

FAMILY SUPPORT COUNCIL
Family Support Workgroup meeting
January 22, 2009
Draft

Date: 1/22/09

Place: Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI)

Time: 9:45a.m. –10:36 a.m.

Recorder: Chris Sloss (Respectfully submitted 1/28/09)

Attendees: Laura Knapp, April Dipollina, Mona Tremblay (Chris Sloss & Alice Buttwell via conference call)

Administrative

- Chris to e-mail outline for family stories
- Create List of acronyms to go on page one of our notebook (Chris has started to compile this information)

Family Needs/Cultural Outreach/General Information

The long term goals of creating a guidebook, addressing workforce issues and cultural outreach was tabled for further development after the legislative breakfast in March. Short term focus will turn attention toward making the legislative breakfast as successful as possible. Attention will be given to three priorities: Budget Cuts, Catastrophic Relief, and Respite.

Priority #1 - Do Not Cut

Adult Transition Services – Mona knows of a potential class to speak collectively about how important these service dollars are to them.

The Institute –In some rare cases institutions are more cost effective than private. Families need options –not to be forced into one size fits all.

- Need Visuals (Don't Close Where I Live)
- Need family stories to support this

The Autism Pilot – Update (Thanks Mona)

- The Autism Pilot has been put into the DDS Budget Proposal for continued funding.
- Population served will continue to be young adults who do NOT qualify for regular DDS
- Hartford and New Haven are the areas slated to be served
- The Pilot could possibly extend as far as Manchester or Vernon, but not right in NE CT. The reason NE CT will continue to be "unserved," is strictly due to the constraints of one case manager in the Pilot, being responsible for all these cases

In-Home Supports

- The Long Term Care Committee had a report with dollar figures outlining cost effectiveness of keeping folks at home –vs- facilities.
- April's letter supporting in-home supports. We don't want to go backward.
- Mona's letter
- Laura's letter
- Deirdre M. testimony
- Dillon F. story
- Anyone who has a DDS Community based waiver can speak to this issue.
- We need visuals for video presentation

Priority #2 – Catastrophic Relief Fund

- April may have a family to tell a story relative to this
- Chris may have a family story as well (Watertown family)
- We need more stories

Priority #3 – Respite

We want to support the Respite Bill # HB 5120

We are gathering information regarding the availability of federal funds relative to this. This is how we would like to suggest we close the breakfast.