**Olmstead Consumer Taskforce**

**November 12, 2021**

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

10:00          **Welcome and Introductions**

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

Others present: Dawn Francis, Caitlin Owens, Morgan Casey, Katrina Carter, Char Jones, Kim Barber, Bill Kallestead, Connie Fanselow, Jfur Erixon, Terri Rosonke

Staff support: Anne Crotty

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

Michael motioned to accept the agenda. Brittney seconded. No nays or abstentions. Motion passed.

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

Michael motioned to approve the minutes. Joel seconded. Motion passed. No nays or abstentions.

10:30 **State Agency Updates**

* **DHS Updates – Connie Fanselow**
* See emailed attachment
* **Iowa Finance Authority – Terri Rosonke**
* Terri explained that the Iowa Homeowner Foreclosure Program is available to people who have had a financial hardship due to COVID 19 and fallen behind on their mortgage. The maximum that an individual can receive assistance for is now $10,000 and it will and will operate through December 2021.

11:15 **Olmstead Plan – Connie Fanselow**

* MHDS is considering switching from the Individual Personal Experience Survey to the National Core Indicators. This switch would allow the collection of data from not only individuals served, but also caregivers and others. It would also allow comparison and learning from other states. Iowa Medicaid Enterprise will determine whether to switch to this program. Connie will keep the taskforce informed on opportunities to advocate for adoption of the National Core Indicators program and to brainstorm ways to use data, if adopted.
* Connie asked taskforce to look at each of the 9 areas and some ideas on the most important factors to consider.

1:00 **Taskforce Committee Reports**

* 1. Executive Committee Report
* The Chair, Vice-Chair, and staff support person are working on defining the roles of Executive Committee members and identifying any additional training needed to effectively serve in their roles.
  1. Nominations Committee Report – Marc Hines
* Mari shared the results of the Nominations Committee’s survey of OCTF members advocacy priorities
  1. Olmstead Plan Committee Report – Kris Graves
* No report
  1. Community Access Committee Report – Jen Simmering
* Jen asked if it is possible to get information on the general locations of people that receive Centers on Independent Living services.

E. Medicaid Committee Report – Paula Connolly, Kris Graves

* The committee did not meet, however Paula noted that the Better Care, Better Jobs Act proposes that states must submit a plan for community living, though the amount of funding has been reduced.

**1:00 Taskforce Member Reports**

* Mari noted that the State Vocational Rehabilitation Council is looking for new members. Applicants must apply through Governor Reynolds office. Information was sent via email.
* Mari noted that Iowa Department of Education is determining the indicators that they will use for the State Performance Plan. They are hosting sessions with educators and families to explain this process and gather input.
* Paula provided an update on the lawsuit that the Arc of Iowa and the American Civil Liberties Union filed on behalf of parents of children with disabilities and mask mandates in public schools. A federal court confirmed on October 8 that Iowa cannot enforce the state’s ban on mask mandates in public schools.

**1:30 Public Comment**

* Bill Kallestead from the DD Council explained that they are currently formulating legislative priorities. Workforce, waiting lists, and making sure that people with disabilities are on committees, councils and other decision‑making bodies.

1:30      **Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 1:45.