

CONNECTICUT FAMILY SUPPORT COUNCIL



Meeting Place: A. J. Pappanikou Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities
University of Connecticut Health Center

Notes

Present: Robyn Trowbridge, Co-Chair, Lisa Sheppard, Co-Chair, Kathy Bradley, April Dipollina, Cathy Adamczyk,

Phone: None

Guests: None

Call to Order- Robyn Trowbridge, Co-Chair, Lisa Sheppard Co-Chair

Approval of December Minutes

There was not a quorum present; approval of the Minutes will take place on the Feb. 10th Council Mtg.

Council Operational Issues

As there was not a quorum present, the meeting turned into a work group for the Legislative Agenda and the Legislative Breakfast.

Discussion

Discussion about the legislative issues involving the following items was brought up and that we would also wait until documentation from the Long Term Healthcare Committee meeting that was being attended today could be circulated to the membership for further review.

- Long Term Care Advisory Council and new legislation was discussed.
- Developmental Disability Resource Centers in each region.
- TAX CREDIT both a federal and state tax credit for families with children who have disabilities, it would be based on level of need (LON) and criteria would be broken down by disability as a solution to significant budget cuts which could save various agencies long term costs.
- Governor Malloy's Platform: April brought a copy of his disability platform taken from the November-December Issue of CT Disability Advocacy Collaborative Bulletin and shared that he spoke often about a safety net. We need to obtain clarification as to what the Governor means by "Safety Net". We felt that the Council as a larger group needs to establish itself as a body that can help provide ideas to assist the various agencies in developing solutions in this time of change. It was suggested that it may be beneficial for the Council to identify and highlight

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children who have made substantial gains and whose intervention based services were initiated through Early Intervention and with the benefit of Equity of Service.

Those present felt it advisable to discuss this further within the larger Council membership in terms of what the services are that work best and what services support children to get to their maximum potential. This will be brought up at the next Council meeting for further discussion.

The Governor's Welcome Letter, written by the Council's Executive Committee, was reviewed and two typographical errors were noted and corrected. In light of the preliminary dialog that occurred at the Council's December 2010 meeting, there was discussion regarding the anticipated modifications to Council Bi-laws specific to Executive Committee correspondence. To date, no changes have been made to the Council's Bi-laws and the letter to the Governor has been submitted to the full Council for review. Council Co-Chairs have received positive feedback from numerous Council members along with a few suggestions for minor changes. Most changes were integrated within the letter and the letter will be sent to Governor Malloy.

Legislative Breakfast: A Sub-Committee was formed and Cathy and April offered to be on the committee and it is expected that other Council members will serve on this committee as well. The Committee chair will contact the membership for assistance with the Legislative Breakfast. Council Co-Chairs will be requesting a March 2011 date for the Breakfast to be held and contact has been made with the Network regarding the identification of parent speakers for this event.

April suggested that maintaining continuity of format within the Parent speeches may assist in providing a greater impact on Legislators relative to our message. Tesha has also expressed interest in serving on this Committee.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:30

Recorded by Lisa Sheppard, January 20, 2010