



State of Connecticut  
Department of Developmental Services

**DDS**

Ned Lamont  
Governor

Jordan A. Scheff  
Commissioner

Elisa F. Velardo  
Deputy Commissioner

**ARPA Day Services Meeting  
June 12, 2023**

Present: Keith Lavalette, Trevor Rogers, Jennifer Keatley, Beth Fisher, Varian Salters, Kathryn du Pree, Sean Bannon, Cynthia Delouise  
Guests: Owen Shome and Lauren Gray

- 1. Review of the Guidelines of Public Meetings-** Keith Lavalette
- 2. Review of the 5/1/23 Meeting Minutes.** Motion to accept by Beth Fisher and seconded by Varian Salters. Minutes were approved.
- 3. DDS-SELN Update by Trevor Rogers**
  - National SELN did a review of CT employment services to achieve the goal of increased competitive employment
  - Organized strengths, areas of improvement and recommendations
  - DDS organized work groups to address the findings and recommendations
  - Addressed financial incentive recommendations as one example
  - Significant training and outreach, developed marketing materials and forming a transportation work group
  - DDS will be surveying providers regarding transportation
  - DDS is developing its final report with a review of the final set of recommendations
  - Next DDS will bring stakeholder groups together for its implementation phase and will include ARPA stakeholders to make sure efforts are well coordinated and reflect both groups' areas of focus
  - DDS can share final recommendations at the next ARPA meeting
  - Question asked if it would include current employment providers. DDS does plan to include representatives of these providers and other agency staff. Critical to have good representation of these providers to be successful

#### **4. Deloitte Update Owen Shome**

- Provider proposals are still under review, 6 approval letters were sent last week Letters are only a confirmation that the proposal was accepted.
- Training for DDS staff and providers. Overview of STEP progress to date and general approaches for strategic planning. Innovative approaches will be shared.
- Will the approval letters communicate how to access incentives?
- The letters will only be a confirmation of acceptance. Providers will receive an authorization and the process will be similar for moving individuals now
- Letter will include the amount of the incentives and will follow the department's existing one time approval process. Sean will check that the incentives will not be subject to cost settlement.

#### **5. Update on Communication Lauren Gray (DDS Legislative and Communication Director)**

- Marketing, newsletters and website updates on the seven supports
- STEP site on the website with more detailed information, posting the fact sheets for each initiative
- Employment video is not yet produced
- CCH video was shared with the Committee

#### **6. Future Meetings- July 31<sup>st</sup> 4PM and September 11<sup>th</sup> 4PM**

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