**OLMSTEAD CONSUMER TASKFORCE MEETING**

**September 13 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:** Alex Bomhoff, Gary McDermott, Mary Roberts, Brittney Montross, Kay Marcel, Dawn Francis, Renee Speh, Paula Connolly, Mari Reynolds, Kate Thompson, Lisa Pakkebier, Kathleen O’leary, Jenna Batten, Brittney Luth

**Others Present:** Michael Martin, Terri Rosonke, Ronee Slagle, John McCalley, Pam Heagle, Cynthia Shouse, Theresa Armstong, Jessica Johanns

**Staff Support:** Anne Crotty

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

Kay motioned to move to approve the minutes. Lisa seconded. No nays or abstentions. Motion passed. Agenda approved.

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

Mari motioned to move to approve the minutes. Lisa seconded. No nays or abstentions. Motion passed. Agenda approved.

1. 10:20 **Action Items**
2. **10:45** **DHS Iowa Olmstead State Plan – Update & Discussion – Theresa Armstrong**

* Kelly Kennedy Garcia has been appointed by Governor Reynolds as the new director of the Iowa Department of Human Services. She is currently the Deputy Executive Commissioner at the Texas Health and Human Services Commission and will start on November 1st.
* DHS presented the state fiscal year budget to the DHS Council, which passed. It is approximately a $7.3 billion budget.
* The Governor appointed members to the children’s state board and they had the first meeting. The Board is tasked with setting up the children’s behavioral health system and building access to it. One of the first activities was to consult with DHS on the proposed rules related to the MHDS regions. These rules go to the MHDS commission next week. The Board will decide if they want to continue to have committees including a Workforce Committee. There is a Screening Panel who will present a final report to the Board to take under consideration. There was a $2.1 million appropriation that will support the Area Education Agencies to expand Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) and create a clearinghouse of information on mental health. Some districts are using creative strategies to meet needs, such as sharing social workers. The Workforce Committee is considering recommendations on apprenticeships, loan forgiveness, and additional psychiatric residencies.
* DHS receives approximately $5 million per year for the Community Mental Health Block Grant from SAMHSA for services and supports for system building for children with a Serious Emotional Disturbance and adults with a serious mental illness. The yearly plan was submitted to SAMHSA and provides a good overview of the mental health system in IA. Goals in the plan include greater access to assertive community treatment services and crisis services, including development of the statewide crisis line (YourLifeIowa). Your Life Iowa has web and text capability and began taking mental health crisis calls ~~of~~ July 1st, though is not marketed yet.
* Advocates for the Brain injury waiver recommended a change to the required functional assessment for brain injury. DHS is now using the Mayo Portland inventory tool.

**Discussion:**

* Paula asked for details on how to refer families to resources on crisis counseling in schools. Theresa does not have specific details on which schools or AEAs have these programs. Contact your AEA to see what may be available.
* Mari asked if there are family members on the boards yet. Theresa said that there are no family members on the governing boards yet, but the board is in the process of identifying them. The voting members on the board will come from the advisory councils. Most of the regions have reached out to stakeholders.
* Cynthia asked if there are opportunities for people to go in and volunteer in schools to crisis counseling and provide YMHFA. They are looking at strategies to train staff members within the AEAs and school districts and expanding crisis programs within the schools or allowing providers from the outside to provide crisis counseling.
* Kay noted that universal screening did not end up in legislation but asked if all children are being screened for behavioral health. Theresa responded that children get screened when going to a pediatrician. Medicaid has requirements to screen for mental health and other developmental issues at various ages. Some schools have implemented screenings at specific intervals or if there are red flags of things happening a classroom. Paula said there is an effort to train health care providers in screening for mental health concerns.
* Kay asked if budget submitted was the current budget or the proposed budget. It is the proposed budget and will go to the Governor next, who will create her own budget. The proposed budget includes a potential increase in funding for more access to mental health services for children and adults eligible for Medicaid. This increase is related the children’s behavioral health legislation and the complex service needs legislation.
* Paula asked if Iowa was going to reapply for Money Follows the Person (MFP). Dawn responded that Iowa only put in a little money to close out the programs and that they are still serving people through MFP.
* Kay asked for update on the Integration Mandate questions. Theresa responded that she does not have data right now but may have it by the November meeting.
* Paula motioned to have executive committee to draft letter to invite new director of DHS to an Olmstead meeting. Kathleen O’Leary seconded. No nays or abstentions. Motion passed.

1. **12:00 Lunch**
2. **12:30 Officer Elections**

* Dawn asked if any members were interested in running for the Chair, Vice-Chair, or Secretary positions. Current members did not feel that they had enough experience to be Chair. Kay motioned to renominate Dawn as Chair for one year to provide continuity while Lisa Pakkebier gains experience as Vice-Chair. Paula seconded. Kris Graves will continue as secretary. No nays or abstentions. Motion passed.

1. **12:45 Reading of OCTF Conflict of Interest Policy and Signing of Forms**

* Dawn read the conflict of interest policy and members signed the forms.

1. **1:00 Committee Reports**

* Integration Mandate Committee
  + The taskforce discussed the availability of data on the living situations of people with disabilities and the resources available to allowing people with disabilities to live as they wish. Lisa has a meeting with the Iowa Association of Community Providers and will discuss the situation with them.
  + The Integration Mandate Committee shared a survey that they created for distribution to people with disabilities at the 2019 Make Your Mark Conference on September 26-27. The committee will share the results of the survey and the Freedom of Information Act request at the November meeting.
* **Nominations Committee**
  + Dawn explained that the bylaws state that the Nominations Committee shall consist of 5+ members and recruit officer candidates for consideration of the entire taskforce. Dawn will propose a change to the bylaws to better reflect role of the Nominations Committee.

1. **1:30 State Agency Reports**

* **Iowa Workforce Development** (IWD)
  + IWD is co-locating Iowa Work Centers with Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Service, with the newest one in Marshalltown.
  + IWD is providing ADA accessibility training to 100 people in Iowa Work Centers, who will go out to businesses and ensure that businesses are ADA accessible. One staff member at every Iowa Work Center staff will also receive benefits training.
  + IWD is hosting employer-focused Future Ready Iowa summits where they will discuss Future Ready Iowa scholarships and the Iowa Employer Innovation Fund. The fund will assist employers in reaching underserved populations and provide training to them.

**Discussion:**

* Kay asked how many employers are interacting with the disability agencies. Ronee Slagle explained that IWD is going to private employers to give tools to businesses, with the goal of encouraging them to hire people with disabilities and other underserved populations.
* Kate Thompson offered to collect emails and names of state agency staff members. The Executive Committee will extend an invitation to state agencies to nominate a representative.
* Kay and Renee noted that transportation and childcare (both young children and teens) are issues for people going to work. This need is most urgent in rural areas.

1. **2:00 Taskforce Member Reports**

* ASK is hosting a free screening of the Intelligent Lives documentary and can offer other showings upon request. It is approved for 3 foster parent credits. REACH is also hosting one in Iowa City.
* Lisa noted that the Iowa Association of Community Providers completed a survey and is developing a one-page summary document to support advocacy efforts to increase wages for Iowa’s direct support workforce.
* Mari serves on the State Vocational Rehabilitation Council that provides consumer input. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act intends to reduce subminimum wage facilities WIOA, which has led to a decrease in 14c holders. A concern is that instead of going to day habilitation programs, people that were previously working at a subminimum wage job are now just staying home.
* Kay discussed proposed changes to the day habilitation programs. Anne sent out information on the proposed rule changes via email to the taskforce.
* Mary provided an update regarding the letter that the taskforce sent last fall to the State Medical Cannabidiol program to request to allow providers to prescribe cannabidiol for Autism across the lifespan, if an individual has a history of aggression or self-injury. It was approved, however there is an amendment to broaden it to people with intellectual disabilities as well.
* Jenna is part of a campaign called Upgrade Medicaid and invited others to join. She explained that more people are having to consider moving to nursing home because they cannot find care in the community. Disability Rights Iowa cannot take legal action until someone is put in the nursing home. They have talked to legislators and the Governor’s office. Paula encouraged people to continue to provide information and stories to Liz Matney within the Governor’s Office.
* Centene offered to pay for two youth to attend Association of programs for Rural Independent Living offered to attend conference in April in Grand Rapids, MI. The State Independent Living Center is providing funding for two others to go as well. This core group will lead self-advocacy efforts in Iowa. The CDD and DD council are also interested in supporting this self-advocacy effort.
* Amerigroup will pay for membership to <https://tash.org>. Amerihealth Caritas has a program to help with toilet paper and other basic needs for people that are dual-eligible in Oskaloosa.

1. **2:30 Public Comment**

* Anne shared information on “Meet Us at the Horizon” play in Iowa City on September 27-29.

1. **3:00 Adjournment**

* Paula motioned to adjourn. Lisa seconded. No nays or abstentions. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:25 pm.