

DSS Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council (ASDAC)
Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2023
(Virtual Meeting)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83444846579?pwd=cy96dndWOFEl1aFBwY3BPM01VcE54UT09>

Members Present: Jennifer Abbatemarco, Representative Tammy Exum, Judy Dowd, Amy Dumont, Marcia Eckerd, Melissa Gagne, Ann Gionet, Koleen Kerski, Dori Papa representing Bryan Klimkiewicz, Andrew Komarow, Julie McKenna, Krista Ostaszewski, Kathy Marchione, Julie McKenna, Jimnahs Miller, Donyale Pina, Yana Razumnaya, Lois Rosenwald, Carol Ryan Hanlon, Kari Sassu, Doriana Vicedomini, Julie Wolf

Members Absent: Stephen Byers, Lynn Ricci, Jim Loomis

Others: Jennifer Krom

Call to Order: 10:03am

Welcome and Roll Call

Approval of 11/18/2022 Meeting Minutes:

- Jimnahs Miller made motion approve and Marcia Eckerd seconded motion. All in favor and minutes accepted.

Public Comments

Vote for Representative Tammy Exum to Join Council as “Advocate for Persons with ASD” approved.

Supportive Housing Update by Krista Ostaszewski

- IDASH Program– Intellectual Disabilities and Autism Spectrum Disorder Housing
- Supportive Housing. The program has now ended though the housing still exists
- 3 developments implemented through this multi-agency partnership have been successful
- Bear Woods in Canton
- Lavender Fields in Bloomfield

- Clover Gardens in Hartford
- Assistive Technology Supports
- Public Forum: [Supportive Housing](#)
- Hopes to expand

Housing Sub-Committee

- Co-Chair will be selected
- Judy Dowd will join the sub-committee

Beacon Health Options update by Jennifer Krom (see attached presentation)

- Medicaid Funded Services for Individuals with an Autism Spectrum Diagnosis
- January 2023 Data Review and Trends
- ASD Medicaid Authorizations as of 1/3/2023
- Annual (YTD) Admits/Authorizations for ASD Services by Service Class
- ASD Medicaid Youth Monthly Admissions as of 1/2/2023 Report
- ASD Medicaid youth Demographics as of 1/2/2023
- ASD Provider Enrollment as of 1/2/2023
- Beacon ASD Care Coordination & Peer Specialist Supports
- ASD Care Coordination and Peer Specialist Activity
- On March 1, 2023, Beacon Health Options will begin operating as Carelon Behavioral Health

Autism Waiver Update by Amy Dumont:

- 229 individuals assigned to the waiver
- 13 individuals either declined services or moved out of state
- 2007 individuals on the waitlist
- Lauren Figuenick new Case Manager began last week, came over from DCF
- Terrance Moore, new Case Manager coming over from DCF, will begin next week
- Five new providers have been added to our list
- 91 Providers are currently enrolled
- Training expense resolution is still being discussed
- Paul Chase assists with the financial eligibility
- Technical Assistance Contract – reviews other states to see what may meet the needs in CT

Center of Excellence Update:

- Virtual Platform

- Jennifer Cavallaro is working on updating language for request for proposal and qualification
- Goal is to have it posted for February 13th
- Monies dedicated for ASDAC - \$500,000 allocated per year from General Funds. \$650,000 has been rolled over
- Yana suggested Self-Advocates for Providers to represent

New Business:

- Representative Tammy Exum introduced herself to the ASDAC
- New to role of appropriations
- Deputy Majority Leader
- Human Services Committee
- Serves on the Governor's First Council
- Assisted with creating bill for persons with disabilities to create opportunities in the workforce
- Has 26-year-old son with ASD
- Advocated and started Special Education PTO
- Doriana shared telephone call she received in October regarding meeting with local Senator. Meeting consisted of siblings, parents, school personnel regarding the waiver and concerns. Attention of the meeting was how to get more people on the waitlist services. Attorney proposing a new waiver and would like some input and stats from the ASDAC.

To Do:

- Work on the confusion with the TEAMS/ZOOM meeting invites

Adjournment: 11:34am

Next Meeting: March 15, 2023