

Intellectual Disability Partnership Advisory Committee (IDPAC)
Meeting Minutes
8/22/18

Convened at 1:07pm.

Present: Commissioner Jordan Scheff (DDS), Barry Simon (Oak Hill), Deputy Commissioner Peter Mason (DDS), Richard Sebastian (Kennedy), Judy Dowd (OPM), Adrienne Benjamin (DDS Council), Collette Langner (parent), Marina Derman (parent), Scott McWilliams (DDS), Katie Rock-Burns (DDS).

Absent: Barry Bosworth (parent), Lauren Traceski (self-advocate), Andrea Ferrucci (Mosaic), Andrea Barton-Reeves (Harc), Kate McEvoy (DSS).

1. Review of Minutes – 7/19/18 meeting

2. Public Comment

Marina Derman shared a concern that families are falling off of Husky because DSS is failing to send renewals. If DSS has not prompted online renewal, you cannot access it online to do it proactively.

Commissioner Scheff recommended that families call the individual's DDS Case Manager, who may be able to seek assistance from the DSS staff embedded in DDS operations.

Adrienne Benjamin, Collette Langner, and Marina Derman indicated that family advocates will try to alert families to this situation and will seek to speak with DSS directly.

3. Update on CCH Home Modification Funding

Scott McWilliams shared that DDS is continuing to explore this option, but needs to get more information from OPM before submitting a bond funding request.

4. Priorities – Final Discussion

Barry Simon suggested a change to the language in the assistive technology priority. IDP funding should be made available for provider staff to be trained on how to properly implement and promote assistive technology. Assistive Technology Evaluator is a separate, formal distinction. Richard Sebastian agreed with this proposed change. He shared that, in his experience, rehab engineers would come to a work site to determine whether assistive technology would be helpful. These professionals were not Assistive Technology Evaluators, but were trained in how

to implement and use assistive technology. All committee members agreed with the proposed change.

Marina Derman requested that the committee consider broadening the employment goal to include training for individuals, outreach efforts, job coaching, etc. Commissioner Scheff agreed that these efforts are also important, but voiced his concern that the positive effect of the IDP funding may be diluted if it is spread too thin. He shared that DDS is engaged in other programs to support and promote employment, as well, such as Project SEARCH and the establishment of a statewide employment director at Central Office.

The committee discussed the logistics of implementing a revolving loan fund. Barry Simon indicated that it could be challenging to use if it is set up the same way as the current residential revolving loan fund. He suggested that it would need to be quickly accessible and offering a lower rate than other entities (e.g. banks). Marina Derman asked whether families would be able to access the loan fund. DDS committed to researching this issue. Judy Dowd indicated that a revolving loan fund would need to be in a non-lapsing SID, which would need to be considered as a budget option.

Richard Sebastian proposed a language change to the employment priority that would broaden it beyond small business franchising. The committee agreed to change the language to “supporting alternative business models or alternative models of support that would employ or encourage the employment of people with intellectual disability.”

Deputy Commissioner Mason suggested that the committee consider adding a way to support startup of agencies doing remote support.

5. Priorities – Next Steps

DDS committed to conducting some internal work on the logistics of spending the funding on these priorities. DDS will also recruit for ad hoc work groups for next steps on each of the four priority areas. Katie Rock-Burns will send out email on next steps.

Ended at 2:15pm.

FINAL IDPAC PRIORITIES

1. **Employment:** support alternative business models or alternative models of support that would employ or encourage the employment of people with intellectual disability through education and consideration of the establishment of a revolving loan fund for startup costs.
2. **Blended Services:** establish a combination residential/day services account to pilot blended services for a small group of individuals.
3. **Assistive Technology:** fund provider staff training on how to properly implement and promote assistive technology.
4. **Provider Readiness:** offer provider readiness analysis and education in the area of Medicaid direct billing.