



## **DDSD Advisory Council on Quality (ACQ) Meeting Notes August 11, 2022 Approved**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Lisa Blue (Co-chair), Daniel Ekman (Co-chair), Lily Martinez, Cathy Salazar, Allyson Rhatigan, Stevie Bass, Dan De Paula, Tracy Perry, Angelique Tafoya, Erika Aceto-Tode proxy for April Spaulding, Laura Matthews, Jessica Gutierrez, Christina Barden, Cynthia Chavez, Elisheva Levin, Gabriela Ramos, Christine Bragg, Peter Crespin, Siri Guru Nam Khalsa, Valerie Dewbre, Roel Adamson, Peggy O'Neill, Crystal Garcia, Cynthia Chavez, Sandy Skaar, Joyce Munoz, Roel Adamson

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Excused absences- Judy Sena

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

Alice Liu McCoy, Amira Rasheed, Gay Finlayson

### **STATE AGENCIES PRESENT**

Jason Cornwell, Mark Kolman, Scott Doan, Melanie Buenviaje, Marie Velasco, Nicole Hernandez, Chris Futey, Iris Clevenger, Victoria Herrera, Evangeline Yanez, Anysia Fernandez, Teresa Larson, Elaine Hill, Jennifer Rodriguez, Daniel Lucero

### **GUESTS**

Tim Gardner, Susan Forbes, Jim Copeland, Scott Newland, Ann Marie Parmenter, Jacob Patterson, Kate Nash, Chinda Lucoski, Steve Wrigley, Amando Montano, Karen Garcia, Michael, Cassandra DeCamp

**ACQ ADMINISTRATOR** Jody Hart for Wendy Corry

### **WELCOME/ ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The ACQ is seeking a Direct Care Professional to serve on the ACQ. Please spread the word.
- The Mi Via Advisory Council (MVAC) is looking for new members. Please contact Elaine Hill at Elaine.Hill@state.nm.us
- The Wait List committee is seeking a co-chair to partner with a state co-chair. This committee will remain ongoing for now.
- If you have any concerns you want to bring to the attention of the ACQ Exec. Comm. please contact any ACQ Exec. Comm. member (Daniel Ekman (daniel.ekman@state.nm.us), Lisa Blue (tblue11@comcast.net), Tracy Perry (tracy@directtherapyservices.com), Peter Crespin (petercr@consumerdirectcare.com), Marc Kolman (Marc.Kolman@state.nm.us) or Wendy Corry (wendy@corryconsulting.com))

### **3 MINUTE MEET AND GREET IN BREAK\_OUT ROOMS**

- This activity received rave reviews so we will continue this at every meeting.

### **REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 2022**

- Peter Crespino moved to approve the minutes as is. Cathy Salazar seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Tracy Perry read a comment on behalf of Robert Kegel: Has the last rate study been implemented and is it being paid out? 10.4 million. If not, why not? Was it sent to CMS late and if it was, who is responsible?
- Public Comments are recorded through ZOOM and are available through the ACQ website at <https://www.nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/coco/acq/>

### **DDSD'S DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:**

- Jason Cornwell, the DDSD Director provided a presentation on a variety of topics including: the current state of COVID, Super Allocation Update, Reimbursement Rates, Temporary COVID Economic Recovery Payments, Rate and Capacity Study Request for Proposal ER Diversion Using Telehealth Request for Proposal and Standard Considerations This PowerPoint is included with the notes and were sent to all ACQ Interested Parties.
- LHHS Hearing in Las Cruces October 5th, 2022- everyone is encouraged to participate and make public comment on the state of the system. We have a tremendous need to support our workforce as there is a huge lack of direct support professionals/caregivers.
- DDSD senior leadership and hopefully some legislators will meet with ABQ People First on Sept. 7 to listen to stories about the lack of caregivers in NM and what this means for people's lives.

### **PRESENTATION ON THE DDSD HUMAN RIGHTS SUPER COMMITTEE- SUSAN SEEFELDT AND SABRINA JAMES**

- The PowerPoint is included with the meeting notes and were sent to all ACQ Interested Parties.

### **REPORT FROM THE ACQ EXEC. COMM. ON MEETING WITH MVAC**

- ACQ Executive Committee members attended the last MVAC meeting. Since they did not have a quorum, they were not able to conduct official business.
- Members are passionate about the MVAC and learn a lot from sharing information from each other. However, a heavy burden falls on the current members, which makes recruitment of new members a priority.
- The ACQ Exec. Comm. will schedule a meeting with MVAC leaders and DDSD Mi Via leaders to discuss how to expedite the approval process for potential MVAC members so they can achieve a quorum.

- We are also in the process of looking at the bylaws of the MVAC at the same time that we are examining the ACQ bylaws. At this point, we are looking for synergy among important parts of the bylaws along with any items that need clarification
- Overall, we are looking for ways to collaborate with MVAC in ways that assist them in meeting their goals while being mutually beneficial to both them and the larger ACQ.

**MI VIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MVAC) REPORT: ELAINE HILL AND STEVIE BASS**

- MVAC has one open seat for a consultant agency.
- People can request a membership form from Elaine Hill. These are also located on the DDS website.
- The next MVAC meeting is October 27 from 12:30-3:30. The link will be available on DDS website. Jason Cornwell will do a presentation on the DDSQI.
- The revised Mi Via standards went into effect July 1 and are located on the DDS website.
- DDS is working with participants and consultants requesting face to face exemption due to COVID concerns.
- MVAC is not performing as well as it could, looking to ACQ for help
- Different views – MVAC should be participants/family members providing direct care, *not* vendors; and YES, we *should have* vendors
- The Mi Via newsletter has struggled due to staffing issues
- There are many questions and concerns about the role of MVAC as a standing committee of ACQ and the responsibility/authority of ACQ to MVAC; a review of ACQ/MVAC bylaws is needed
- Jason Cornwell supports the formation of a Mi Via vendor subcommittee

**PALCO/ELECTRONIC VISIT VERIFICATION (EVV) UPDATE-MELANIE BUENVIAJE**

- The final implementation of EVV has been extended to next year; the date is still being determined
- HSD continues to work with PALCO to update the system
- HSD is looking for 100 folks to participate in a pilot

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Public Comments are recorded through ZOOM and are available through the ACQ website at <https://www.nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/coco/acq/>

**GENERAL QUESTION AND ANSWER:**

- Concern expressed regarding the DD Waiver pay rate of respite services being lower than Medicaid rates.
- Question regarding the availability of telehealth providers in NM.

**POSITIVE STORIES:**

- Several stories about people recovering from COVID. One family member said her COVID high-risk young daughter traveled with family for first time in three years to see family; lots of fun watching daughter blossom and mature; looking forward to school starting soon; overall a wonderful summer!
- HSD reported an influx of poetry and artwork for Mi Via newsletter; they are also adding “upcoming events” and “resource list” for different regions around the state; please continue to send ideas and feedback about the newsletter.
- DDS and others said they are noticing change in dynamics in communication during ACQ meeting; noted break out rooms and sharing positive stories as great additions to the meetings; overall respectful, positive exchange of info and support.
- Several people spoke about enjoying their grandchildren and family members.
- Christy Barden announced she will retire in January '23 but will continue her work with Casa Angelica. FYI the first gala since pandemic scheduled for 8-26-22 at Sandia Casino; tickets on Casa Angelica website or call 505-877-5763. Christy has been a tremendous asset to the ACQ and will be greatly missed!!

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Public Comments were made and recorded through ZOOM. These are available through the ACQ website at <https://www.nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/coco/acq/>

**ADJOURNMENT:**

- Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm

**NEXT MEETING:** October 13, 2022