

**DSS Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council (ASDAC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 15, 2023**  
**(Virtual Meeting)**

**Members Present:** Jennifer Abbatemarco, Stephen Byers, Judy Dowd, Michael Olesen representing Amy Dumont, Marcia Eckerd, Melissa Gagne, Ann Gionet, Bryan Klimkiewicz, Julie McKenna, Kathy Marchione, Jimnahs Miller, Donyale Pina, Yana Razumnaya, Lynn Ricci, Sarah Schlegel, Lois Rosenwald, Carole Ryan-Hanlon, Kari Sassu, Julie Wolf

**Members Missing:** Representative Tammy Exum, Koleen Kerski, Andrew Komarow, Krista Ostaszewski

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

**Welcome and Roll Call**

**Approval of 10/23/2023 Meeting Minutes.**

**No Public Comments**

**Moment of Silence in Remembrance of Doriana Vicedomini**

**Update on Hiring of the Autism Staff Position:**

- Parent or guardian of a child with ASD
- Advocate for persons with ASD
- Will be taking applications for open positions.
- Tri-Chair position will be open to ASDAC Members
- Jimnah is working with OPM regarding Statues and legalities of appointments.

**Administration Transition of the Council Planning to OPM:**

- Level of Need Tools
- Timeline
- RFP posted.

**Housing Sub-Committee Update by Stephen Byers and Lois Rosenwald:**

- Sub-Committee was held earlier this week.
- Discussion looking to see what else may be out there to use as a platform.

- Researching Northeastern states to see what we can adopt.
- Issues regarding aging parents and families
- Possibility of panel or training
- Great need for more volunteers from the Council

### **Provider Opening Applicants**

- Melissa Hoon was voted and approved into the Council for open position of “Licensed Professional working in the field of ASD.”
- Melissa Hoon offers a variety of experience including residential, outpatient, school systems, emergency rooms.
- 17 years’ experience in the school system
- Brings extensive experience of knowledge of mental health.

**Center of Excellence Update:** No Update

### **Autism Waiver Update by Michael Olesen for Amy Dumont:**

- 2047 individuals on the waitlist
- 320 assigned cases
- 195 of assigned cases fully on the waiver.
- Working on the waitlist for others
- School systems provide testing to confirm if still ASD or ID

### **2024 Meeting Dates Discussion:**

- Proposed January, March, June, September and November
- Will send out proposed dates to Council.

**New Business:**

**Adjournment: 11:00am**

Next Meeting: January – To Be Determined