

AUTISM PILOT PROGRAM - DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES, January 30, 2008

PRESENT: Cathy Adamczyk, Jennifer Carroll, Tom Coakley, Ruth Eren, Jan Galloway, Chera Gerstein, Ann Gionet, Jacqueline Kelleher, David-Daniel Klipper, co chairman; James Loomis, Sara Lourie, Sara Reed, Lois Rosenwald, co chairman; Stan Soby, Tricia Winter, Larry Wood, Robin Wood, Kathy Reddington, Autism Coordinator

ABSENT: Maggie Casciato, Judy Dowd, Roger Frant, Nikki Richer, Jane Thierfeld-Brown

Attendance and introductions were made.

Edits for Bylaws

Discussion on bylaws on whether or not to have an executive committee and empowering them to act for the Advisory Council in circumstances that the council can not all meet at a moment's notice. It was proposed that the Executive Council assumes management of the advisory council during times of immediate need. Example of Circumstance: If in an instance came up to make a response within 24 hours, they could convene and make a last minute decision.

The council can call Executive Session where the public is not allowed. Reasons for calling executive session: personnel matters and legal matters. Discusses Freedom of Information. Becky will find out the guidelines for the FOI. Guidelines will be distributed at next meeting.

Membership Discussion.

The advisory council needs full representation from state agencies. Absenteeism: 50% unexcused absenteeism of meetings will cause membership to be revoked. The council will listen to discussion of absenteeism as needed.

Attendance will be taken at each meeting. Members would like to see a healthy commitment on everyone's part.

Public comment may become something for a future agenda item. The advisory council may need to make a determination on time limits for public participation in future meetings.

The bylaws were accepted as amended with no opposition. D. Klipper will send out the amended bylaws.

Membership

All persons on the list below have been grandfathered in.

Co-Chairman Klipper has proposed that the terms of participation be staggered as follows:

**Executive Committee of the Independent Advisory Council
Term of Service**

Roger Frant	2 yrs.	Sara Reed	2 yrs.	Tricia Winter	1 yr.
David Daniel Klipper	2 yrs.	Lois Rosenwald	1 yr.		

Independent Advisory Council the Autism Adult Program

Member	Year(s)	Member	Length of Term In Years
Cathy Adamczyk	2	James Loomis	2
Jennifer Carroll	1	Sara Lourie	1
Maggie Casciato	2	Sara Reed	2
Tom Coakley	1	Kathy Reddington	1

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Laura Digalbo	2	Nikki Richer	1
Judy Dowd	1	Lois Rosenwald	1
Ruth Eren	2	Jonathan Ross	1
Roger Frant	2	Stan Soby	2
Jan Galloway	1	Jane Thierfeld-Brown	1
Chera Gerstein	2	Tricia Winter	1
Ann Gionet	1	Robin Wood	2
Jacqueline Kelleher	1	Larry Wood	1
David Daniel Klipper	2		

Official Act: Appreciation was expressed to Kathy Redding for her stewardship in her past efforts of leading the Steering Committee.

Jonathan Ross was introduced as a new member to the council. Lois discussed additional members who were interested in participating in the group.

Geographic location of members was discussed. . Eastern part of the state is not represented... Ann said that a new grant will be submitted on Friday to address transition during the gap between leaving the pediatric community and entering the adult one.

Edits were made to the advisory council application form.

Motion was made to send applications to: Jennifer Ureto, Representative Catherine Abercrombie, Lucas at Focus, and Mary Franco.

Motion agreed to without opposition and seconded. Motion passed.

Areas of Focus of the Advisory Council

While DMR changed its name to Department of Developmental Services: No additional funding has been provided. The group needs to think through what they want to focus on. Co-Chair Klipper's hope is that at some point there will be a few areas of focus and persons can participate in subcommittees to do detail work. These subcommittees will report back to the governing body.

FOCUS AREAS (Not In Priority Order)

1. Focus on Pilot – Standing
2. Provider Development/Training
3. Medicaid Waiver
4. Insurance

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- 5. Federal Definition of Developmental Disabilities
- 6. Social Security Assistance
- 7. Data Availability
- 8. Outreach Transition

Other Business

Upcoming meetings were established for 2008:

March 12, 2008

May 7, 2008 **(Please note date change)**

July 16, 2008

September 17, 2008

November 19, 2008

All meetings are scheduled for 370 James Street Location at 9:00 a.m.

Towns in the Pilot Program:

Ansonia	Clinton	Hamden	Middletown	Orange	Westbrook
Beacon Falls	Derby	Killingworth	Milford	Oxford	West Haven
Bethany	Durham	Madison	New Haven	Seymour	Woodbridge
Branford	East Haven	Meriden	North Branford	Shelton	
Cheshire	Guilford	Middlefield	North Haven	Wallingford	

Towns in the Control Group

Avon	Farmington	Newington	West Hartford
Berlin	Glastonbury	Plainville	Wethersfield
Bloomfield	Hartford	Rocky Hill	Windsor
East Hartford	Manchester	Simsbury	
Enfield	New Britain	South Windsor	

Report from the Division of Autism Spectrum Services

- Funding for control group was discussed. Hopefully by the Fall individuals in the control group will be receiving services.
- Kathy announced the art show and handed out flyers. It will be held on 2/7/08
- Orientation Level I Training DVD has been completed.
- The Division of Autism Spectrum services hired a consultant to write feasibility study and develop the application for Medicaid services.
- The Pennsylvania Bureau of Autism will be holding their policy conference this year in April.
- We are encouraging families to apply for Medicaid. If we are going to have a waiver they need to get on.
- Several participants have started in new jobs.

Co-Chair Klipper made a motion to adjourn the meeting. No opposition. Motion was seconded.

Meeting ended at 12:00 p.m. on 1/30/08.