



## **DDSD Advisory Council on Quality (ACQ) Meeting Notes Oct. 8, 2020**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Lisa Blue (Co-chair), Daniel Ekman Co-chair), Veronica Chavez-Neuman, Lily Martinez, Proxy for Cathy Salazar- Wendy Ford-Lincoln, Patrick Anaya, Virginia Lynch, Christina Barden, Stevie Bass, Joyce Munoz, Allyson Rhatigan, Sandy Skaar, Dan De Paula, Gabriela Ramos, Tracy Perry, Angelique Tafoya, April Spaulding, Laura Matthews

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mark Taylor, Sandra Woodward, Jerry Bartley, Walt Benson

### **STATE AGENCY NON-VOTING PARTNERS PRESENT**

Tanya Baker-McCue, Brad Hill, Amira Rasheed, Alice Liu McCoy

### **STATE AGENCIES PRESENT**

Scott Doan, Marc Kolman, Chris Futey, Teresa Larson, Iris Clevenger, Marie Velasco, Kresta Opperman, Cassandra DeCamp, Christina Hill, Victoria Herrera, Jennifer Roth, Evangeline Yanez, Shari Roanhorse, Melanie Buenviaje, Loretta Cordova, Tallie Tollen, Jen Bartz, Michael Driskell, Jacob Patterson, Juanita Salas, Lorie Pacheco

### **GUESTS**

Lori Steward, Erika Tode, Lecie McNees, Lourdes Vizcarra Wurzel, Linnea Forsythe, Jessica Gutierrez, Scott Good, Cindy Howell, Tina Rigler, Tim Gardner, Richard Weigle, Sandra Coons, Elisheva Levin, Christina Barden, Judy Sanchez, Jenn Stubbs, Amparo Mata, Holly Faulkner, Adam Zamora, Lecie Langille

### **ACQ ADMINISTRATOR**

Wendy Corry

### **WELCOME/ ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Welcome to Jenni Bartz as a new ACQ member representing the Medically Fragile Family Advisory Board
- All handouts distributed to the full ACQ will be posted on the DDSD ACQ website
- Clarification on Public Comment (statements to be made for the record with no response given) versus Q&A session
- Public Comments will be recorded via ZOOM and posted on the CDD website- the link to this site will be posted on the DDSD website
- Updated Conflict of Interest Forms will be distributed to all members electronically

### **REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 2020**

- Minutes were approved with one revision. Gabriela Ramos made the motion to approve and Joyce Munoz seconded.

## **COVID-19 UPDATE/DIRECTOR'S UPDATE- Scott Doan**

### COVID Update

- Scott Doan thanked everyone for their continued participation and adherence to DDS directives
- In general, the number of COVID cases in NM are starting to go up
- Scott provided a detailed summary of COVID cases related to people on the waivers (Document is attached)
- A request was made for the current death rate with COVID compared to historical (typical) death rate. DDS will provide this at the next ACQ meeting.
- ECECD does not track numbers of COVID cases for children. Currently there are no reports of any child on any of the waivers testing positive for COVID.
- On October 1, DDS issued a memo titled DDS COVID Response Update, which includes all of DDS's current and effective COVID-19 directives summarizing current COVID guidelines. This will be distributed with the minutes.
- There is a requirement for DD Waiver Case Managers to do monthly video monitoring. DDS and Case Managers cannot currently do face to face visits
- There is no target date for when Day programs will open.
- The current public health order from the Governor expires October 16.

### Non COVID Updates

- 190 allocation letters for comprehensive DD Waiver were sent; of people responding about 65% chose the traditional DD Waiver and 35% chose the Mi Via Waiver.
- 1,000 supports waiver offer letters were sent out on Aug. 14 to those on the waitlist. Responses have been a little bit slow to come back.
- The next batch of 500 offer letters are tentatively scheduled to go out on Oct. 30 with the remaining 500 letters on November 13.

## **Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) update- Marc Kolman and HSD**

- Goal is to have January 2021 as effective date.
- Fiserv is the partner and is very familiar with the state.
- DDS and DOH meeting regularly with contractors.
- Looking to implement for the DD Waiver, for the services of customized in-home living supports and respite
- For Mi Via Waiver, in home living supports and respite and home maker
- For Support Waiver, personal care and respite.
- Not implementing Med Fragile until 2023
- Flexibility in scheduling, data upload and be able to address self-direction pieces.
- Will integrate with Fiserv's Authenticare system. Providers don't need their own system.
- The consequence for not implementing EVV is not receiving 25% federal match.

- Waiting for the implementation plan before providers will be brought into the conversation. Hoping to get some more information in a week or so.
- Costs for providers that don't have EVV capability? No requirement to buy an EVV system because of Authenticare. Will there be costs for hardware? Suspect most providers use hardware such as phones and other mobile devices compatible with Authenticare.
- Can use a phone at the participants home if they don't have a mobile device to clock in and clock out.
- Main conversation is how an agency will have their employees' clock in and out
- EVV is tied into Conduent as a billing system, so don't see State General Funds used for EVV.
- A provider voiced a concern that their tele-health invoices are not being paid. They will follow up directly with the MCO involved.

### **ACQ MEMBERSHIP ELECTIONS- Daniel Ekman**

- Each nominee provided a brief background and what they could offer the ACQ.
- Approval was given for the following candidates:
  - Individuals and Family Members- Elisheva Levin and Judy Sena
  - Providers- Angelique Tafoya (Alta Mira) and Jessica Gutierrez (At Home Advocacy)
  - Self-Advocacy Organizations- Tony's All-Star (Matthew Heady) and NM Allies for Advocacy, Inc. (Sergio Resendiz)
  - ACQ Exec. Comm. At- Large Member Candidates- Tracy Perry and Ginny Lynch

Representatives chosen by their committee:

- Rep for the Mi Via Advisory Council- Stevie Bass
- Rep for the Interagency Coordinating Council- April Spaulding
- A concern was raised regarding the lack of representation for the Medically Fragile Waiver. The ACQ Exec. Team will discuss this at their de- briefing Mtg.
- A request was made for a list of all ACQ members with their Waiver affiliation. This will be provided to all Interested Parties.
- Approved candidates will now fill out applications to the Gov. Office for official appointment to the ACQ Membership

### **HSD PRESENTATION HSD- Shari Roanhorse** (data on the number of people on the Wait List who are receiving Community Benefits)

- Power Point presentation is attached
- A question was asked regarding the training MCO's provide for their DD/ID specialty care coordinators and who monitors these trainings. MCO's responded to this question but a request was made for a written response from HSD on this question.
- A request was made for a breakdown of data for people on the waivers, similar to the breakdown of data presented for people receiving Community Benefits.

- DRNM stated that it appears there are about 2206 people on the DDSD waiver waiting list who are not receiving Community Benefits. Follow-up was requested on how many of them have received a Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA) to determine if they qualify for Centennial Care. If people have not received the CNA, why not?

### **SUPPORTS WAIVER ADVISORY COMM.- Jennifer Roth**

- DDSD offered to create this committee if the ACQ is interested
- The ACQ would like to move forward on this
- Recommended comm. members- at least one individual with a disability and one family member
- People offering to be on the committee- Laura Matthews, Angelique Tafoya, April Spaulding/Abrazos
- Jennifer will put together a proposal for the next ACQ

### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Policy and Quality- Chris Futey**

- Comm. Report is attached.
- Existing DDSD trainings are being reviewed, results will be provided at the next meeting
- Recommendation to list Employment trainings as a separate category.
- Everyone is welcome to participate in this committee and provide input.

#### **Employment & Community Inclusion- Casey Stone-Romero**

- A written report is attached
- A co-chair is still needed for this committee. Patrick and Amira requested an email regarding the expectations of the co-chair.
- 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month and 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ADA.
- Tanya Baker-McCue- Partners for Employment is soliciting feedback on their annual conference
- DDPC has started an employment committee looking to expand and partner for employment opportunities. Will speak at next subcommittee hearing.
- Next subcommittee is on December 8 from 10:30-11:30.

#### **Wait List- Cassandra DeCamp**

- Report is attached.
- Sent out first thousand offers for the Supports Waiver-Received a primary freedom of choice 92 folks accepted it and 58 individuals have said no (they are tracking the data on reason)
- 850 have not responded. Have had conversations with many of them over the past six months.
- HSD is going to be send out a letter again talking about what is available for Community Benefits vs. the Support Waiver

- Provide referrals to EPDST for those in child pend status.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Medically Fragile Family Advisory Board (FAB)- Jenni Bartz**

- Report is attached.
- Families are very stressed with COVID and many children are not receiving the necessary school services.
- The Med Frag Waiver Renewal progressing nicely
- There is currently no waiting list for the Medically Fragile Waiver.

### **Mi Via Advisory Council (MVAC)- Stevie Bass**

- The committee's last meeting was Aug. 6; the next meeting is Nov. 5
- In Mi Via, an employee can only work up to 40 hours, and the Emergency Back Up plan is to make it possible for other employees to do back up. BUT during Covid, with the Public Health Orders requiring 14 days quarantine after travel to restricted states, it is a high possibility that all back up employees will have already used 40 hours, leaving the participant without care. Our Guidance Memo is asking for temp relief from the 40-hr workweek limit. The Council requests a response from the State on this.
- There is a concern about staff availability during the holiday season.

## **OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC)- April Spaulding**

- Report is attached
- The number of referrals to FIT has declined by 50% which is a very big concern
- The ICC is looking for parent representation if anyone is interested.
- The next ICC meeting is Nov. 17

### **DD Waiver Comm. – Marie Velasco/Kresta Opperman**

- Report is attached
- The Town halls completed in September. One town hall held for each region with one makeup session. Working to post each of the townhalls.
- DDSD has started the revision of the DD Waiver Service Standards. Hoping for July 20, 2021 for it to be done and aligned with DD Waiver revision. People requested a copy of the draft changes to the standards that are being considered.
- Outreach to tribal communities was discussed.

### **Supports Waiver- Jennifer Roth /Victoria Herrera**

- Promulgation of rules will be effective 1/1/2021
- Letters went out before the support waiver comparing Centennial Care and the Supports Waiver.
- A contest to determine a Supports Waiver logo is being considered.

A request was made for all committee invitations to be distributed to all Interested Parties.

## **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

- There is currently no on-boarding process for new ACQ members. This was recommended and the ACQ Exec. Team will follow up.
- There is very little Medically Fragile Waiver representation on the current ACQ Membership. A request was made that this be addressed, possibly through adding a mandatory position for a Medically fragile provider in the By-Laws. The ACQ Exec. Team will address this.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Public Comments are recorded through ZOOM and will be made available asap.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

The next ACQ meeting will be Thursday, Dec. 10, 2020.