

OCDD STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TEAM MEETING**MINUTES****Held ONLINE****On January 13, 2021 from 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm****Call to order** 12:32 pm by Kathy Dwyer, Chair**Attendance:**

SAC Voting Members Present:

MHSD – Holly Bell

CAHSD –

SCLHSA – April Young

AAHSD – Tiffany Brunet, Deborah Fontenot

IMCAL – Theresa Van Assellburg, Mylinda Elliott

CLHSD –

NLHSD –

NEDHSA – Konstance Causey, Nicole Bilberry

FPHSA – Suzanne Bougeious, Sharon Delvisco

JPHSA – Kathy Dwyer

AFSME –

SAC Advisory Members: Julie Foster Hagan, Tanya Murphy, Brenda Sharp

Public: Courtney Rigor, Jennifer Blanque, Dominoe Candelin, Chanel Jackson, Steve Kaufman, Tory Rocca, Andrea Albert, Laci Polotzola, Kasey Hill, Torrie Kellar, Comeaka King, Janise Monetta, Susan Reihn, Karen Scallan, Kay Lewis, J Queen, Carmen O'Mara, Kristen Essaied, Leslie Fontenot, Doanie Perry

Quorum: A quorum of members is present. (10/17)**Approval of Agenda/Changes to Agenda** – Kathy Dwyer, Chair

Motion to accept the January 13, 2021 agenda by April Young and second by Suzanne Bougeious. Motion passes without opposition.

Approval of Minutes – Kathy Dwyer, Chair

Motion to approve minutes from November 10, 2020 by Holly Bell with second by Konstance Causey. Motion passes without opposition.

Public Comment: none at this time

Old Business

- A. Chair and Vice-Chair through December 2021 are Kathy Dwyer and Konstance Causey. Need to have volunteers to serve as or nominations for Secretary 2021. Mylinda Elliott volunteers. Motion to nominate by Deborah Fontenot with second by Theresa VanAssellburg. Motion passes without opposition.
- B. SAC Membership Update – Sharon Delvisco posted member roster into chat box and attached to email for review by members. Send updates/edits to Sharon@teamdynamicsweb.com
- C. SAC Membership Update – Open positions still remain for CLHSD and CAHSD.

OCDD Report – Julie Foster Hagan

Budget update – around Oct the program offices in OCDD plan for request for budget, always ask for the minimum and our new and expanded requests, when we start to prepare there are different times for suggestions to gather input from SAC members, July or August need info from SAC, this is shared with dept and they put it into one document, Courtney Phillips decides what will be included in budget that will be sent to Division of Administration, DOA works with Governor for budget that is presented to legislators, don't know exactly what state budget will be until June and it begins on July 1. Revenue estimating committee projects funds coming in and the budget is based upon state general funds. Legislators have asked OCDD to have deficit avoidance plan in place. No planned reductions at present time.

Legislative update – Legislators are not in session right now. Reps. Rhonda Butler and Kathy Edmonston are requesting info to show the cost of dental care for adults needing anesthesia and estimate the costs for legislation. They are also collecting names of people that can provide testimony when introducing legislation for comprehensive dental care for adults with developmental disabilities.

COVID Update

Testing & Vaccinations – There are questions about testing in ICFs (O'Ryan labs) we are working with Office of Public Health. Now have one lab to provide training to staff to about testing residents and staff and send testing to O'Ryan and put results in portal and they can go into patient portal and review the results. We are seeing positive results for folks living in community homes. We are working with them to implement isolation protocols. There are drive-thru options for folks living in the community. For ICFs, all of the residents and staff should now have had an opportunity to enroll at CVS and Walgreens to get immunizations. Not everyone has received vaccine, but they should have a date scheduled for the vaccinations. There were some delays with CVS and Walgreens. ICFs are congregate care facilities and they are in Tier 1A. Next group is Tier 1B, phase 1. New message indicates new target group but should be stated as direct support workers and recipients. Biggest challenge is the number of vaccines that are coming in, engaging with some of the pharmacies has been difficult. A letter was released to HCBS staff from Dr. Kanter but pharmacies questioned it since it did not have a signature. LDH will clarify appropriate documentation required. LDH receives info about number of vaccines 3 to 7 days in advance and then pharmacies are notified. They are working to streamline the process. OCDD is working with OAAS to try to work with LGEs and public health units who might know more than pharmacies about who the waiver recipients are. We are hopeful that we will have communication soon and send to SAC to share info. Some people will

have issues with transportation and some people leaving home is too difficult and we will do a survey to determine who has this need. Nationally there is only 40% acceptance rate for taking the vaccine. We will try to gather info on the survey about people who want and do not want the vaccine.

We have requested that Appendix K exception be extended for 6 months after end of public health emergency. The 16-hour rule is not in Appendix K but it is extended because public health emergency has been extended (April 20). We are looking at stakeholder info gathering processes.

Steve Kaufman – what do you do if staff members or residents in ICF refuses the vaccination?
Julie Foster Hagan – the vaccination is not mandated but Dept is engaging in social media campaign about safety of vaccine, myth busters, real risks, etc. We have had one person have adverse reaction and they were treated and are fine. We want to arm people with information to educate people so that they are more comfortable.

April Young – clarify age to receive vaccine?

Julie Foster Hagan – different ages for different vaccines, not a lot published about age groups, talk to your primary care physician about it if you are concerned for your child.

Kristen Essaied – when will letter be released?

Julie Foster Hagan – hopefully it will complete all 7/8 levels of review and be done by end of week.

Carmen O'Mara – It is my understanding that there are 4 strands of COVID? What do vaccines cover?

Julie Foster Hagan – go to website for more information <https://ldh.la.gov/covidvaccine/>

Early Steps Statewide Transition Report

Brenda Sharp – We have employed several efforts working with LGEs and OCDD to revise the performance indicators to include Early Step. Backed up age at which transition packets are sent. Transition should be addressed at every opportunity, not only DD Services but also education settings. Send a set of info to LGE with initial info and as they approach 2.6 years old we update the info. Our staff work closely with SPOEs, Support Coordination agencies, LGE entry/eligibility and so we want to have the issue brought to the forefront as often as they can. Ongoing focus of work we do in Early Intervention.

Tanya Murphy – this topic has come up over the years, have made lots of system changes. Now we have changed policy instead of transition system entry appointment being as one appointment we are now viewing as a re-determination and this adds steps to the process. There are now 3 attempts/contacts required before closing early steps transition case. Sometimes Early Steps works out and achieves the purpose of 'catching' kids up developmentally and parents don't think they need services from LGE. Even if people don't keep appointment and decline services, if they go back to LGE before 5-year birthday, then they keep their early steps protected date.

Reports from Regional Advisory Committee Teams

MHSD: Holly Bell reports there was a meeting Dec 18th and at the meeting we went over MHSD quality performance report and talked about Early Steps in detail and at this point in time they are seeing 63% of children that could transition are getting connected, Donna Francis has retired and replaced by Carlos Amos.

CAHSD: no report

SCHSA: April Young – We are waiting to have a meeting.

AAHSD: Deborah Fontenot – we are waiting to have a meeting.

IMCAL: Theresa VanAssellberg provided report, a meeting was held on Dec 2nd and had a quorum, IMCAL provided report and indicator status, update about office status, still temporarily relocated. IMCAL has new location temporarily on 5th Avenue in Lake Charles, using (337) 475-3100 is still their number. Our area is still impacted by COVID and two hurricanes. Lots of people who are displaced, providers displaced, lots of people working from home. Managing the best we can and move along, things are improving. Next meeting is March 3rd.

CLHSD – No report.

NLHSD – Chanel Jackson next meeting is Jan 19th.

NEDHSA – Nicole Bilberry next meeting is Jan 26th.

FPHSA – Sharon Delvisco last meeting was December 8th and at February meeting we will have new officers.

JPHSA – Kathy Dwyer reports that last meeting was in October. Next meeting is Jan 26th.

Dental Task Force for Adults with I/DD report by Kathy Dwyer. We are collecting data on cost with and without care, emergency and/or oral surgery, and looking for stories from families about the impact to assist Reps. Butler and Edmonston with legislation that will be introduced during the Spring legislative session. Send stories and contact information to Mary Kay at mkmcowen@cox.net or marykay@waldobrothers.com. Dr. Martello also met with LSUHSC Foundation personnel and had a fund setup for donations to Special Needs Dentistry.

New Business

- A. Update about the review of Louisiana Public Meeting Law – RACs and SACs and public meeting laws, OCDD legal determined we should follow public meeting laws. Also, questions about membership and who is eligible, turns out anyone that works for an agency or organization with a contract with LGE is not eligible to serve on RAC because it is a conflict of interest.

ACTION STEP: Kathy will discuss this issue with Julie Foster Hagan for clarification. Issue – a lot of RACs have members that are self-advocates and family representatives working at Families Helping Families, Acumen, IFS contracts. This will greatly impact membership status of the SAC and RACs across the state, the RACs have been encouraged to include FHF as members. RAC members are not compensated.

ACTION STEP: Kathy will send the info from legal dept at OCDD to all SAC members.

Public Comment

None

Announcements

Karen Scallan – If having trouble getting COVID vaccines, please let me know call (504) 300-5117 or email at kcscallan@gmail.com.

Next OCDD SAC Meeting: Wednesday March 10th at 12:30 pm will be held online.

2021 meeting dates – May 12th, July 14th, September 8th, and November 10th

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:26 pm. Motion to adjourn by Deborah Fontenot with second by Mylinda Elliott. Motion passes without opposition.