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New Hampshire Developmental Services Quality Council

Providing leadership for consistent, systemic review and improvement of the developmental disability and acquired brain disorder services provided within NH's Developmental Services System.

Meeting Minutes December 20, 2023

In Person Meeting Location: NH Department of Education, Walker Building, Room 100

Online location: ZOOM

Agenda

Welcome, Introductions and Approval of Minutes – November 15, 2023

BDS Update (Jessica Gorton)

- **BDS Bureau Chief Search**
- **Feedback from the listening sessions: Next Steps**
- **Legacy Budgets: HB 642**
- **Billing and Financial Statements for providers**
- **Discussion: What is the cost of BDS Redesign to the Developmental Services system?**

Committee Updates:

- **Data (Emily Manire)**
- **Rules and Regulations (Stephanie Patrick)**
- **Members Relations (Adrienne Evans)**
- **Person Centered Planning (Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre)**
- **CIS/Recreation (Karen Hatch)**
- **Housing (Ann Sonok)**
- **Support Coordination (Adrienne Evans)**

Other Business and Announcements

- **Member and Subcommittee Member List**
- **Chair/Vice Chair Position**
- **Pre-Meeting in January**
- **Stipend reminder**

- **Planning the January meeting**

- * **Public Comment**

Quality Council Members Meeting Status

Name	Organization/Representing	Meeting Status
Jessica Gorton	Bureau of Developmental Services	Present In-Person
Tammy Mills	People First of New Hampshire	Present In-Person
Krystan Evans	ABLE NH	Present Virtual (Voting)
Sarah Tollefson	ABLE NH	Not Present
Adrienne Evans Member Relations Committee Chair	Autism Council	Present Virtual
Adam Schrier	Brain Injury Association, BIA	Not Present
Krystal Chase	Brain Injury Association, BIA	Present
Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre QC Vice Chairperson	NH Council on Developmental Disabilities (NHCDD)	Present In-Person
Jim Piet	NH Council on Developmental Disabilities (NHCDD)	Present In-Person
Lisa Steadman	State Family Support Council	Present In-Person
Karen Hatch	State Family Support Council	Not Present
Deborah Opramolla	State Family Support Council	Present In-Person
Donna Corriveau	Direct Support Provider	Present In-Person
Rich Crocker	Area Agency Board, Lakes Region Community Services	Not Present
Cathy Spinney	Area Agency Board, Community Crossroads	Present, Virtual
Ann Sanok	Area Agency Board, One Sky	Not Present
Marissa Berg Housing Committee Chair	Community Support Network Inc. (CSNI)	Present
Emily Manire Data Committee Chair	Private Provider Network	Present, Virtual
Mary St. Jacques	UNH Institute on Disability, IOD	Present In-Person
Stephanie Patrick QC Chairperson	Disability Rights Center (DRC)	Present In-Person
Kelly Ehrhart	Self-Advocate	Present In-Person

A QUORUM WAS REACHED

Guests in Attendance

Irene Tyler	Lakes Region Community Services	Virtual
Tammy Drew	Brain Injury Association, BIA	In-Person
Sarah Koutroubous	Self	Virtual
Karen Blake	Community Crossroads	Virtual
Lisa Beaudoin	Self	Virtual
Rosie Tardiff	People First of New Hampshire, Alternate	Virtual
Carrie Duran	Quality Council Administrator	In-Person

Acceptance of the Meeting Minutes from November 17, 2023

Motion to Approve: Mary St. Jacques

Seconded the Motion to Approve: Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre

Discussion: No discussion

Roll Call Vote was done by Council Admin:

Name	Vote
Jessica Gorton	Yes
Tammy Mills	Yes
Krystan Evans	Yes
Adrienne Evans	Yes
Krystal Chase	Yes
Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre QC Vice Chairperson	Yes
Jim Piet	Abstain
Lisa Steadman	Yes
Debra Opramolla	Yes
Donna Corriveau	Yes
Rich Crocker	Not Present
Cathy Spinney	Yes
Ann Sonok	Not Present
Marissa Berg	Abstain
Emily Manire Data Committee Chair	Yes
Mary St. Jacques	Yes
Kelly Ehrhart	Yes

The motion passes.

New Hampshire Bureau of Developmental Services Update

Jessica Gorton, BDS

- BDS Bureau Chief search: Please reach out to Melissa Hardy with any questions or concerns.
- Lisa Steadman announced that ABLE NH is hosting a candidate listening session for December 21st at 6:00 p.m. on Zoom. Stephanie asked that information be sent to the QC.

BDS Redesign Listening Sessions Feedback:

- Low turnout in person in Rye and Claremmont
- Each virtual session had almost 50 people attending.

Feedback:

- More communication is needed with families.
- Sharing stories is very important. What is impacting daily life?
- Questions: Medicaid eligibility
- Issues: workforce, housing, increased rates, call for information about process and community of practice. What are the expectations of these areas of rules and regulations? What is the appeal process? How do families go about appealing?
- More listening sessions will be planned with providers and area agencies.
- Families want to review services and what is on the waiver.
- Potential to bring back to a group of stakeholders/advisory committee.

Member: Are we reaching the BIPOC community? How are we reaching out to all groups. BDS: Let us know who we are not reaching and give us the contact information. Many advocates have their own networks.

Committee Updates

Data Committee: Emily Manire

- Prioritized two asks for January Meeting
 - Letter to Melissa Hardy to invite her to the January meeting.
 - Speak to how BDS is hoping to mitigate concerns around the workforce shortage and how do we collaboratively help as a council.
 - Emily read the letter out loud to the council.

Motion to approve: Kelly Erhart

Motion Seconded: Jim Piet

Discussion: Member suggested giving another meeting date because of the short turn around. (Motion amended to invite Melissa Hardy to the February or January Meeting)

Jessica Gorton	Yes
Tammy Mills	Yes
Krystan Evans	Yes
Adrienne Evans	Yes
Krystal Chase	Yes
Isadora Rodriquez-Legendre	Yes
Jim Piet	Yes
Lisa Steadman	Yes
Debra Opramolla	Yes
Donna Corriveau	Yes
Cathy Spinney	Yes
Marissa Berg	Yes
Emily Manire	Yes
Mary St. Jacques	Yes
Kelly Erhart	Yes

MOTION PASSES TO ACCEPT THE LETTER AND SEND IT TO BDS.

- The committee is also concerned about complaint data as provided by Melissa Nemeth: How are changes tracked and followed up on?
- Members will consider inviting her to a data committee meeting again.
- Lindsay McGee from BDS will be attending the Data Committee in the future instead of Jessica Gorton.
- Data Committee has chosen to do formal written letter requests to track requests.

Rules Committee: Stephanie Patrick

- New Waiver services
 - Rules Committee is in the process of finalizing feedback on proposed waiver services and will bring the proposal to the full council in January for approval. These potential services were recommended by the waiver workgroup, not BDS.
 - Question: Have we vetted our recommendations to be sure CMS will approve them? Answer: Yes, they have as much as possible. The waiver workgroup looked at services available in other states.
 - A member expressed concern there are not any deaf/blind services on the waiver. Encouraged member to speak to their service coordinator about current service access and to review the draft comments on proposed services and suggest changes or gaps.
- HEM 518 Letter
- Motion was made to accept the letter by Kelly Ehrhart. Second was made by Jim Piet.

Jessica Gorton	Yes
Tammy Mills	Yes
Krystan Evans	Yes
Adrienne Evans	abstain
Adam Schrier	abstain
Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre	Yes
Jim Piet	Yes
Lisa Steadman	Yes
Karen Hatch	Not present

Debra Opramolla	Yes
Donna Corriveau	Yes
Cathy Spinney	Yes
Marissa Berg Housing Committee Chair	Yes
Emily Manire Data Committee Chair	Yes
Mary St. Jacques	Yes
Kelly Ehrhart	Yes

Motion Passes for letter to be sent.

Member Relations: Adrienne Evans

- Has not met. It is difficult finding a date that works for everyone.
- Would like to increase the number of participants on the committee.

Person Centered Planning: Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre

- Met on December 6, 2023
- Three members in attendance, Stephanie, Donna and Isadora.
- Discussed Letter to DHHS and the response.
- Needs to be education and information to families and individuals around this issue. Messaging needed about difference between Person Centered Services as opposed to a Person-Centered Plan.
- Three Actions: Request a meeting with new BDS Bureau Chief, work with bureau to identify waiver funding for Person Centered Planning, develop a set of competencies around person centered plans, get an update around the contract around person centered plans and services.

- Isadora asked if this is still a area that is important to the QC and would like to continue.

Discussion: Jessica Gorton suggested person centered planning information be sent out to get the discussion started. Isadora suggested the need to identify the difference between Charting the Life course and Person-Centered Plan. Jessica Gorton: Suggested a one pager about what these differences are to send out to families. Terminology is important to clarify.

Community Integrated Services (CIS) Recreation Letter, Karen Hatch

- Chair of committee not present.
- No update given at this time.
- Tammy made the recommendation to discuss cycling and bike trails for people with disabilities in New Hampshire.

Housing Committee: Marissa Berg

- Met on December 6th. We had six people on the call.
- Focus: Broader non-DD grants that are available. Community Block Grants, New Hampshire Housing, Housing Development through mental health system.
- Need for data for legislative advocacy.
- Housing Legislation for 2024 Legislative Session

Service and Support Coordination Sub-Committee: Adrienne Evans

- Identify areas of focus: Training and current task list
- Formulating an event or conducting a poll on the type of trainings coordinators want.
- Abby Conger attended from BDS.
- Jessica Gorton: discussed the need to be aware of all the other groups working on this issue so we are not duplicating the issues.
- Adrienne: We need to have representation on the DHHS coordination group.

Other Business

None

Public Comments

No Public Comments Received

December Meeting Suggestions

- Send Carrie Duran, Council Administrator your suggestions for meeting topics at nhcasdq@gmail.com.

Isadora Rodriguez- Legendre made the motion to adjourn. Jim Piet Seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

*Minutes Respectfully submitted by:
Carrie Duran, Council Administrator
January 12, 2024*