



DDSD Advisory Council on Quality (ACQ) Meeting Notes December 10, 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, Stevie Bass, Joyce Munoz, Allyson Rhatigan, Sandy Skaar, Dan De Paula, Gabriela Ramos, Tracy Perry, Angelique Tafoya, April Spaulding, Laura Matthews, Jenny Bartz

MEMBERS ABSENT

Sandra Woodward

STATE AGENCY NON-VOTING PARTNERS PRESENT

Tanya Baker-McCue, Amira Rasheed, Christina Barden

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, Michael Driskell, Jacob Patterson, Lorie Pacheco, Anysia Fernandez, Deb Vering, Margaret Bost, Casilda Gallegos

GUESTS

Lori Steward, Lourdes Vizcarra Wurzel, Jessica Gutierrez, Tim Gardner, Lecie Langille, Rosemary Anderson, Jackie Gebert, Cynthia Chavez, Denise Balderas

ACQ ADMINISTRATOR

Wendy Corry

Welcome/Announcements

- Action items from the previous meeting will be part of the ongoing agenda
- Conflict of Interest Form clarification. Most members will likely have a conflict of interest which is not a problem. The purpose of the form is to be transparent about this.
- ACQ Public Comments starting FY 21 are now posted on the UNM/CDD website at <http://www.cdd.unm.edu/other-disability-programs/disability-health-policy/ddsd-courses/index.html> These will be posted at this site after every ACQ meeting going forward. The link can also be found on the DDSD website with ACQ documents.
- Onboarding for new ACQ members will begin when the recommended members are approved by the Governor's Office.
- No response yet from the Governors Office on the ACQ recommendations for new members

Review of Minutes from October 2020

- Minutes were approved with minor corrections. Laura Matthews made the motion to approve and Gabriela Ramos seconded.

COVID-19 Updates/Director's Report- Scott Doan

COVID Update

- Scott provided a detailed summary of COVID cases related to people on the waivers (Document is attached with the minutes)
- Strongly encouraged teams to provide services remotely at this time.
- Some direct support staff have tested positive, providers have the list.
- Discussion on how to keep COVID out of people's home.
- People with underlying health conditions are at greater risk to COVID and to more severe consequences of COVID.
- Everyone has done a tremendous job and is doing the best they can to keep everyone safe.
- DOH has general rules and regulations with regard to people who have tested positive for COVID. Providers have the ability to determine their own specific procedures. The Governor's Health Order was updated on November 18. These will be sent out with the minutes
- DDSD is at the table with the Governor's Office in planning phase for the distribution of vaccines. People in congregant living situations, including staff, will be included in the first priority. DDSD will continue to advocate for additional types of living situations to be priority.
- The vaccine comes in 2 doses, 28 days apart. DDSD is working with the pharmacies so they can work directly with the provider.
- Waiver recipients have a right of refusal for the vaccine.
- It is not determined yet whether staff will be required to receive the vaccine as a condition of employment.
- There is no cost for the vaccine to anyone.

Non COVID Updates

- Jackson is still active litigation.
- There are 10 different sections in the settlement agreement and DOH has successfully disengaged from 6 of 10 paragraphs.
- The remaining paragraphs are: 1) Paragraph 9: Compliance with mortality review policy, 2) Paragraph 12: Compliance with healthcare requirements 3) Paragraph 13: Effective provider application and 4) Paragraph 15: Transition to individual quality review from community monitor to DHI.
- DOH is filing with the court that they believe they have effectively met the above paragraphs.
- DOH asked the court to make a ruling to end the Jackson lawsuit.

HSD Presentation- Margaret Bost

- The presentation addressed the action items from the Oct. ACQ meeting. The PowerPoint is distributed with the minutes.
- HSD will continue to explore how to get more people into Community Benefits.
- The reasons given by some members for not using Community Benefits are: 1) they don't need it 2) they want to wait 3) they are accessing services somewhere else.
- Letters sent by HSD on November 24, 2020 to members have provided an opportunity to bring awareness of care coordination and community benefits.
- All MCOs have dedicated care coordinators who are specialized in working with individuals with intellectual disabilities.
- ACQ members continue to have questions/concerns regarding the caseloads, experience and training of care coordinators who work with people with I/DD, etc. HSD offered to invite the MCO's to the next ACQ meeting.

ACQ Member Election-Daniel Ekman

- Cynthia Chavez (parent of someone previously served by the Medically Fragile waiver) was nominated and approved for ACQ membership.

Supports Waiver Advisory Comm. Update- Jennifer Roth

- DDS will conduct these meetings every other month in connection with the ACQ meetings.
- These will be listening sessions for how things are going with the Supports Waiver. It's important to have people using the Supports Waiver in these discussions.

Mandatory Subcommittee participation for all ACQ members

- Discussion on the important work that happens in the subcommittees.
- People expressed reservations about having this mandatory due to time limitations and overlapping meetings.
- A request was made for a calendar of all subcommittee meetings.

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

- Website for information is <https://palcofirst.com/new-mexico/>
- EVV implementation date is January 1, 2021
- Numerous concerns were expressed including confusion on the training schedule, fast timeline for the trainings, long wait times to talk with Conduent and general communication problems.

Mi Via Update on the 40-hour workweek- HSD

- HSD has approved a temporary, emergency process that will allow staff to work over the 40 hour a week limit due to the considerable challenges of providing qualified staff during COVID.

- This will apply to employees that are hired directly by participants and EORs.
- A paper form will be used to log the overtime hours.
- The form will be posted on the Medicaid portal. HSD will also have a writeup in the newsletter.
- Overtime pay will be at time and a half.
- Movement of funds still has to comply with the relevant section of the NMAC. Movements from additional funds is not allowed, it has to be moved from the base budget. Can be moved from other line items that aren't being used.

Subcommittee Reports

- Due to time constraints, no reports were given. Written reports will be distributed.

Questions and Answers

- There were no additional questions

Public Comment:

- There were no public comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:43 p.m. Gabriella Ramos moved to adjourn, and Joyce Munoz seconded.

The next ACQ meeting will be Thursday, February 11, 2021.

Action Items:

- People have additional questions regarding Community Benefits utilization, specific training for care coordinators, caseloads, etc. MCO's may be invited to the next ACQ meeting.
- Need continued clarification on EVV
- A request was made for a calendar of all subcommittee meetings.