

The Office of Policy and Management Health and Human Services Policy and Planning Division

Report Regarding
Interagency Coalition
Pursuant to Section 6 of Public Act 24-134
July 1, 2025

Introduction

Section 6 of Public Act 24-134 required OPM staff who coordinate statewide policy and planning for (1) autism spectrum disorder and (2) intellectual or developmental disability, to establish an interagency coalition including representatives from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the Department of Social Services (DSS), to provide strategies for addressing silos and enhancing opportunity for interagency coordination of state agency services.

Required Information

The coalition was required by statute to meet at least quarterly, and the data for each meeting has been provided in the table below. Each meeting included representation from OPM, DDS and DSS.

| Date: | Time: | Agenda Items: |
|--------------------|-------------------|---|
| June 12, 2024 | 1:00pm – 2:00pm | (1) LON/IQ study |
| | | (2) Universal Assessment updates |
| | | (3) How to manage re-assessment for IDD |
| | | services for those on the ASD Waiver waitlist |
| July 10, 2024 | 1:00pm – 2:00pm | (1) ASD waiver waitlist re-assessment |
| | | (2) Potential policy options |
| | | (3) Statewide needs assessment |
| September 16, 2024 | 4:00pm – 5:00pm | (1) ADS grant proposal and the need for job |
| | | coaching support across agencies |
| | | (2) Potential legislative proposals |
| | | (3) Agencies working on career pipelines |
| December 18, 2024 | 11:30am – 12:30pm | (1) UA update |
| | | (2) Agencies' waiver waitlist report-OPM |
| | | consultation |
| | | (3) ASD Supportive Housing update |
| | | (4) PA 23-137 study dissemination plan |
| February 19, 2025 | 11:00am – 11:30am | (1) Project SEARCH and disability employment |
| · | | study recommendations |
| | | (2) Provider rate differences |
| | | (3) Report status |
| | | (4) Waitlist management |
| March 12, 2025 | 1:00pm – 2:00pm | (1) Status of pending legislation with cross- |
| | | agency impact |
| April 9, 2025 | 11:00pm – 12:00pm | (1) Status of pending legislation with cross- |
| | | agency impact |
| May 16, 2025 | 2:00pm – 3:00pm | (1) Status of pending legislation with cross- |
| | | agency impact |
| June 17, 2025 | 4:00pm – 4:45pm | (1) Recap of relevant bills passed in 2025 |
| | | session |
| | | (2) Content for report due July 1, 2025 |

Summary

There is a group consensus that having a regular meeting cadence was productive. It helped all parties level-set and reaffirmed commitments to cooperative efforts. However, the meetings became more of an agency report-out of existing and ongoing collaboration than a working group that identified and addressed interagency challenges. There is a robust partnership between the agencies, with the shared goal of exploring current issues of concern and formulating strategies that are responsive to legislative priorities and to the needs of the people who participate in their respective programs.

Recommendations

The group recommends that this working group not be extended past the time frame specified in statute. It served its purpose in clarifying current agency partnerships, and there is clear evidence of consistent collaboration between agencies. A model has been established that can be utilized for any emergent issues. In the absence of a regular meeting cadence, the OPM planning analysts for autism and intellectual disabilities will continue their work in cross agency collaboration as needed. They can provide support to the agencies, including researching state trends and best practices, evaluating policy ideas and facilitating meetings to solve specific issues related to cross-agency issues that can inform long-range planning and policy development.