHSD – Karissa Jackson

NEDHSA – Konstance Causey

FPHSA – Suzanne Bougeious

JPHSA – Kathy Dwyer, Mary Kay Cowen

AFSME –

Others present: Jacquelyne Cobb, Tanya Murphy, Chaney Guidry, Melinda Elliott, Stephenie Miller, Eddie Hattier, Dana Garrison, Steve Kaufmann, Julie Foster-Hagan

**Chairperson's Report** – Kathy Dwyer

A. Quorum –Do not have a quorum only 9 voting members.

B. Approval/Additional Agenda Items-unable to approve

C. Approval of Minutes from September 11, 2019, November 13, 2019- unable to approve

**Public Comment**

None at this time.

**OCDD Update** – Julie Foster Hagan

Budget presentations from all departments to the Division of Administration for review has begun.

OCDD's budget request includes consideration of:

- 1) New rate to providers for support workers (See HB390)
- 2) There is a gap in services for significant behavioral health. Placement is needed for adolescents as well as adults who present severe behavioral challenges that are dangerous for the individual or family members
- 3) The DD Council is looking for additional funding for better dental services
- 4) Skilled nursing has many gaps that needs more than just rate increases

Submitted by (Mary Kay Cowen and Kathy Dwyer sitting in for Sharon Delvisco) – Secretary OCDD SAC

5) There may be a budget reduction for the New Year

Kathy Dwyer mentioned she is glad to hear OCDD has included services for individuals with severe behavioral challenges in the budget because she is aware of some families who are in need of such services such as short-term intensive therapeutic care to help regulate medications and manage severe behaviors. Kathy also mentioned there are some families who are interested in investigating whether or not medical marijuana could be helpful for their loved one with severe behavior challenges especially when some prescribed medications are presenting severe side effects. However, the cost of medical marijuana is prohibitive for some families and Kathy was wondering if IFS funds could be used to pay for the costs as long as families go through the prescribed protocol established by Louisiana's medical marijuana law. After some discussion of the controversies, Ms. Hagan agreed they would investigate the legalities and possibility of using IFS funds for medical marijuana.

Early Steps: Policies and procedures have been modified. Training is happening now to help families of children in the program that will qualify begin the transition into waiver services. It starts this quarter and begins with the Early Steps Support Coordinator speaking with family members when the child is 2-1/2 years old instead of waiting until they are 3 years old. If the family says "yes" data will now be shared into OCDD's participant services program through the appropriate LGE.

Legislative Update: Session begins early March. There are 46 new legislators in the House and half of the Senate has new legislators who need to be informed of needs. It is up to the public and advocacy groups to get in touch with them.

Supported Decision Making: OCDD, The Arc, and other advocacy groups are looking into this. It is an alternate to Power of Attorney or Interdiction for an individual in that it is intended to legally appoint someone to help an individual with I/DD who can make decisions have help to make good life decisions.

Money Follows the Person: Temporarily approved federally.

There are grant opportunities for States that participate in expanding social determination by providing services that will help the overall health of individuals (transportation, housing, etc.)

Enhanced Rate for Complex Support Needs:

- 1) It took 2+ years for CMS approval of desired add-ons.
- 2) Changes and requirements for supplemental pay cannot be a part of standard hourly pay.
- 3) Information showing need for supplemental pay must be submitted for approval. If accepted a provider will be allowed to bill \$38.88 per person per day. This will also require an annual audit showing how the funds were used and may be subject to fines or repayment if it does not meet criteria.
- 4) This is an issue for Self-Direction because the pay amount cannot be an increase to a caregiver's hourly pay. OCDD is looking into a process that will work based on CMS requirements. The person to contact in Self-Direction is Paul Rohr.

Skilled Nursing for waivers: Nothing can be discussed until the Judge has approved the settlement agreement.

Tanya Murphy: Changes to Flexible Family Funds: The new policy has been in place since May 2019 which no longer includes criteria for family income.

Myllinda Elliot: How long after the SUN screening should a family wait for results.

Julie: Should not be much more than 2 weeks.

Myllinda Elliot: The SUN screener told a family that DSW's are not to be involved in a client's behavioral issues.

Julie: DSW's do not implement protocols for a person's behavioral issues. That does not mean they do not participate in helping to control them should they occur. Annacia Day is the OCDD individual over the SUN screenings. You can reach her at 225-342-0095

Kathy Dwyer: According to some families posting on social media waivers are being delayed due to Medicaid approval.

Julie: There was a shift to an electronic system which had some hiccups for Long Term Care. However, the process has improvements that are reducing delays. There is an 800 phone number for Medicaid Eligibility in Long Term Care that will be shared with SAC members.

Julie: Tara LeBlanc was Secretary of the Office of Aging – she is moving Medicaid Deputy Director of Eligibility Field and Program Operations as Jen Steele is moving on. A new Medicaid Director has not been determined yet. Erin Campbell is the Interim Medicaid Director at this time.

### **Regional Advisory Committee Reports**

A. Issues to report from RAC's

B. Updates from RAC teams

C. Dental Task Force Update - Mary Kay Cowen: Reported SAC Dental Task Force has a meeting scheduled with Dr. Gremillion, Dean of the LSU Dental School, on Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m.

**Metropolitan HS District – Region 1** –no report

**Capital Area HS District – Region 2** – no report

**South Central Human Services Authority – Region 3**–no report

**Acadian Area Human Services Authority – Region 4** – Lacie Polotzola will be stepping down due to a job change effective February 1, 2020.

**Imperial Calcasieu Human Services Authority – Region 5** – no report

**Central LA HSD- Region 6** – No report.

Submitted by (Mary Kay Cowen and Kathy Dwyer sitting in for Sharon Delvisco) – Secretary OCDD SAC

**Northwest LA Human Services District – Region 7** –no report

**Northeast Delta – Region 8** – Next meeting is Jan 28

**Florida Parishes- Region 9** – Next meeting is Feb 11

**Jefferson Parish Human Services Authority- Region 10** – Next meeting is Jan 28

### **Old Business**

- A. Review of Bylaws – Tabled.
- B. Membership/Attendance Update – no report
- C. Status of meeting about lack of dental services and Medicaid Meeting– Mary Kay Cowen,  
Dental services- Mary Kay Cowen  
-talked to LSU dental school about starting a course on individuals who need sedation to get dental work. CODA new requirements. Speaking with on TUFFs university in Massachusetts, on 12/11/19 about how they get their funding.  
Speaking to Medicaid about how Medicaid can start addressing this issue. They suggested we complete a Form 153- request can be made for new services- only one request is needed, would the SAC want to complete this form?  
-Asking Ashley McReynolds complete this form on Medicaid website- spoke about what data to provide  
PIncrest is no longer accepting new patients from the community
- D. Updates about Individual and Family Forums –
- E. Update about Outreach Initiatives

### **New Business**

- A. Approved Meeting dates for 2020 - March 11, May 13, July 8, September 9 and November 11
- B. Election of Officers: Laci- cannot be the chair for the SAC because she will be leaving FHF, do not have a quorum so will need to vote on a new chair at next meeting.

### **Public Comments**

None at this time.

### **Announcements**

N/A

### **Adjournment**

Do not have a quorum

Upcoming Meeting dates for 2020 - March 11, May 13, July 8, September 9 and November 11