

*STATE OF CONNECTICUT*

EDWARD R. MAMBRUNO



for Developmental Services

*DDS Council Monthly Report*



**Ned Lamont**  
*Governor*

**Jordan Scheff**  
*Commissioner*

***December 2018***

**Personnel contacted**

Regional Directors, Assistant Regional Directors, Case Manager Supervisors, Case Managers, Quality Management Director, QI Supervisors, Abuse/Neglect Director and/or liaisons and Division heads if I needed specific additional info regarding the issues and concerns of individuals who contacted my office.

In addition, I spoke with other contacts at agencies eg. DCF, Public Health, DSS and the Client Rights and Grievance Specialist, Office of the Commissioner DMHAS.

**MEETINGS**

New England ADA Center, Director of ADA Training and Assistance

Council on Developmental Disabilities

DORS CDHI met regarding interpreters.

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Client Rights and Grievance Specialist

Quarterly Private Provider Meeting

Meeting with members of Deaf community to go over issues

Met with Training department to go over ADA PowerPoint presentation

Met with University of Hartford, Doctoral PT students.

Meeting with members of Deaf and Hard of Hearing community

- Communication Meeting DDS CO
- ADA Video Presentation Completed
- ADA Notices Placed in DDS Public Areas
- ADA Legal Notices published in Hartford Courant
- a will and Distributed DVDs of ADA video presentation to private providers

- DDS ADA Training Video linked to YouTube
- DDS at 100% compliance for ADA Training Video
- ❖ Attended Leadership Meeting in Waterbury to show ADA Training Video to Private Providers and Staff and answered any questions they may have regarding the content of the video.
- ❖ Attended ADACC (ADA) Conference in Newington
- ❖ Met with Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Client Rights and Grievance Specialist, Title II ADA Coordinator to go over handicapped parking standards
- ❖ Served on interview panel for selection of Director Position in region.

## *Concerns \ Issues*

- Received a letter from deaf individual citing concerns he had with specific accommodations not being met under the ADA. Answered individual's concerns and after researching, found that some of the issues addressed had been resolved by the case manager. Currently working to address other issues mentioned in letter.
- Received call from individual who queried whether they could receive additional time while taking the Med CERT exam due to a learning disability (LD) Contacted HR, who stated that they would need to look at the Med Administration Policy. Also, contacted training, who gives exam, and asked the individual who is in charge of managing the Med Administration program. After some back and forth between different departments, the answer was, Yes.

The full explanation is:

The answer to the extra time for a learning disability is Yes. It would need to be approved prior to the person taking the exam. It cannot be requested if it is at a time they show for the exam.

Documentation would need to be submitted and approved by the DDS Med Admin Unit showing documentation of the disability. It could be the high school record showing what the disability is or a letter from a medical professional identifying what the need it. Please note that it is the agency's med coordinator who submits the documentation to the unit.

If approved, the actions that would then take place are:

1. The applicant would have their med coordinator schedule the exam directly with the person charged with administering at the DDS Med Administration Unit.
2. The exam would be given on a 1:1 basis, with no other students present so that the person could read the questions out loud or walk around the room if needed. They would not be able to leave the room until the exam were complete.
3. They would be given a 2 hour time frame to complete the exam in, instead of the typical 90 minute time frame.

- Spoke with individual from Massachusetts who offered to give Deaf Culture trainings and ASL classes statewide to DDS staff and providers. Had lengthy conversation with individual, thanked them for their offer, and told them that I would like to know if we had the opportunity to hire them.
- Received an e-mail asking for info regarding the link to the Connecticut ADA building code. Sent the link with info and let them know I would be happy to answer any other questions they had.

- Assisted individual with procuring a keyboard and ZOOM text with speech for their daily work duties. This assistive technology will be reviewed (for compatibility) and installed by the IT department. In addition, was able to get a desk, which was able to raise and lower electronically.
- Spoke with a member of National Counsel for Disability (NCD) regarding new appointments to Presidents Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities (PCPID). Vacancies are coming up soon for the PCPID board and discussion centered around appointments

## ***December 2018***

### *Areas of Concern*

○ Case Management -	4
○ Case Management Requests -	3
○ Day Program –	2
○ Eligibility -	3
○ Funding/Budget -	3
○ Guardianship –	2
○ Health & Safety –	1
○ HIPAA -	1
○ Information/Referral –	4
○ Placement –	3
○ Birth to 3-	-
○ School District services-	-
○ Autism-	3
○ Mental Health Issues	2
○ ADA	13
NON-DDS Referrals	14
ADA, compliance, insurance, disability, housing,	14

ISSUES/CONCERN TOTAL –70