



**DDSD Advisory Council on Quality (ACQ) Meeting Notes
October 13, 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, April Spaulding, Laura Matthews, Jessica Gutierrez, Christina Barden, Gabriela Ramos, Peter Crespín, Siri Guru Nam Khalsa, Sharon Gilsdorf proxy for Peggy O'Neill, Crystal Garcia, Cynthia Chavez, Sandy Skaar, Joyce Munoz, Roel Adamson, Judy Sena, Veronica Chavez-Neuman

MEMBERS ABSENT

Excused absences- Elisheva Levin, Christine Bragg and Valerie Dewbre

STATE AGENCY NON-VOTING PARTNERS PRESENT

Amira Rasheed, Gay Finlayson

STATE AGENCIES PRESENT

Jason Cornwell, Mark Kolman, Scott Doan, Melanie Buenviaje, Marie Velasco, Nicole Hernandez, Chris Futey, Evangeline Yanez, Anysia Fernandez, Teresa Larson, Elaine Hill, Jennifer Rodriguez, Daniel Lucero, Betsy Finley, Christina Hill, Susan Seefeldt, Margaret Bost

GUESTS

Tim Gardner, Susan Forbes, Jim Copeland, Adrienne Smith, Ann Marie Parmenter, Jacob Patterson, Chinda Lucoski, Steve Wrigley, Amando Montano, Karen Garcia, Cassandra DeCamp, Jose Guzman, Selma Dodson, DeAnna De Herrera, Robert Kegal, Rose Estrada, Alexis Hernandez, Dominic, Justin Naylor, Pam Stafford, Renee Valerio, Tara Davenport, Evonne Romero, Yvette Hall, Rob Q., Angela Otero, Matthew Molina, Melissa McCue, Alicia Bernal

ACQ ADMINISTRATOR

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)

7 MINUTE MEET AND GREET IN BREAK-OUT ROOMS

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 2022

- Peter Crespin moved to approve the minutes with one recommended correction. Roel Adamson seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- There was one public comment.
- 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 presented two PowerPoints (the 2002 DDSD Direct Support Professional Survey and the Oct. 5 presentation to the Legislative Health and Human Services Subcommittee) which are attached to the Meeting Notes
- Jason Cornwell reported that DDSD feels the LHHS meeting was successful in garnering the support for 10.2 million dollar of provider rate increases that DDSD is asking for next session.
- The DDSD Super Allocation Plan is ahead of schedule and under budget.
- The Provider network is currently under stress, details were provided.
- Article from Mr. Cornwell: <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/voices-of-paid-and-family-caregivers-for-medicaid-enrollees-receiving-hcbs/>
- The rates are in effect and are approved to be paid by the federal government. DDSD wants to allay any fear that we are paying unapproved rates. When amendments are approved by CMS, DDSD will share the approval letter.

PRESENTATIONS ON DIRECT SUPOPORT STAFF/CAREGIVER SHORTAGE BILLS:

- Jim Copeland- Executive Director Association of Developmental Disabilities Community Providers (ADDCP) Their bill would allocate 7.7 million to increase provider rates with no conditions on the money other than cover the rates. Provider agencies must pay for many ancillary costs but agree wages need to go up.
- Adrienne Smith-Executive Director/Founder NM Caregivers Coalition First goal of their bill is to better compensate direct support professionals directly. Asking for 8.4 million in new money. Second goal is to require that DDSD annually collect workforce data from providers on who is in the workforce.

- Mr. Copeland and Ms. Smith presented their separate bills at the Legislative Health and Human Services Comm. on October 6, 2022. The committee stated it was critical both parties come together and present one bill instead of two separate bills.
- There is a meeting scheduled Nov. 15 with legislators, DDSD, AACDP and the NM Caregivers Coalition to resume negotiations on the legislation.
- DSP Workforce Stabilization Bill:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g9FV3MOzBWkbQCHTHNPThuHFnRhkCJoJ/view?usp=sharingS>
- Summary of DSP Workforce Stabilization Bill: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xDDC-vecOPIRwzbigFdij3UVpfF6v8Uc/view?usp=sharing>
- NMCC ADDCP Joint letter July 2, 2021:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14140egEBgcSbGIIFo2LFdgSqjJSC1r6o/view?usp=sharing>

MI VIA ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE-ELAINE HILL/DDSD

- They currently have twelve members but in need of seventeen. Open spots consultant agency, family member, advocate, service provider (preferably) DSP, employee.
- ACQ member Joyce M. Munoz would like to join MVAC.
- Five new nominations were reviewed and approved as new members at an emergency meeting on Sept. 6.
- Brad Hill has graciously agreed to stay on as interim chair.
- The nomination committee will meet October 24. They need a new chair and vice chair. Must be an MVAC member
- The next MVAC scheduled on October 27.
- Reach out to Elaine for any information on involvement in public feedback or to request an application for membership. Elaine.Hill@doh.nm.gov

PALCO/ELECTRONIC VISIT VERIFICATION (EVV) update- MELANIE BUENVIAJE/HSD

- Currently working with the contractors to make updates.
- HSD is creating a pilot project and are looking for participants. The pilot will be a real-life environment to test the system before it goes live.
- Once the pilot is over, this new information will be incorporated into the system. The new implementation date is Summer 2023.
- Contact Rachel to participate.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- There was one 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

- Discussion on SSI and eligibility
- A request was made for consideration of forming an ACQ legislative committee. The ACQ Exec. Comm. will discuss this.

POSITIVE STORIES:

- An ACQ member's daughter joined us for positive stories and talked about the things she enjoys such going to restaurants and listening to Stills, Nash and Young.
- Many thanks to ACQ member Veronica Chavez Neuman of the Arc of NM who is retiring. She has devoted many years of service to the ACQ and numerous organizations.
- An ACQ member's daughter is 15 years old and just started high school. She is very medically complex but always wanted to be a cheerleader. She just cheered at her first game and was Incredibly happy and incredibly accepted.
- Another ACQ member reported that she appreciates this community. One of her friend's daughters were diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy. The network of people in this field is dynamic.
- Another Mom told the story of her daughter who is now 2.5 years old. She and her daughter access early intervention services through a provider on today's call. For the first time in her life, her daughter said the word "Momma."

ADJOURNMENT:

- Meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm

NEXT MEETING: December 8, 2022