**OLMSTEAD CONSUMER TASKFORCE MEETING**

**July 13, 2018**

**10:00am – 3:00pm**

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

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

**MEETING NOTES**

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

**Taskforce members present:** Jenna Batten, Roxanne Cogil, Kevin Dalin, Randy Davis, Dawn Francis, Annie Gallagher (phone),Kris Graves, Tracy Keninger, Kay Marcel, Harry Olmstead, Kathleen O’Leary, Mary Roberts, Len Sandler

**Taskforce members absent:** Ashlea Lantz, Bruce Teague, June Klein-Bacon

**State agencies:** Theresa Armstrong, MHDS;Connie Fanslow, MHDS; Terri Rosonoke. Iowa Finance Authority; Kim Barber; Iowa Dept. for the Blind (phone)

**Guests:** Shamus Taylor, UIHC Govt. Affairs; Katie Campbell, Inspections and Appeals; John McCalley (AmeriGroup)

**Staff:** Julie Christensen

1. **Review, Additional Items, and Approval of the Agenda**

Harry: Questioned why officer elections are happening before new nominees start in September.

Discussion:

* Article VI, Section 6.2 of bylaws states that officers are elected at the Annual Meeting.
* Article V, Section 5.1 of bylaws states that the July meeting is the Annual Meeting.

Harry moved to approve the agenda; Kathleen seconded.

Agenda approved.

1. **Review, Corrections and Approval of the Minutes of the May Meeting**

Kay: Please include page numbers on minutes moving forward; Noted change to May minutes on p. 7: Parents for Care 🡪 Parents for People.

Kay moved to accept the minutes as amended; Harry seconded.

Minutes approved.

1. **Appreciation of Service**

The Task Force recognizes those who have completed their terms and are rolling off the board: Roxanne Cogil, Kevin Dalin, Ashlea Lantz, and Bruce Teague. Thank you for your service.

Harry noted that Bruce will be staying on as the co-chair of the Medicaid Committee, but will not be a voting member.

1. **Taskforce Nominations and Officer Election**

1. Overview of 2016 Nominations Process – Mary Roberts, Nominations Committee Chair
   1. 19 applications were received
   2. Mary, Harry and Annie Gallagher reviewed the applications and developed a recommendation.
      1. The group (minus Mary, who abstained from this discussion) agreed that current board members applying for reelection, who are in good standing, should be allowed to continue to serve.
      2. Mary prepared and passed out a summary of the remaining eight nominees. The Committee aimed to ensure good geographical representation, and believes this recommendation represents a well-rounded slate of candidates.
2. Request for Approval of 2016 Nominees

Harry moved to accept the slate; Randy seconded

Motion passes (no nays, 1 abstention)

Slate included:

Alexandra Bomhoff (1-year term)

Paula Connelly

Mike Dierdorff

John Fitton

Dawn Francis

Sean Goedken-Abramowitz (1-year term)

Heather Hanzlick

Derek Laney

Mary Roberts

Renee Speh

Tracy asked about whether a new member orientation is planned.

Discussion:

* Dawn: Will be working with Julie on this. It is typically a full-day orientation in Iowa City.

ACTION ITEM:

* Dawn and Julie will meet to plan and schedule a new-member orientation

1. Officer Elections

Nominations:

* 1. Chair
     1. Mary nominated Kay (declined) and Harry (declined)
     2. Kris nominated Tracy (declined)
     3. Harry nominated Dawn (accepted)
  2. Vice Chair
     1. Mary nominated Harry (accepted)
  3. Secretary
     1. Kris (accepted)

Len moved to accept the slate; Kathleen seconded

Motion passed (no nays; Harry, Kris and Dawn abstained).

1. **Taskforce Committee Reports**
   1. Executive Committee Report – no report
   2. Medicaid Committee Report

The Committee met earlier this week and discussed several items. It was agreed that it would be beneficial to invite the Medicaid Director to a future meeting. Additionally, the committee acknowledges that meetings need to be scheduled with United Healthcare and Centene

Harry touched base w/ Jane Hudson re: Medicaid complaints and concerns. Jane is willing to come to the next meeting with her staff to provide a synopsis of what they are hearing and how they are responding.

ACTION ITEM:

* Harry will invite her to the September meeting

Kris asked to make sure she is included on the distribution list for this and the Olmstead Plan Committee

* 1. Olmstead Plan Committee Report – no report as the committee has not met. Dawn noted that the plan is now out and Committee will need to be pulled together in the Fall to look at the plan and think about next steps.
  2. Community Access Committee Report – no report as the committee has not met. Tracy noted that this Committee is in need of new members.
     1. Jenna and Kris volunteered to participate.
  3. General discussion

Roxanne asked if there is a master list of committee membership; Julie noted that there does not seem to be one, but she has been trying to piece this together through past meeting notes.

ACTION ITEM:

* Julie will coordinate with Committee Chairs to generate a list for the September meeting

*List is complete and sent via email to Task Force members.*

Len suggested getting a master calendar from State Agencies for planning purposes

ACTION ITEM:

* Julie to contact state agency reps to ask about things coming down the pike, major events, comment periods, etc.

Dawn shared an email forwarded by June – Veridian is trying to make the process for submitting budgets more streamlined for those on the Community Choice Option (Julie forwarded this to Task Force Members).

Mary noted that those on CCO are particularly at risk when negotiating services and supports with the MCOs. Mary noted that is known that there is a contradiction in Code, and DHS is working on a change to Administrative Rules consistent with the Code. Mary also noted that MCOs should not be able to require the use of natural supports, as these are not sustainable for a variety of reasons.

* Dawn asked if there is anyone at DHS that could come and speak more to this at the September meeting?
* Connie suggested Brian Wines.

ACTION ITEM:

* Julie to contact Brian.

Kay shared that on the MCO Watchdog Facebook page, there was a post about services being cut without appropriate justification. Jane Hudson from DRI replied and suggested that families and individuals contact DRI if this happens, and that they’ve had great success in resolving these situations. Kay also noted that the Task Force should help to get this word out.

Tracy noted that these situations could represent a breach of Olmstead. Tracy suggested that the Task Force needs to engage in gathering more detail on these situations and decide on a course of action.

Kevin noted that he is aware that some of the cases come back annually during reevaluation, and that there is a need for a more systemic approach.

Dawn suggested that Mary and Tracy meet with Jane to strategize and get input from DRI on some next steps, and then to draft something that the Task Force can send out on this topic. Randy stated that he would like to be part of this discussion.

ACTION ITEM:

* Mary will reach out to Jane to schedule a meeting.

Mary stated that there have been several cases where individuals requiring more than 7.5 hours of care have been told that they need to be removed from family home into a care facility.

Dawn shared that Exec Committee has been working on a letter to Director Foxhoven with comments on the current state of Iowa’s human services. However, Dawn realized the letter has not been sent in yet. Dawn read the current draft of the letter to the group.

ACTION ITEMS:

* Dawn will send the letter to Director Foxhoven and Iowa Council on Human Services
* Dawn will also forward the final letter to the Task Force members
* Len will make a list of Committees that the letter should receive the letter (will forward to Julie)
* Dawn will forward the letter via her Iowa Legislature distribution list

Kathleen noted that the letter will need to be resent after the election as well, to get to new incoming members.

1. **DHS Update** – Theresa Armstrong

MHDS Updates:

Complex Service Needs legislation – The rules that need to be put into place related to core services in the regions, and outline access and implementation guidance, are going to the MHDS Commission next week per process. The official notice of rules will go in the August 15 bulletin, and the public comment period will open at that time. MHDS is estimated that the rules will be effective on January 1.

The Tertiary Care Workgroup will look at the role & responsibility of the tertiary care hospitals. The first meeting is scheduled on July 30, and will be chaired by DHS and Inspections and Appeals.

The Mental Health and Substance Disorders Commitment Workgroup– IDPH (Kathy Stone) and DHS (Rick Shults) are chairing this. This workgroup will be looking at court-ordered care needs. The first meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 17.

Theresa noted that both Workgroups will need to submit formal supports to the legislature.

The Children’s Mental Health System State Board members have been announced. DHS is targeting the end of August for the first meeting. The Board will be co-Chaired by Dir. Foxhoven (DHS) and Dir. Wise (DOE); DHS will be staffing this Board.

MHDS Regions –

Green County was part of Heart of Iowa, but is now part of Central Iowa Community Services Region, effective July 1.

Sioux Rivers Region – The three counties are operating as a 3-county region. Woodbury County has been accepted to join the Rolling Hills Region starting July 2019 and Plymouth and Sioux Counties, and are in initial discussions and planning of what things could look like moving forward.

County Social Services Region – There is legislation, good for 1 year, that allows some counties to form a new region with very specific requirements. No decisions have been made yet about which way the counties will go.

Len: Wondered whether there is a link with updates on the specific notifications on workgroups and regional updates.

ACTION ITEM: Theresa will send links to Julie; Julie will forward.

Harry: is there any startup money now to get the Children’s Mental Health work moving?

Theresa: $300k appropriated for this; and DHS is contracting on the work.

1. **Managed Care Discussion – Value Based Contracting**

John McCalley shared AmeriGroup’s perspective on this topic. His disclaimer is that he is speaking on behalf of only AmeriGroup within the context of managed care, and he does not speak on behalf of IME, DHS or the other MCOs.

John noted that Value-Based Purchasing is sometimes called Value-Based Contracting.

Managed care is not new; it was introduced into the Medicare program during the Clinton Administration. The vision was to take a population health approach to managing the Medicare program, with the goal of increasing health outcomes without overutilization of ER and other services. For Medicaid managed care, the goal is the same.

Mary: Asked for an example of overutilization

John: An example is someone with a cold going to the ER.

Value-Based Contracting is required with certain sets of providers, primarily acute care providers.

There are several phases:

* In fee-for-service there is no incentive for providers to work on overutilization
* Modified fee-for-service which includes quality incentives between payer and provider
* Shared risk arrangement where rates are paid to providers based on rate cells established by IME and passed through the MCOs.
  + Mercy and Unity Point are adept at this, but it will take some time to build a shared-risk system across the state.

Dawn: Asked if AmeriGroup considers assistive living as a community-based option.

* John: Per Iowa code, assistive living is not considered a facility. Medicaid members may access waiver services while in assistive living.
* Dawn noted the waiting list as a barrier.
  + John: The Majority of people in assistive living are on the elderly waiver, and there is no waiting list for services on that waiver.

Dawn: Brought up the concern that there is a group of people who have significant disability issues but are not eligible yet for the elderly waiver. They do not need a nursing home, but they are not able to access the assisted living system. As a result, they are repeatedly utilizing the ER for services. What do we do with this population that is falling through the gaps?

* John: Agreed that this is a gap in the service system in Iowa. Medicaid could pay for assistive living if the code in Iowa was set up that way.
* Dawn: Noted that this is an area that the Task Force can advocate for.
* Kay: Noted that, in Louisiana, the powerful nursing home lobby is preventing this from happening there. She notes she is not sure how this plays out in Iowa.
* Terri: Iowa Finance Authority had a demonstration program aimed to develop affordable assistive living options. A number of properties were constructed, but IFA is seeing that these properties are not making it and are decertifying. Services providers are not willing to touch assistive living.

At the Human Resources Council Meeting this past week, it was reported that only 1% of revenue in assistive living comes from Medicaid. This shows how reliant the system is on private pay.

Value-based contracting is about incentivizing quality. Engaging providers with a partnership desired around quality performance metrics and improved healthcare outcomes for members.

AmeriGroup will also continue to look for opportunities to incentivize LTSS and HCBS services. John also noted that enhanced case management is critical.

Roxanne: Wondered about the connection with CDD’s Medicaid data analysis project that is looking that the primary reasons that the IDD population in Iowa utilizes the ER.

* John: This data would be very helpful to look at and have conversations about internally.

Tracy: Moved to empower Dawn and Tracy to meet with the assisted living association in follow up to this conversation; Kathleen seconded.

Motion passed (no nays or abstentions).

1. **Gubernatorial Candidates** **Questionnaire on Disability and Aging Issues**

The group would like to gather questions to send to the gubernatorial candidates and ask for a written response that will be made available publicly.

Kathleen has asked that the questionnaire go to all candidates, and not just the governor. Harry is concerned that this would be a very large task and is not sure the Task Force has capacity to do this.

Harry shared that the Sioux City IL is also working on something similar, and there is a desire to connect and ensure there is no duplication.

ACTION ITEM:

Dawn to make connection w/ Sioux City IL

Len: We need to ask incumbents different questions than new candidates because they already have a record. For example, asking who is the identified disability advisor? It is also important to look at the voting record.

Kay: Asked what the timeline is for this.

Harry: The goal is to get the questionnaires out by mid-August.

Kathleen: We should ask the four Federal House candidates about support for Money Follows the Person and the Community Integration Act and their support for these.

Harry: Is the Committee empowered to finalize and send out the questionnaire?

Dawn: Send final draft to the Executive Committee for a second look.

Len: Can this go to all the Task Force Members?

ACTION ITEMS:

Committee to finalize and send a draft to the full Task Force, and secure Executive Committee approval prior to sending out.

1. **State Agency Reports**

**Terri Rosonoke, Iowa Housing Authority –**

In follow up to the HCBS rent subsidy issue that was discussed last month – IFA approved one of the waivers (the second waiver was withdrawn – the family did not own the home directly, as they had set up an LLC); IFA is revising the Admin Rules for that program (NOIA went out this week) to better define the language and delete immediate family members. There will be a public comment period for this; anticipating late November for the rule to be in effect.

Tracy: Expressed gratitude to Terri for bringing the issue to the Task Force and listening to recommendations, and then acting on it in a way that focused on improving services. This is the model for how the Task Force aims to operate.

HCBS rent subsidy waiting list is down by about 20, and anticipates this to continue to drop. Noted that most on the waiting list have been on it for about a year, and there are issues with multiple case managers and difficulty in tracking the individual down. The group discussed several possible strategies for tracking down addresses. Len suggested that IFA include a release on the application to allow IFA to do this.

The draft of the 2019 Qualified Allocation Plan under the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program was approved by the Board on July 11. The only change related to Olmstead is that multilevel properties are required to be accessible on all floors and in all rooms. The plan is available for public comment until August 21.

Accessible parking has been an ongoing issue. State building code requires an accessible parking space for every tenant who has a disability. There are issues with this because you can’t ask someone if you have a disability, and builders don’t know what to expect when they are building a property. This is largely not being enforced.

Kay: Where does one look or find out about available Section 8 housing options?

Terri: Project-based Section 8 (tied to the apartment) is administered by IFA/HUD; other Section 8 housing choice are administered by local housing authorities.

Harry: Do landlords have to accept Section 8 voucher?

Terri: No, although cities can decide to make this the case.

Len: Would like this topic to be on the agenda for a future meeting.

Mary: DM Register recently reported that people earning minimum wage cannot afford housing in this area.

Terri: Iowa is a lower cost housing state, but is also a low wage state.

Housing Iowa Conference is coming up. IFA has historically offered financial assistance with registration for Task Force members.

ACTION ITEM:

* Terri to send conference info to Julie; Julie to send out to the Task Force

*Link to conference information:* [*https://www.housingiowaconference.com/agenda/*](https://www.housingiowaconference.com/agenda/)

**Connie Fanslow, MHDS –**

The Olmstead plan is available on the website. There should be a link from the DHS homepage.

ACTION ITEM:

* Julie to get the link out to the Task Force.

*Link to Olmstead plan:* [*https://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/MHDS-Olmstead-Framework-2018.pdf*](https://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/MHDS-Olmstead-Framework-2018.pdf)

Connie is currently working on the first annual report. This is complicated because each group gathers and reports data on different

1. **Taskforce Member Reports**

None

1. **Public Comment**

**Heather Strachan, NAMI Iowa, Director of Consumer Affairs**

Peggy Hubbard will be on the Children’s Mental Health Workgroup and other workgroups that Theresa mentioned earlier.

Dawn announced that **Brooke Lovelace** is now the new **Director of the Developmental Disabilities Council**.

1. **Adjournment**

Adjourned at 2pm.

***Next Meeting: Friday, September 14, 2018 10am-3pm***