

DSS Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council (ASDAC)
Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2022
(Virtual Meeting)

Members Present: Jennifer Abbatemarco, Representative Catherine Abercrombie, Stephen Byers, Judy Dowd, Amy Dumont, Marcia Eckerd, Ann Gionet, Koleen Kerski, Bryan Klimkiewicz, Andrew Komarow, Jim Loomis, Kathy Marchione, Julie McKenna, Jimnahs Miller, Krista Ostaszewski, Donyale Pina, Yana Razumnaya, Lynn Ricci, Lois Rosenwald, Carole Ryan-Hanlon, Kari Sassu, Doriana Vicedomini, Julie Wolf

Members Absent: Jill Caron, Melissa Gagne

Others: Jennifer Cavallaro, Shelly Maynes

Call to Order: 10:02am

Welcome and Roll Call

Approval of 3/16/2022 Meeting Minutes

Public Comments

- Eileen

Lynn Ricci discussed comments

- Concerns regarding the tone and tenor of the meetings
- Collaborative approach is needed to get more accomplished

Waiver Updates

- 1,967 individuals on the waitlist
- 46 of the 50 allotted slots were filled. Some individuals denied services
- Will be looking to hire 5 Case Managers, Alison Hummel will be retiring June 31, 2022
- Will be posting open positions in June
- Michael Olesen was promoted to Case Manager Supervisor
- June 31, 2022, Cathleen Calway, Resource Specialist will be retiring
- Onboarded 4 new providers. Clifford Beers will be added to Provider list
- Working more collaboratively with CCSN with their clinical expertise

Tri-Chair Discussion with Representative Abercrombie

- Legislation was passed removing DSS as a ASDAC Co-Chair
- Liaison from DSS will become a new member of the Council
- Agenda will need to be prepared one month in advance
- ASDAC has been at a standstill for the past year
- May want to come back with an Executive Committee for the Council to decide on subject matters for meetings
- Opportunity to reconstruct Council
- Council meetings will continue to be held virtually and will be held open to the public. Representative Abercrombie will look into this system
- Structure of Council needs to be prepared and put into place
- New Chairs per committee vote are Yana Razumnaya, Jimnahs Miller and Cathy Abercrombie

Agenda items for July Meeting

- Housing Committee meeting update – Chair bringing back information to Council
 - Interagency Committee works on housing, representative from DSS to work with Housing Sub-Committee. Amy James will represent the department. Amy James and Jimnahs can report out from meeting.
 - Krista from DSS can provide update to Council
- Center for Excellence Update
- Waiver Update
- State Plan Update by Jennifer Krom
- Dollars/Spending Update
- Neurodiversity discussion to be added to agenda in the Fall
- Safety Net/Emergency process for Individuals on the Waiver to be added to future agenda
- Renewal of Waiver
- Beacon Health Options should be a standing item on the ASDAC Meetings
- Review of ASDAC Members and Vacancies

New Business

- Zoom will be the new format beginning in July and ASDAC Meetings will be streamed live on YouTube
- Agenda items will be prepared one month before next meeting

To Do:

- Lisa to send out by-laws and make-up of Council and Member List

Adjournment: 12:00pm

Next Meeting: July 20, 2022