

**DSS Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council (ASDAC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**December 8, 2021**  
**(Virtual Meeting)**

**Members Present:** Jennifer Abatemarco, Representative Cathy Abercrombie, Stephen Byers, Judy Dowd, Amy Dumont, Marcia Eckerd, Ann Gionet, Koleen Kerski, Bryan Klimkiewicz, Julie McKenna representing Mickey Kramer, Jim Loomis, Kathy Marchione, Jimnahs Miller, Tammy Venenga, Donyale Pina, Lynn Ricci, Lois Rosenwald, Kari Sassu, Doriana Vicedomini

**Members Absent:** Jill Caron, Melissa Gagne, Andrew Komarow, Yana Razumnaya, Carole Ryan-Hanlon, Julie Wolf

**Others:** Jennifer Krom

**Call to Order: 10:02am**

**Welcome and Roll Call**

**Motion to approve September 15, 2021 Meeting Minutes was approved by Doriana Vicedomini and Lynn Ricci**

**Reviewal of 2022 Meeting Minutes:** Lisa Bonetti will send out meeting dates for review

**State Plan Update by Jennifer Krom**

- ASD Medicaid Open Authorizations as of 11/1/2021
- ASD Medicaid Youth monthly Admissions as of 11/1/2021 Report – Total Unique Youth Admitted to ASD Service Type by Age at Admit
- ASD Medicaid Youth Demographics
- ASD Provider Enrollment - 602 individual providers, 159 unique practices (individuals or groups) have enrolled in Medicaid to provide ASD services, 681 providers are able to provide ASD Treatment services. Steady increase in enrollment.
- ASD Care Coordination and Peer Specialist Activity – Ongoing Peer and Care-Coordination Activities. Total count of Unique Youth by Connecting to Services Reason
  - Awaiting Services/working with a Clinical Care Manager
  - Identifying Appropriate Provider – 44 Non-DCF, 11 DCF

- Referred to Provider – 31 Non-DCF, 3 DCF
- Care Coordination in Preparation for Connection to Care
  - Family Gathering Documentation – 114 Non-DCF, 5 DCF
  - Receiving Services – 12 Non-DCF, 3 DCF
  - Needs ADE – 13 Non-DCF
  - Pending Discharge from HLOC – 5 Non-DCF, 3 DCF
  - Specialty Provider Request – 2 Non-DCF, 2 DCF
- Services Place on Hold Due to COVID 19 – 1 DCF
- ASD Members Without Active Authorizations Per DCF Region – map of breakdown
- Wait times varies depending on regions. Averages 1-3 months

### **Waiver Updates**

- 134 individuals currently receiving services
- 1943 individuals currently on the waitlist for services
- Legislatively 50 additional slots were approved to come off the waitlist
- 2 Case Manager positions were posted with closing date of 12/20/2021.
- 3 current Case Managers currently average 43 clients each
- The 50 individuals have been identified (applications from 2012) but process will be lengthy. To be eligible for the waiver, individuals must be active, eligible, and pending Medicaid.
- Amy discussed application process and plan for 2 new position
- Autism Waiver is due for renewal in April of 2023. Amy would like to send out a survey to the ASDAC to gain feedback and input on services that would support our individuals best.
- Amy and Shelly Maynes have been having many discussions the waiver and OPM is supportive in this growth process.
- Representative Abercrombie discussed her concerns and explained that the process needs to be changed; it's not the specific agencies. Suggestion made to remove Amy as a co-chair of this Council as the agencies do not have the power to make the changes. Making a co-chair someone who is part of this body, DSS would be responsible of having a liaison to this board. This may be an opportunity to further the agenda.
- Amy will add make-up of chair structure to the survey
- Concern of Feasibility monies not being spent was discussed

### **Other Business**

- Housing Committee will reconvene
- Feasibility update

- Representative Abercrombie suggested bringing in temporary workers due to DSS staffing shortages to assist with contract backlog. Judy Dowd will look into this.
- Discussions of changing ASDAC Meeting times to begin at 9:00am. This will be added to survey Amy requested suggestions for topics for upcoming ASDAC Meetings
- Suggestion to look at capacity in CT – providers. How to get people trained and up to speed in this area. Workforce development
- Bryan Klimkiewicz provided update

**To Do:**

- Feasibility monies update
- Amy will send out survey requesting input for waiver
- Reconvene Housing Committee for January
- Standard agenda items will include housing, feasibility update and provider issues

**Adjournment:** 11:56am

Next Meeting: January 19, 2022