**OLMSTEAD CONSUMER TASKFORCE MEETING**

**May 10, 2019**

**10:00am – 3:00pm**

**Pleasant Hill Public Library, 5151 Maple Drive, Pleasant Hill**

**Conference Call-In: 888-290-7502, Participant Code 29273924#**

**Minutes**

**Taskforce Members Present:** Kathleen O’Leary, Tracy Keninger, Lisa Pakkebier, Dawn Francis, Kay Marcel, Mari Reynolds, Jenna Batten, Len Sandler, Mary Roberts, Alex Bomhoff, June Klein-Bacon, Renee Speh, Gary McDermott, Heather Hanzlick, Dawn Francis, Kris Graves

**Others Present:** Brooke Lovelace, Connie Fanselow, Terri Rosonke, Pam Heagle, Theresa Armstrong, Jim Pender, Ronee Slagle, John McCAlley, Kim Barber

**Staff Support:** Anne Crotty

1. 10:00 **Welcome and Introductions**
2. 10:10 **Review, Additional Items, and Approval of the Agenda**

Kathleen motioned to move the nominations committee report up to before DHS/IME updates. Kay seconded. No nays or abstentions. Motion passed. Agenda approved.

1. 10:15 **Review, Corrections and Approval of the Minutes of the March Meeting**

Tracy motioned to approve minutes. Lisa Seconded. No nays or abstentions. Motion passed.

1. 10:20**DHS / IME Updates** – Theresa Armstrong
   * Disaster behavioral health teams are trained teams of volunteers who respond to the mental health needs of Iowa residents following disasters, when requested by local emergency managers. They can assist with information, counseling, screening, referral and other consultation for people that are displaced or otherwise affected due to a disaster. Karen Hyatt coordinates those efforts. DHS was selected for a crisis counseling grant from FEMA to provide additional support to mental health centers in five counties along the Missouri River (Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, and Woodbury). DHS also contracts with the Iowa Concern Hotline to provide short-term mental health crisis counseling and to allow for data collection in communities impacted by disasters. DHS is applying for an additional grant that will last for 9 months to allow long-term counseling and education.
   * HF 690 has been signed. It codified the children’s behavioral health state board and state plan and put in place the framework for the children’s behavioral health system. MHDS regions will develop plans to assure access to the core services for children with Serious Emotional Disturbances and will fund services to those under 500% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL) who do not have funding through Medicaid or private insurance. There will be a sliding fee schedule for families that are 150% - 500% of federal poverty level (FPL). Core services include assessment and evaluation, behavioral health, outpatient therapy, medication prescribing and management, crisis services. DHS must have the rules implementing HF 690 to the code editor by January 1st, 2020.
   * DHS and Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) are collaborating to use the Your Life Iowa platform for the statewide 24-hour mental health crisis line. There will be a “soft start” July 1 and IDPH and DHS will continue to work with the contractor, Foundation 2, and regional CEOs to develop a transition plan for full implementation.
   * HF 294 has been passed and signed by Governor Reynolds. It eliminates the cap on the monthly budget for individuals on the Brain Injury waiver and requires DHS to track the amounts expended.
   * Appropriations
     + IDPH received $306,000 to establish and maintain a statewide 24-hour crisis line for the children’s behavioral health system, which will be used to expand existing crisis line services. Iowa Department of Public Health also received money to support additional psychiatric residencies focused on rural areas, as well as funding to support training of physician assistants and Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners.
       - DHS received an additional $1.2 million to reduce the Children’s Mental Health waiver waiting list.
       - DHS received $1 million to support increasing the rates for the Intellectual Disability waiver supported community living tiered rates. The changes will apply across the rates and will not be targeted to specifically the lowest or the highest tiers.
       - The legislature requested a review of the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) rates. The report showed that costs for providers were greater than the current reimbursement rate, so the rate has been adjusted upward. ACT programs are a required core service for MHDS regions under the intensive mental health services (complex needs) legislation. By October 1, DHS must notice rules related to prior authorizations to assure uniformity across Medicaid and managed care organizations.
       - The Autism Support Program was funded at $573,000; The existing Systems of Care programs are fully funded. DHS received $300,000 to support the work of the children’s system state board and implementation of the services. DHS will provide $32,000 to IDPH to support expansion of Your Life Iowa.
       - The Iowa Department of Education received $2 million to support the training of educators and additional mental health services and supports for children. They are also looking at creating a clearinghouse of information that will be accessible to educators and communities.

**Discussion:**

* Tracy asked if there will be a disaster response effort for Davenport. DHS is collecting additional data so if it is declared a national disaster area, FEMA will determine if Iowa can apply for longer term support. FEMA partners with SAMHSA on mental health disaster efforts.
* Kay asked if they have the SCL tiered rates broken down yet. Theresa responded that information will be given to actuaries to determine the new rates. Tiered rate changes will go into effect on July 1.
* June asked if the regions will be getting any additional money from the state and if the funding allocated to the children’s system be coming out of the budget. Theresa responded that HF 690 did not address funding, so there is no additional funding for MHDS regions at this time, although the development and implementation of children’s behavioral health services are required. The rules will address implementation dates.
* Dawn asked if it will take longer for services to start because there is no additional funding. Theresa responded that Governor Reynolds has acknowledged that the plan is incomplete without additional funding. Legislation allows regions two more years to spend down their fund balances and allows them, going forward, to keep up to 40% of their fund balance at the end of the year, instead of a maximum of 25%.
* Dawn asked Connie Fanselow for an update on evaluation of the Olmstead State Plan. Connie is working on a report that will show yearly outcome measures of the Olmstead State Plan. She will present a summary of the report at the July 12 meeting.

Action item: Theresa will send info on tiered rates to Anne when available.

Action item: Print copy of Olmstead plan and send to group for discussion at July meeting.

Action item: Theresa send info on project recovery brochure to Anne to send to group.

Action item: Invite Marissa to the next meeting.

1. 11:15 **Continued Discussion of Legislative Priorities**

* Dawn is drafting a letter on behalf of the Taskforce to ask Reps. Dave Loebsack, Cindy Axne, Abby Finkenauer and Sens. Ernst and Grassley to sponsor the Disability Reintegration Act.
* Tracy shared a success in increased funding for Easter Seals Iowa from Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship to support of farm family members with disabilities.
* June shared a success that individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing can put information on ID to allow them to communicate with police officers.
* June shared a success that if individuals are incarcerated, their Medicaid will go into a suspended status. Individuals previously lost their Medicaid and had to reapply after their release.
* Kay shared a success that the Transformation to Competitive Employment Act to phase out the 14c subminimum wage for people with disabilities. Kay requested that the Taskforce send a letter to Iowa’s congressional delegation to support the legislation.
* Lisa mentioned the additional $1 million to support supported community living tiered rates.
* Dawn requested that all members consider any specific issues over the next few months for the Taskforce to focus on in the next session. Lisa feels that additional funding for wages for direct support professionals as a potential area.

Action: Dawn will send talking points on DIA, the letter, and contact info for legislators.

Action: Determine whether the taskforce will send a letter to Iowa’s Congressional delegation requesting their support for the legislation phasing out the 14c subminimum wage.

1. 12:00 **Lunch**
2. 1:00 **Taskforce Committee Reports**
   * Executive Committee Report – No report
   * Nominations Committee Report

Mary provided a summary of people terming out and those eligible to reapply. Mary would like to propose amending bylaws to allow existing members to stay on the taskforce if there are no other applicants. Dawn suggested appointing the current applicants to open slots and opening application process again to fill the remaining spot.

Applicants:

* Kate Thompson – Des Moines, IA

Kate is the parent of a child with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other conditions, as well as spouse to a partner with ASD. She works as a reference librarian at Des Moines Area Community College. She participated in the Iowa Family Leadership Training Institute and is passionate about assuring resources get to their intended recipients without unnecessary inefficiencies or stress.

* Brittney Montross – Cedar Falls, IA

Brittney is employed with Exceptional Persons Inc. Her work focuses on community-based services to help people with intellectual disabilities, brain injury, and mental illness to become more independent. She is passionate about community inclusion and affordable housing for people with disabilities.

* Michael Martin – Des Moines, IA

Michael has cerebral palsy and uses a wheelchair. He lives in a group home and has done a lot of crossover work in self advocacy for people with disabilities and on LGBTQ issues. He is passionate about funding for services for people with intellectual disabilities and the intersection of LGBTQ issues and disabilities.

* Jessica Johanns – Council Bluffs, IA

Jessica has a son with an intellectual disability and is an Independent Living Advisor at the League of Human Dignity. She has five years of experience as a licensed therapeutic foster parent and serves on several interagency councils. She is passionate determining what a family’s goals area and helping achieve them.

* Daryn Richardson – Crescent, IA

Daryn was diagnosed with a chronic illness and has a stepson with a disability. He works as the Services Development Director at Vodec, which is a private 501c3 organization that serves people with disabilities. He currently serves on the State Rehab Council and is APSE’s Past President, Past President of the Human Services Advisory Council, Co-Chair of the Omaha Public Schools Superintendents Advisory Council, and the Glenwood Resource Center Advisory Council. He is passionate about integrated employment, public transportation, self-advocacy training, and accessibility to the civil processes.

* Kris Graves – Iowa City, IA (existing member)

Mary motioned to accept the nominations. Kris Graves seconded. No nays or abstentions. Motion passed.

Anne will inform those selected of next meeting and when their term will begin. Mary Roberts suggested offering a comprehensive training for new members and existing members who are interested. June, Lisa, and Mari will help with the orientation.

* + Medicaid Committee Report
* Harry Olmstead is the Medicaid Committee Chair and also the Vice Chair. Harry’s term will expire in September. Lisa Pakkebier offered to serve as Vice Chair. The Taskforce will have elections at the September meeting.
* The new Managed Care Organization, Iowa Total Care, will start July 1. Would OCTF like to reach out to them or meet with them?
  + Olmstead Plan Committee Report – No report

1. 1:30 **State Agency Reports** 
   * Iowa Department of the Blind (IDB)

* IDB has four Independent Living teacher plus Kim working in the field. Governor Reynolds made recommendations to hire a sixth teacher; the proposal is awaiting legislative approval.
* The Independent Living for Older Individuals who are Blind Program is designed to serve people ages 55 and older. The program is funded through The Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA). The agency receives $312,000 from RSA and funds from the State to help operate the program statewide. The program assists individuals who have vision loss or who are blind to learn independent living skills that will help them remain in their home and community; delaying the need to move to an assisted living facility or nursing home.
* IDB has heard reports of some eye doctors who have been unwilling to share eye reports or who have delayed sharing reports. These eye reports help determine if the individual is eligible for services. The teacher will also try to learn more about the applicant’s situation to determine if services are appropriate and if they need a referral to another provider.
  + Iowa Workforce Development (IWD)
* IWD is planning an event for employers on July 16 at the Ron Pearson Center in Des Moines. The event will focus on hiring for today’s available workforce and will feature breakout sessions, panel discussions of customers participating in programs, and a reverse job fair to allow vendors to speak with customers.
* IWD is also collaborating with state and local partners to create a benefits website for benefits planning services. Info on how earned income impacts people with disabilities.
  + Office of Human Rights
* The Client Assistance Program and the Office of Persons with Disabilities are partnering with the Iowa Mentoring Partnership to offer presentations during monthly Peer Share Call Trainings. The first training was May 9 and focused on including people with disabilities in mentoring programs. The Iowa Mentoring Partnership is a program in collaboration with the Iowa Economic Development Authority, AmeriCorps Vista, and the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service.
  + Iowa Finance Authority (IFA)
* IFA is working on the 5-year plan, which will govern how programs will be run for five years. IFA will conduct stakeholder interviews with some members on the taskforce in June 2019.
  + Iowa Department of Public Health
  + IDPH is in the final stages of developing a tool to screen for brain injury and a training to support providers that work with people with brain injuries. The screening tool will assist in identifying brain injury among people with concerns such as behavioral conditions or substance use. The root cause of these concerns is often brain injuries.
  + Iowa also developed administrative rules around return to play for youth in grades 7-12.

1. 2:00 **Taskforce Member Reports**
   * June reported that the Brain Injury Alliance is holding the third annual Iowa Concussion Consortium on July 11, 2019 in Iowa City, It will provide information to schools, communities, athletic trainers, on return to play after a concussion or other brain injury.  Event and registration information can be found at <https://biai.memberclicks.net/upcoming-events>. Additional information can be found at <https://biaia.org/ICC/>
   * Dawn reported that the Iowa State Independent Living Centers are promoting leadership among people with disabilities and especially young people. They have funding to allow people with disabilities to attend the Together We Can conference and the Seeking Opportunities for an Advocacy Revolution conference in Missouri.
2. 2:40 **Public Comment**

* The DD Council approved funds for an Request for Proposal to help providers increase employment outcomes, which is available at this [link](https://bidopportunities.iowa.gov/Home/BidInfo?bidId=b737308f-ab30-47b5-9e27-ccd8cf647752) until July 22, 2019. The DD Council is also working with the UCEDD to develop a mentoring program that will allow people with disabilities and family members who have transitioned to community living to discuss their experiences. Additionally, the Make Your Mark Conference is September 26-27, 2019 in Coralville, IA.

1. 3:00 **Adjournment**

**Meeting adjourned at 12:53 pm.**

***Next Meeting: Friday, July 12, 2019***