



NHDSQC Meeting Minutes for April 16, 2025

Hybrid Meeting and In-Person.

AGENDA

Welcome and Introductions (Emily Manire, Chair)

Member Resignation: Thank you to Cathy Spinney for your advocacy and service!

New Member: NHCASD Interim Representative, Gina Cannon

Review and approval of meeting minutes (December, January and February, March) **VOTE**

NH Budget Discussion (Marissa Berg)

Bureau of Developmental Services Update (Jessica Gorton)

Committee Updates:

- Strategic Planning Committee
- Data (Chair, Emily Manire)
- Rules and Regulations (Chair, Stephanie Patrick) (**VOTE HEM 1201**)
- CIS/Recreation (Chair, Karen Hatch)
- Housing (Chair, Marissa Berg)
- Person Centered Planning (Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre)
- Self-Advocacy Groups (Kelly Ehrhart, Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre)
- Membership Committee (Chair, Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre)

Other Business and Announcements:

Planning the May Meeting (Commissioner Lori Weaver, Director Melissa Hardy) Develop questions to be presented in advance

Autism Council Update (Marissa Berg)

91-A Requirements – DHHS and Quality Council Website

Public Comment

Members and Attendance

Quality Council Members

Name	Organization/Representing	Meeting Status
Jessica Gorton	Bureau of Developmental Services	Present In-Person
Abigail Conger (Alternate)	Bureau of Developmental Services	Present Virtual
Tammy Mills *	People First of New Hampshire	Present In-Person
Roseann Tardiff * (Alternate)	People First of New Hampshire	Present Virtual
Krysten Evans (Alternate)	ABLE NH	Not Present
Louis Esposito *	ABLE NH	Present In-Person
Gina Cannon	NH Council on Autism Spectrum Disorders	Present In-Person
Adam Schrier	Brain Injury Association, BIA	Present In-Person
Krystal Chase (Alternate)	Brain Injury Association, BIA	Not Present
Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre Chair of Membership Committee	NH Council on Developmental Disabilities (NHCDD)	Present In-Person
Jim Piet *	NH Council on Developmental Disabilities (NHCDD)	Not Present
Lisa Steadman * QC Vice Chair	State Family Support Council	Present In-Person
Karen Hatch * Chair of Recreation Committee	State Family Support Council	Not Present
Karen Blake*	State Family Support Council	Present Virtual
Donna Corriveau	Direct Support Provider	Present Virtual
Rich Crocker	Area Agency Board, Lakes Region Community Services	Present Virtual
VACANT	Area Agency Board	Position VACANT
Ann Sanok *	Area Agency Board, One Sky	Not Present
Marissa Berg Housing Committee Chair	Community Support Network Inc. (CSNI)	Not Present
Emily Manire QC Chair & Data Committee Chair	Private Provider Network	Present In-Person
Kenda Howell (Alternate)	Private Provider Network	Not Present
Mary St. Jacques	UNH Institute on Disability, IOD	Not Present
Jen Sulewski (Alternate)	UNH Institute on Disability, IOD	Present In-Person
Stephanie Patrick	Disability Rights Center (DRC)	Present In-Person

AGENDA

Kelly Ehrhart *	At Large Member Self-Advocate	Present Virtual
A QUORUM WAS REACHED		
(*) delineates family member of/or individual with a disability which counts toward an in-person quorum.		
Guests or Members of the Public		
Julie Lago	Nominated for At- Large Member Seat Submitted for gubernatorial appointment on 7/16/24	Not Present
Jennifer Bertrand	Nominated for At-Large Member Seat Submitted for gubernatorial appointment on 7/16/24	Not Present

Welcome, Introductions

All Council members and guests introduced themselves.

Chair Update:

- Chair, Emily Manire accepted the resignation of council member Cathy Spinney (Agency Board Member Seat).
- Chair, Emily Manire accepted the resignation of council administrator, Carrie Duran, effective July 31, 2025
 - Emily will be working with the current fiscal agent, Community Partners to facilitate the hiring of a new council administrator.
- Chair, Emily Manire welcomed newly appointed council member Gina Cannon (New Hampshire Council on Autism Spectrum Disorders)
- Council Administrator, Carrie Duran shared the withdrawal of membership consideration of Samantha Lylis. Carrie indicated appointments have been submitted to the new Governor's office and are awaiting approval.

Meeting Minutes for January, February and March 2025

January 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion to accept the minutes was made by Kelly Ehrhart. The motion was seconded by Louis Esposito.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Name	Vote
Jessica Gorton	YES
Tammy Mills	YES
Louis Esposito	YES
Gina Cannon	Abstain
Adam Schier	YES
Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre	YES
Jim Piet	Not Present

Lisa Steadman	Abstain
Karen Hatch	Not Present
Karen Blake	Abstain
Donna Corriveau	YES
Rich Crocker	YES
Ann Sonok	Not Present
Marissa Berg	Not Present
Emily Manire	YES
Jennifer Sulewski	YES
Stephanie Patrick	YES
Kelly Ehrhart	YES

February 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion to accept the minutes was made by Lisa Steadman. The motion was seconded by Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Name	Vote
Jessica Gorton	YES
Tammy Mills	YES
Louis Esposito	YES
Gina Cannon	Abstain
Adam Schier	Abstain
Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre	YES
Jim Piet	Not Present
Lisa Steadman	YES
Karen Hatch	Not Present
Karen Blake	YES
Donna Corriveau	YES
Rich Crocker	YES
Ann Sonok	Not Present
Marissa Berg	Not Present
Emily Manire	Abstain
Jennifer Sulewski	Abstain
Stephanie Patrick	YES
Kelly Ehrhart	YES

March 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion to accept the minutes was made by Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre. The motion was seconded by Tammy Mills. Discussion: Update to reflect: Louis, Kelly, Mary and Adam attended in person.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Name	Vote
Jessica Gorton	YES
Tammy Mills	YES

Louis Esposito	YES
Gina Cannon	Abstain
Adam Schier	YES
Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre	YES
Jim Piet	Not Present
Lisa Steadman	YES
Karen Hatch	Not Present
Karen Blake	YES
Donna Corriveau	YES
Rich Crocker	Abstain
Ann Sonok	Not Present
Marissa Berg	Not Present
Emily Manire	YES
Jennifer Sulewski	Abstain
Stephanie Patrick	YES
Kelly Ehrhart	YES

NH Budget Discussion (Karen Blake and Marissa Berg)

Karen Blake began the update.

- Budget passed by the house included
- 3% Rate Cut to Medicaid
- Cuts to developmental disabilities
- Not funding Room & Board/residential housing
- Medicaid work requirements/co-insurance
- Advocacy Call to Action: CSNI (Community Support Network)
 - State and Federal Medicaid – Stories needed from families
- May 6th is the Senate Budget Hearing – Please show up.

Emily Manire: Encouraging families to share their stories in the Private Provider Network

- Advocacy training with United Way and Senator Hassan, Senator Shaheen's office in attendance
- Congresswoman Maggie Goodlander touring the Nashua Center

Marissa Berg: CSNI

- Working closely with our lobbyists and are sharing advocacy resources with individuals and families.
- One-page info-graphic created about the budget and the revenue calculations and formulas
 - Carry forwarded: funds not spent due to workforce shortage
 - Amendment proposed to suspend the law requiring no waitlist (amendment rescinded)
 - The 3% rate cut across the board to Medicaid. Clarifying if it includes DD services
 - \$46 million dollar back of the budget cut to DHHS – department has to find where to cut.
 - Meeting with senators, representatives and setting up town halls to advocate.

Stephanie Patrick: to Jessica Gorton (BDS) "Where does the Quality Council budget stand?" Jessica indicated that Quality Council and other contracts may not be effected.

Bureau of Developmental Services (BDS) Update

Jessica Gorton, BDS Bureau Chief

- Abby Conger: Person Centered Thinking and Advocacy Training (Qualrant Update)
 - So far, 631 individuals have attended the training. (This includes providers, staff, individuals and families.
 - Pre- and Post assessment/evaluation: increase of 4-8%
 - Self-Advocacy assessments/evaluations increase of 1-4%
 - Training is in-person and online.
 - Self-paced online learning modules are up and running for individuals and families.
 - Public Outreach about training: BDS email each Friday, weekly coordination call with service providers, service coordinator supervisor meetings, provider meetings.
 - 48 trainings that will be provided either in person or online.
 - Qualrant contract ends at the end of May
- Are there enough self-advocates and families involved?
- Kelly Ehrhart: My coordinator did not let me know about this training. How can I access the training after the contract ends? In person training options were not offered in enough places.
- Isabella Rodriguez-Legendre: How many of the 631 are families or individuals? Signing up for the online training is not accessible. The information has not reached families.
- Abby Conger: Six in person sessions for individuals – 24 webinars available.
 - Attendance Breakdown:
 - 409 Providers
 - 212 Case Management
 - 10 families in person
- Jessica Gorton: We rely on you and our partners to disseminate the information. We hope to collect the data and improve services.
- Lisa Steadman: suggested Jessica and Marissa talk about how to disseminate social media/trainings to area agencies.

Committee Updates

Strategic Planning Committee: (Emily Manire)

- Lisa Steadman: We established the charter of the group and first part of RFP.
- Next step to set up another meeting.

Data Committee: (Emily Manire)

- Reaching out to multiple partners and stakeholders to combine work.
- 1st Tuesday in May at 9am is the next meeting
- Looking for another chair for this committee.

Rules Committee (Stephanie Patrick)

HEM 1201 Letter (Vote)

Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre made a motion to approve the comments for HEM 1201. Tammy Mills seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Vote
Jessica Gorton	YES
Tammy Mills	YES
Louis Esposito	YES
Adam Schier	Abstain
Gina Cannon	Abstain
Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre	YES
Jim Piet	Not Present
Lisa Steadman	YES
Karen Hatch	Not Present
Karen Blake	YES
Donna Corriveau	Not Present
Rich Crocker	Yes
Cathy Spinney	YES
Ann Sonok	Not Present
Marissa Berg	Abstain
Emily Manire	YES
Jennifer Sulewski	YES
Stephanie Patrick	YES
Kelly Ehrhart	YES

Motion Passes

PDMS Listening Session Update:

Stephanie Patrick shared the feedback on the PDMS Listening Session. 41 participants of individuals, families and vendors. Isadora will put the notes together and submit them to the council.

Feedback:

- Miscommunication about the rules and standards for PDMS
- I want to connect with other families
- Families feeling isolated

Recreation Committee: Karen Hatch

- Will give an update in May.

Housing Committee: -Marissa Berg

- Regular meeting time: 2nd Wednesday of the month at April 9th at 11 a.m. (Follow up Marissa on the change of the date).
- NH Housing changed their cap

Person Centered Planning: - Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre

- Has not met
- Request to all council members to attend Qlarant training please attend or do the self-paced training
 - Important to provide feedback
 - Share the information

Self-Advocacy Committee: – Kelly Ehrhart and Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre

- Increase of the amount of self-advocacy meetings throughout the state
- Update the list of the various regions meeting time and place

Membership Committee: - Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre

- Has not met
- Names pending sent to new governor with new process
- Letter has been sent to governor's office

Other Business

May Meeting Planning

- Questions for Commissioner Weaver and Melissa Hardy who will be attending our meeting in June.
- Tammy Mills: Person Centered Planning needs to include finding one's passion and voice. We need to reach out to younger generations of advocates.
- Louis Esposito: Shared Fall Conference to include self-advocates.
- 91A recruitments and Right to Know Requests: Knowing what the councils' requirements are.
- Quality Council Website and DHHS Website partnership
- Karen Blake: Family Support Conference Update

Public Comments

No public comment given

Meeting Adjourned

Lisa Steadman made the motion to adjourn. Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre seconded the motion
The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

*Minutes Respectfully submitted by: Carrie Duran, Council Administrator; nhcasqc@gmail.com
nhqualitycouncil.org*