**Olmstead Consumer Taskforce**

**January 13, 2023**

**This meeting was held via Zoom.**

10:00          **Welcome and Introductions**

Members present: Harriet Gulbranson, Lisa Pakkebier, Greg Fier, Melinda Haley, Michael Martin, Jessica Williams, Brittney Montross, Mari Brown, Joel Vander Molen, Jen Simmering, Megz Stroback, Amy Desenberg-Wines, Greg Fier, Paula Connolly, Garret Frey, Michelle Allmandinger

Others present: Kim Walford, Sandi Hurtado-Peters, Devon McClurken, Sara Knox, Amy Robasse, Joey Wesselink, Brooke Lovelace, Terri Rosonke, Morgan Casey, Jess Kreho, Connie Fanselow, Pam Rupprecht, Jean Ohlen

Staff support: Anne Crotty

10:10         **Review, Additional Items, and Approval of the Agenda**

Harriet motioned to accept the agenda, with the addition of Jess Kreho to discuss the video that Iowa APSE created. Paula seconded. No nays or abstentions. Motion passed.

10:15        **Review, Corrections and Approval of the November minutes**

Melinda motioned to approve the minutes. Mari seconded. No nays or abstentions. Motion passed.

11:00 **State Agency Updates**

* **Iowa Finance Authority –** The Iowa Finance Authority continues to administer the Homeowner Assistance Fund to help prevent foreclosures. Additional rental assistance is available. You can find the link to the Homeowner Assistance Fund on the www.iowahousingrecovery.com web page. IFA is collaborating with MFP to assist with residents transitioning to the community. IFA does not expect the reorganization of state agencies to impact them.
* **Iowa Department of the Blind** – There were 321 individuals served through the Older Blind Program, which prevents people from needing to move to a nursing home.
* **DHS Updates – Connie Fanselow**
* See emailed attachment

12:00 **Continued Discussion of Legislative Priorities**

* The DD Council has funding to offer grants to individuals to support capitol advocacy. Amy Desenberg-Wines offered to coordinate applying for one of these grants when it is appropriate.
* Amy and Jess Kreho shared that Iowa APSE is doing legislative outreach regarding the [Liberty and Justice for All](https://iowaapse.org/2023/01/10/video-release-liberty-and-justice-for-all/) video on the Department of Justice Consent Decree and Report.
* The OCTF will partner with other disability organizations to have a disability advocacy day on January 23, 2024.

12:30 Jess Kreho spoke about the Liberty and Justice for all video that Iowa APSE created, which shares information about the Department of Justice Consent Decree and Report. They are considering doing a small postcard with a QR code with more information. Jess will discuss with the Iowa APSE board.

12:50 Chair and Vice Chair Roles

 Lisa explained that her term as Chairperson is up in September and invited members to consider taking the role of Chair or Vice Chair. She also summarized proposed changes to the OCTF bylaws.

1:00 **Taskforce Committee Reports**

* 1. Executive Committee Report
* The Executive Committee reviewed the bylaws and the committee will vote on it at a future meeting.
* Director Garcia will be invited to attend and speak at least two OCTF meetings. We will provide dates of the meetings to her office and ask which are convenient to her.
	1. Nominations Committee Report – Marc Hines
* There is one open member slot on the Nominations Committee and the committee is meeting soon to select a new member. Paula and Amy asked to join the Nominations Committee.
	1. Olmstead Plan Committee Report – Mari Reynolds
* Mari and Paula suggested meeting to review the Health and Human Services data dashboard.
1. Community Access Committee Report – Jen Simmering

- The CAC continued their discussion about writing a letter to the Iowa State Fair to improve accessibility. Paula shared that communities may have funding to improve accessibility of parks and recreation spaces.

E. Medicaid Committee Report – Paula Connolly

* Paula believes that there will be more to meet on once there is more information about changes to the HCBS waivers.

**1:00 Taskforce Member Reports**

* The ARC of Iowa was invited to do a segment on a community radio station, titled I Am Able. It is live on the KHOI radio station on the first and last Saturday of each month at 9:00 am. Email paula50266@gmail.com with any ideas for future programs.
* Amy Desenberg-Wines is part of a workgroup on digital access and equity. This includes access to wi-fi, access to devices, and support for training or technical assistance on how to use technology. Amy will continue to share information.

**1:30 Public Comment** – No public comment

1:30      **Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 12:39 pm