

**DSS Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council (ASDAC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**July 19, 2023**  
**(Virtual Meeting)**

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

**Others:** Jennifer Krom

**Call to Order:** 10:00am

**Welcome and Roll Call**

**Approval of 5/17/2023 Meeting Minutes.**

**Public Comments:**

- Update from Father from previous meeting.
- Tried getting him back in school but was unsuccessful. Unable to walk in graduation.
- Tried to get him to take final exam in school through alternate entrance.
- Was alerted by school resource office that this was an issue. Tried to take son to school picnic but was not welcome. Formal complaint was issued to father for bringing son to school.
- Was contacted from Chief of Police with arrest warrant.
- Complainants felt uncomfortable with them being at the school.
- Rights have been dismissed. Son went through full arrest.

**Supportive Housing:**

- Contacted Housing Committee Members to confirm interest in remaining on the committee.
- Looking at identifying where housing need is, property management, financials, and multi-family and single-family housing, talking with selectmen and town boards regarding permits, etc.

- Welcoming others to join the housing committee.
- Could use manpower.
- Some parents have expressed interest but also could use more Council members.
- Steve Dilella from Housing will sit on the committee.
- Hope to have first meeting by early Fall.

### **Provider Opening Applicants**

- Felicia Morgan
  - Has attend ASDAC meeting for years.
  - Provider for many individuals on the Autism Waiver, Clinical Psychologist, Doctoral Level Board Certified Behavioral Analyst
  - Being a direct provider, she has a good sense of their needs.
  - Works with CCSN
  - Has own practice a performs psychotherapy with adults and teens with transitioning from school to accessing adult resources.
- Michael Powers (not at meeting)
- Melissa Hoon (not at meeting)
- Donna Swanson
  - Executive Director and Founder of Focus Center for Autism in 1992 (non-profit)
  - Was a nurse for 50 years mostly in psych and cancer nurse at Yale New Haven Hospital
  - Ran group homes in Arizona for developmentally disabled.
  - Ran group home in California for emotionally disturbed teenagers.
  - APRN for 35 years
  - Worked with Autism for 30 years.
- Parent inquired about joining the Council. There are no openings at this time but advised to reach out to Lisa Bonetti with interest for future openings.  
Lisa.bonetti@ct.gov

### **Carelon update by Jennifer Krom (see attached presentation)**

- Medicaid Funded Services for Individuals with an Autism Spectrum Diagnosis
- July 2023 Data Review and Trends
- ASD Medicaid Authorizations as of 07/01/2023
- ASD Medicaid Youth Monthly Admissions as of 07/01/2023
- ASD Medicaid Youth Demographics as of 07/01/2023
- ASD Provider Enrollment as of 07/01/2023
- Carelon ASD Care Coordination & Peer Specialist Supports

- ASD Care Coordination and Peer Specialist Activity

#### **Center of Excellence Update:**

- No update

#### **Autism Waiver Update by Amy Dumont:**

- Waiting list of individuals: 317 individuals currently being served on the waiver.
- Haven taken 205 individuals off the waitlist since February 2021 forward and 58 of these have completed the waiver requirements and Medicaid. 28 individuals have either moved out of state, could not locate, or declined services.
- Average caseload per Case Manager is 39
- As of today, providers are currently enrolled on the waiver is 158.
- 1997 individuals on the waitlist
- Spreadsheet of tracking will be taken place.

#### **Quality and Outcome Data Collection**

##### **New Business:**

- West Hartford Housing discussion
- Yana is checking with her mother to see if interested in being on the Housing Committee

##### **Adjournment:**

Next Meeting: September 20, 2023

September meeting was rescheduled to October 23, 2023