



State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services

DDS

Ned Lamont
Governor

Jordan A. Scheff
Commissioner

Elisa F. Velardo
Deputy Commissioner

Minutes of March 20, 2023 - ARPA Individual and Family Engagement Transformational Committee

Location: Meeting held Virtually via Microsoft Teams

In attendance: Greg McMahon, Shannon Jacovino, Adrianna Ramirez, Jessica Sundell, Dr. Cheryl Ellis, Kevin Arce, Geri Kogut, Maricruz Ortiz, Joanne Malise, Lena Esposito

Absent: Pat Tyler, Denise Palladino

Guests: Kimberly Butts, Owen Shome (Deloitte), Rebecca Brockway (McDowell)

1. Call to Order by Greg McMahon. Public Meeting Requirements were reviewed.
2. Minutes from previous meeting were approved.
3. Review & feedback of service descriptions template
 - Some families do not understand what supports are offered through residential vs. day & employment supports. The differentiation must be clear.
 - The "WHAT CAN [NAME OF SUPPORT] DO FOR YOU/HELP YOU DO?" doesn't capture the full range of supports available. Residential supports go beyond daily living skills and include social skills, community integration, relationship building, nutritional meal planning, diet, exercise, shopping, money management, self-advocacy, safety skills, and pursuing community recreational activities based on the individual's need. This should be made clear.
 - Next steps are to use the template to fill out service descriptions with the experts. Will bring finished products back to the committee.
4. Updates and topics for future meetings.
 - The videotaping for program descriptions will start tomorrow 3/21/2023.
 - Feedback from committee re: font size of newsletter. It was too small, may be difficult for people to read. Greg explained font size was most likely because there was a lot of information that needed to be packed in the first newsletter. Feedback will be shared with ARPA leadership.
5. Announcement of next meeting- Monday, April 3, 2023 10:00 am
6. Adjournment