



Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD)

SEPTEMBER 2016

COMMUNITY LIFE ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

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What is Community Life Engagement (CLE)? According to the Center for Community Inclusion (ICI) at the University of Massachusetts - Boston, "Community Life Engagement refers to supporting people with IDD to access and participate in their communities outside of employment as part of a meaningful day. Also referred to as community-based non-work, wraparound supports, holistic supports, or community integration services, Community Life Engagement activities may include volunteer work; postsecondary, adult, or continuing education; accessing community facilities such as a local library, gym, or recreation center; participation in retirement or senior activities; and anything else people with and without disabilities do in their off-work time. Such activities may support career exploration for those not yet working or between jobs, supplement employment hours for those who are working part-time, or serve as a retirement option for older adults with IDD."

Think Work recently announced that they would be funding a pilot project related to CLE. Eleven states submitted applications to participate in this project. Two were selected, including New Mexico! Applicants were selected based on the level of interest in expanding and/or improving CLE supports in the state and their level of investment in the systems change process.

DDSD will be partnering with Dava Matillano, from the ARCA ACES program, Juanita Watson, from Benchmark Human Services, Doris Roberts, from All Individuals First and Glen Carlberg from Collins Lake Ranch. After an initial kick-off meeting, the Think Work project team will conduct site visits in New Mexico and the selected providers will start to use a newly created CLE Toolkit. The CLE Toolkit will be used for eight months. During that time, monthly technical assistance calls between New Mexico and the CLE project team will report on progress and satisfaction data. This is an incredible opportunity for national experts to assist providers in New Mexico with redesigning services to improve CLE outcomes, as well as attaining compliance with the CMS Final Rule. The results of this project will be shared nationally and will help shape the future of services. We look forward to sharing our results at the conclusion of this project!



Contributor: Carrie Roberts, DDSD Supported Employment Lead

ACQ—Advisory Council on Quality Supports for People with Developmental Disabilities and Their Families

All ACQ meetings will be held at the Center for Development and Disability (CDD) located at 2300 Menaul Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87107 Room 103 East. Meetings are open to the public.

2016

August 11, 2016 (9:30 - 4:00)

October 13, 2016 (9:30 - 4:00)

December 8, 2016 (9:30 - 4:00)

The ACQ is seeking members in the following areas: members of family and support networks, direct care staff, self advocates, and advocacy organizations. If you are interested in becoming a member of the ACQ please contact Kathy Baker at 505-841-5524 or by email at kathy.baker@state.nm.us.

For more information about the ACQ, see <http://actnewmexico.org/partners.html>.

Contributor: Gayla Delgado, DDSD DDW Program Assistant Manager

Renewal of the Traditional Developmental Disabilities Waiver

Opportunities for Formal Public Input on the State's Renewal of the traditional Developmental Disabilities Waiver

The DD waiver is a home and community based services (HCBS) waiver that must be approved by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in order for the state to receive federal funding. The **federal regulation governing HCBS waivers** allows for a five year renewal period. New Mexico is seeking formal public comment before submitting a DDW Renewal Application to CMS. Below are important dates to keep in mind.

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| September 15, 2016 | <i>Tribal notification and comment period begins.</i> |
| October 15, 2016 | <i>Public notice and comment period begins.</i> |
| November 15, 2016 | <i>Public hearing and public comment period ends.</i> |
| December 2016 | Waiver Renewal to be finalized based on public comment received and submitted CMS for approval. |

For more information, please check:

- the New Mexico Human Services website for notifications and the actual Draft of the DD Waiver Renewal Application at <http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/>
- the ACT New Mexico website for information on DDSD's activities related to renewal at <http://actnewmexico.org/activities.html>

Contributor: Christina Hill, DDSD DDW Program Manager

Certified Employment Support Professional (CESP)

APSE, the Association of People Supporting Employment First created the first national certification program for employment support professionals called the Certified Employment Support Professional™ or CESP™ certification. The CESP™ program is the first in the nation to create national guidelines to validate and support the training currently provided in the field.

Unlike training programs that provide a certificate of completion, the CESP™ certification sets a standard of knowledge and distinguishes employment support professionals who have shown they have the skill and competence to perform the requirements of the job. The CESP™ exam seeks to define the benchmarks for knowledge and competency in the field in the following areas: 1) Application of Core Values and Principles to Practice & Legislation and Funding; 2) Individualized Assessment and Employment/Career Planning; 3) Community Research and Job Development; 4) Workplace and Related Supports and 5) Ongoing Supports.

In June of 2016, Partners for Employment, a collaboration between the UMN/CDD, DDSD and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) brought the examination to New Mexico and offered scholarships for the cost of the test.

16 Professionals took the examination on June 1, 2016. 14 passed the test for an 87% passing rate. The following professionals passed the examination on June 1, 2016:

Patrick Anaya – La Vida Felicidad
Oriinda Charleston– DDSD
Donna Crockett - Albuquerque Public Schools
Tammy Davis – Albuquerque Public Schools
Darlene Fattorusso– UNM/CDD
Yvonne Gallegos – Best Buddies
Frank Gaona – DDSD
Holly Gonzales – Family Options
Katherine Johnson Herrera– DDSD
Carolyn Lavadie– DDSD
Amy Owens – Albuquerque Public Schools
Jaclyn Sanchez – DDSD
Brian Schobel – Albuquerque Public Schools
Eugene Vigil – DDSD

Previously, 3 Professionals took the examination on June 22, 2015. 3 passed the test for a 100% passing rate. The following professional passed the examination on June 22, 2015:

Carrie Roberts – DDSD
Sharon Sanchez-Lopez - Benchmark
Pamela Stafford – UNM/CDD

APSE reports an average passing rate nationally of 82.6% for all examinations administered between the years 2011 to 2015.

New Mexico went from having three Certified Employment Support Professionals state-wide to seventeen! Please join me in congratulating the new APSE Certified Employment Supports Professionals!

Contributor: Carrie Roberts, CESP, DDSD Supported Employment Lead

Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) Website Updates

The ICC website has recently gone through some changes and upgrades. The site now includes current information on membership, bylaws, strategic plans, and meeting minutes. There is also an on-line orientation that provides a good overview of the ICC and its roles and responsibilities. The ICC advises and assists the Department of Health in the administration of the State's early intervention system through the Family Infant Toddler (FIT) Program. Members of the ICC are appointed by the Governor and include parents, providers of FIT services, state agencies, and other stakeholders.

To view this site, see <http://archive.nmhealth.org/ddsd/nmfit/ICC/ICC.htm>.

Contributor: Marc Kolman, DDS Deputy Director

Fair Hearings Update

To assist individuals and families through the hearing process, DDS created a unit to centralize matters related to waiver related Fair Hearings. DDS generates hearings from a variety of sources; Intake and Eligibility, Mi Via, H Authorization and the Outside Reviewer (OR). The DDS Fair Hearings Unit receives all hearing acknowledgements from Human Services Department, Fair Hearings Bureau, compiles the Summary of Evidence (SOE) for the Parties and the Administrative Law Judge and works with all interested Parties to schedule and conduct an Agency Review Conference in the hopes of resolving issues outside of the hearing. Since the implementation of the OR in the Fall of 2015, DDS has received 156 requests for a Fair Hearing.

Frequently, Fair Hearing cases are resolved through action items discussed and acted upon via the Agency Review Conference process. The DDS Fair Hearings Unit strives to provide excellent customer service and assistance to individuals, families, guardians, case managers and providers in order to efficiently resolve issues outside of the formal hearing. The Agency Review Conference is a valuable resource and DDS encourages people to take advantage of this process if a Fair Hearing is requested.

If you have any additional questions about Fair Hearings please feel free to contact Shadee Brown, Litigation Management Bureau Chief at 505-841-5505 or shadee.brown@state.nm.us.

Contributor: Shadee Brown, DDS Litigation Management Bureau Chief

Northeast Regional Office Picnic Invite

The Northeast Region is hosting their Annual Fall Picnic scheduled for September 13, 2016 at Kit Carson Park in Taos. Every year the Northeast Region invites agencies, their staff and individuals for a picnic/talent show. All are invited. Teresa Tomashot is the picnic coordinator this year. Please contact her for more information and/or to sign up for a pot luck dish. It's a great way to network, share a talent and eat lots of good food! Teresa can be reached at 575-758-5934 or teresa.tomashot@state.nm.us. Hope to see many of you there!



Contributor: Carolyn Lavadie, DDS Supported Employment Specialist

The Importance of Working with the Provider Enrollment Unit

The PEU's main purpose is to ensure that all Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver providers, Medically Fragile (MF) Waiver providers, and Mi Via Consultants have an active Provider Agreement and to ensure that the Secondary Freedom of Choice (SFOC) forms are accurate. Anyone who needs information on providers, providers who need assistance in enrolling in one of our three waivers, current providers who need to renew their Provider Agreement or current providers who need to make changes to their Provider Agreements do this *all* through the Provider Enrollment Unit (PEU). Did you know that the PEU also:

- Ensures current providers have an active Medicaid number;
- Processes Provider Agreements and verifies that provider information (i.e. legal name, address, phone numbers, email address), service(s) and county(ies)/region(s) is accurate;
- Processes amendments or changes to Provider Agreements as needed;
- Processes both self and State imposed moratoriums;
- Maintains licensure for contactors, nurses, nutritional counselors, social workers and therapists;
- Obtains Medicaid numbers for new providers;
- Keeps all providers and interested parties abreast of correspondence coming from DDSD;
- Tracks accreditation;
- Has created and assisted with creating DDSD policies;
- Maintains the PEU database and generates reports as requested;
- Assists other units with projects;
- Handles those occasional phone calls when an individual and/or guardian have questions about the waiver or how they go about placing an individual on the waiting list and so on; and
- Works alongside all Regional Offices, the Division of Health Improvement (DHI), Medicaid, Xerox, NM Taxation and Revenue Department, accrediting agencies, licensing boards, the IT Supports Division and any other entity that can assist us with getting our jobs completed.

PEU staff members are:

Tammy M. Barth – Tammy.Barth@state.nm.us -
(505) 476-8910

Pauline Mares – Pauline.Mares@state.nm.us -
(505) 476-8922

Christine Fredenburgh - Christine.Fredenbur@state.nm.us -
(505) 476-8912

We take pride in our work and will always do our best to get our work done efficiently and accurately.



Contributor: Tammy Barth, DDSD Provider Enrollment Unit

Constituent Support

There are some wonderful resources for individuals with disabilities & their families in New Mexico. In this newsletter we are highlighting access to organizations which provide advocacy and support for individuals and families. This information is also available in the updated edition of the **DDSD Community Resource Booklet**. These booklets are available at DDSD Regional Offices to assist people looking for resources in their community.

Advocacy and Support

The following is a list of some agencies and organizations which provide support for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families:

Americans with Disabilities Act- ADA - Info Line

331 F. St. NW, Washington, DC 20004
(800) USA-ABLE Administrative
(800) 514-0383 Toll free voice/TDD
(800) 872-2253 Administrative
1-800-USA-ABLE
<http://www.ada.gov/adahom1.htm>

The ARC of New Mexico

3655 Carlisle Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110
(505) 883-4630
<http://www.arcnm.org>

Center for Self-Advocacy

625 Silver Ave SW, Suite 100
Albuquerque, NM 87104
(877) 725-7770 Toll Free
(505)242-1222
<http://www.nmdpc.com>

NM Autism Society

3701 Carlisle Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87107
(505) 332-0306
<http://www.nmautismsociety.org>

Disability Rights New Mexico

1720 Louisiana Blvd. NE Suite 204
Unitarian Universalist Church - Workshop
Albuquerque, NM 87107
(800) 432-4682 Toll Free
(505) 332-0306
<http://www.drmn.org>

Governor's Commission on Disability

491 Old Santa Fe Trail,
Lamy Building Rm 117
Santa Fe, NM 87505
(877) 696-1470 Toll Free
(505) 476-0412
<http://www.gcd.state.nm.us>

Parents Reaching Out (PRO)

1920 B Columbia Dr. SE
Albuquerque, NM 87106
(505) 247-1345 FAX
(505) 247-0192 Service/Intake
<http://www.parentsreachingout.org>
info@parentsreachingout.org

FIT Annual Meeting Focuses on Quality Practices

The Family Infant Toddler (FIT) Program held its annual meeting at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center on June 22 – 23, 2016. With over 160 participants from the 34 FIT provider agencies from across the state!! The theme for the meeting was “New Mexico You!” and we did a gift exchange with items (food / souvenirs) that providers brought that represented their community!

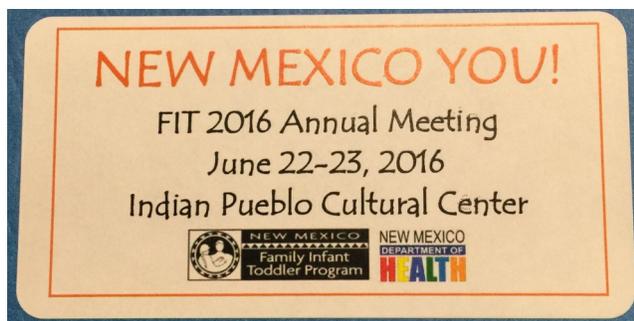
After a welcome address from Cathy Stevenson (DDSD Director), the first day included a focus on the work being conducted under the Race To the Top – Early Learning Challenge Grant to develop a Tiered Quality Rating and Improvement System (TQRIS). One provider panel highlighted the work to promote evidence based early intervention practices through the use of video recording of home visits that are then reviewed in a reflective coaching session. Larry Edelman from Colorado, who is working with the FIT Program to promote the use of video technology, presented a video montage of testimony from practitioners who are participating in the pilot. The pilot includes utilizing the SSOOPRR tool as part of Family Guided Routines Based Intervention approach <http://fgrbi.fsu.edu/index.html> as part of our collaboration with Juliann Woods Ph.D. from Florida State University. The second provider panel focused on the pilot of the IFSP (Individualized Family Service Plan) Quality Rating Scale as a tool to promote functional, routines-based and family centered IFSPs. Providers reported significant changes in practices in both pilots.



The meeting also included a number of breakout sessions including: FAN (Facilitating Attuned iNteractions); Trauma Informed Care; A Families Journey Through Early Intervention; Developing Family Leaders; and Integrating Early Childhood Outcomes into the IFSP. Other sessions included ABA Approaches within Autism services and an “Open Space” session where providers were able to host dialogue sessions with other providers around chosen topics.

A big thanks to all the presenters and to the FIT and UNM Early Childhood Network staff that organized this successful meeting – where we all learned from each other in our effort to promote evidence based early intervention practices!!

Contributor: Andy Gomm, DDSD Child and Family Supports Bureau



Supported Employment Local Leaders (SELL) - Looking to expand participation

In 2015, Partners for Employment, which includes DDSD, the University of New Mexico Center for Development and Disability (UNM/CDD) and the New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (NMDVR) created a new opportunity for providers to network and collaborate. Supported Employment Local Leaders (SELL) meet in all regions of the state on a regular basis. It is an opportunity to bring ideas or suggestions, share resources and network with your state and local partners. Each region has a different focus based on what the participants choose to discuss.



Katherine Johnson, Dr. Richard Pimental and Carrie Roberts in Farmington at the Windmills Training.

At a recent SELL meeting in the NW Region, Katherine Johnson and Carrie Roberts attended an all-day training that was sponsored by the Society of Human Resource Managers (SHRM) of the Four Corners Region. SHRM and SELL have been in collaboration in this area of the state. Windmills training is designed to teach Human Services departments how to support employees with disabilities. It was an exciting opportunity for Windmills Training to be presented to both supported employment and human resources professionals in the same session. Dr. Richard Pimentel, whose life was portrayed in the 2007 drama film called, *Music Within*, is the creator of Windmills training. For more information about Windmills training, please visit <http://www.miltwright.com/>.

DDSD is extremely encouraged with the level of participation and information sharing that has occurred at the SELL meetings. Thank you to all of you who have supported this project. If you have not yet attended a meeting, please contact Carrie Roberts to learn more about the next meeting in your region. Carrie Roberts can be contacted at 505-476-8979 or Carrie.Roberts@state.nm.us.

Contributor: Carrie Roberts, Supported Employment Lead

New Hires & Retirees

NEW HIRES

We would like to welcome Teresa Larson to DDSD. Teresa is taking over as Bureau Chief of the Intake and Eligibility Bureau. We are so happy that you have joined our team.



RETIREEES



Please join us in congratulating Linda Dwyer, Chris Sanger, Twila Pierson and Les Swisher on their retirement.

They will be missed.

Contributor: Joe Anaya, DDSD Human Resources

Mission Statements:

The Mission of the New Mexico Department of Health is to promote health and wellness, improve health outcomes, and assure safety net services for all people in New Mexico.

The Mission of the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division is to effectively administer a system of person-centered community supports and services that promotes positive outcomes for all stakeholders with a primary focus on assisting individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to exercise their right to make choices, grow and contribute to their community.

ABOUT US:

The New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Supports Division is located at 810 San Mateo PO Box 26110 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110. Our website:

www.nmhealth.org

For Information Call: (505) 476-8973 or Toll Free: 1-877-696-1472 or email us at SANTAFEmailbox.ddsd@state.nm.us

DDSD Newsletter Staff:

Editor-in-Chief:
Marc Kolman
Assistant Editor:
Chris Futey
Layout: Shannon Titla

If you would like to write an article for the next issue of the DDSD Newsletter, have suggestions or comments, please contact Chris Futey, DDSD Newsletter Assistant Editor at 505-841-5507 or Christopher.Futey@state.nm.us.

