

**DDS South Region  
Regional Advisory and Planning Council  
Meeting Minutes  
November 16, 2016**

**Members Present:** Leslie Bridges-Parent, David Cassano, Jeffrey DePina, Heidi Earle, Britney Gudeahn, Loralyn Lewis, Kathleen Stauffer, Dawn DeMatteo, and Thomas Dailey, DDS South Region Director

**Guests Present:** Siobhan Morgan, Denise Tift, and Diane Martin

**Scribe:** David Cassano

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM.

**Citizen Comment:** None.

**Approval of minutes:** The draft minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and amended. *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the council voted to approve the minutes of the September 2016 meeting based on the amendments made during the meeting.*

**Chairman's Report**

**Creative Housing Workgroup Update:** Member Lewis provided an update that at the last meeting, Josh Scalora, DDS Organizational Development Manager spoke about a newly announced program "IDASH" to provide funding for developers to create housing for individuals with ID. The Department of Housing will manage the application process and applications will be accepted beginning January 2017. This was viewed as a very positive initiative to enable the creation of additional housing options for the IDD community.

**Field Activity Report:** Member Lewis gave the update about the Council on Developmental Services. There have been two meetings and the council is moving in a good direction having already reached five points of agreement in their working plans.

**Community First Choice (CFC) Update:** Siobhan Morgan, DDS Waiver Services Director, gave the council an update on CFC. Overall good progress is starting to be made in the roll out of CFC in CT. There are currently 3211 applications that have been submitted. Of these 612 have been identified as existing DDS clients and 127 applications have been approved. There is currently about a 3-month wait for new applications to be reviewed.

**DDS Administrative Updates:** Regional Director Dailey provided an update on current DDS activities and initiatives.

**New Business:**

The council discussed possibly changing the meeting frequency next year to meeting monthly except in the summer, which is what at least one other region's council is doing. There was also discussion about possibly using Facebook as a council communications channel. We will review and vote on meeting dates at our next meeting. We did vote to approve January 18<sup>th</sup> 2017, as our next meeting.

**Next Meeting:** January 18, 2017, 6:00 PM, Action Library, Old Saybrook, CT

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by;

*David Cassano*

David Cassano, DDS South Region Advisory Council Secretary