**Olmstead Consumer Taskforce**

**July 8, 2022**

**This meeting was held via Zoom due to COVID-19.**

10:00          **Welcome and Introductions**

Members present: Jessica Johanns, Jessica Williams, Lisa Pakkebier, Harriet Gulbranson, Marc Hines, Paula Connolly, Melinda Haley, Joel Vander Molen, Mari Reynolds, Megz Stroback, Jen Simmering, Amber Alaniz, Brittney Montross, Michael Martin

Others present: Connie Fanselow, Michele Baugaun, Brooke Lovelace, Pam Rupprect, Sara Knox, Amy Desenberg Wines, Kim Walford, Morgan Casey, June Klein Bacon, John McCalley, Lisa Schneider, Terri Rosonke, Brian Wines

Staff support: Anne Crotty

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

Paula motioned to accept the agenda. Megz seconded. No nays or abstentions. Motion passed.

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

Harriet motioned to approve the minutes. Greg seconded. Motion passed. No nays or abstentions.

11:00 **State Agency Updates**

* **Iowa Housing Authority**

The final deadline for applying for the Iowa Rent and Utility Assistance program is September 30. IHA will pivot funds for this project to pilot projects on topics such as refugee resettlement and rapid rehousing.

* **Iowa Department of Aging**

One main priority from previous Legislative Session was to increase funding for the Office of Public Guardian and they plan to continue the effort into the next legislative session. They continue to look at creative strategies to grow this office to meet needs throughout Iowa. A new law was signed that increased penalties for elder and dependent adult abuse.

* **DHS Updates – Connie Fanselow**
* See emailed attachment

**Discussion:** The Olmstead Plan Committee will review the DOJ Report and it will remain as a standing agenda item. Connie suggested contacting Kelly Kennedy Garcia request more direct involvement in decision-making. Mari notes that we need to determine what data is easy to obtain so that we can have data on a regular, ongoing basis. Connie explained that there is no requirement to have an Olmstead plan, but it is a recommended practice. The data they have is often not available in a meaningful form or may not be representative.

12:30 **Presentation from Brian Wines and Michele Baughan**

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

OCTF continued to support three priorities:

* Increasing reimbursement to direct service providers
* Reform of the HCBS waivers
* Continued authorization of telehealth.

1:00 **Taskforce Committee Reports**

* 1. Executive Committee Report
* The Executive Committee is reviewing the bylaws and discussing possibly switching the large group OCTF meetings to a different day, with the hope of being more convenient for members and state agency representatives.
  1. Nominations Committee Report – Marc Hines
* The Nominations Committee is reviewing 11 applications to fill 3 open positions.
  1. Olmstead Plan Committee Report – Open
* No report

1. Community Access Committee Report – Jen Simmering

* The CAC committee received a response from Dir. Garcia and Liz Matney regarding their request for more information about coverage of telehealth services after the public health emergency ends.

E. Medicaid Committee Report – Paula Connolly

* No report

**1:00 Taskforce Member Reports**

* Greg Fier mentioned that Iowa Department of Aging may have up to $5 million in funding for home modification assistance and will provide more details at a later date.

**1:30 Public Comment**

* No public comment

1:30      **Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 2:05 pm.