

ACQ DD Waiver Steering Comm.
Minutes September 18, 2019

Participants: Virginia Lynch, Angelique Tafoya, Chris Boston, Scott Good, Reina Chavez, Melinda Broussard, Lecie McNees (phone), Daniel Ekman, Tim Gardner, Pam Stafford, Naomi Sandweiss, Todd Parker, Lisa Cisneros-Brow, Jim Shotwell, Fritzi Hardy, Alice Liu McCoy, Amira Rasheed, Daniel Ekman, Roel Adamson (phone), Krystal Ortiz (phone), Leah Manning, Linda Ramos, Chris Futey, Annabelle Martinez, Marc Kolman, Teresa Tomashot, Casey Stone-Romero (phone)

Wendy Corry, Co-chair- ACQ DDW Steering Committee
Christina Hill, Co-chair- ACQ DDW Steering Committee

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Daniel and Amira talked about person centered planning from a self-advocate perspective. Lively conversation followed. Following are not agreements but points raised:
 - The meaningful Life section of the ISP does not align with the person's goals.
 - Staffing shortages have a strong negative impact on a person's quality of life.
 - How do we ensure a person's plan is being implemented?
 - Need to be person centered not agency centered.
 - Need to enforce the pre-meetings with case managers.
 - A person in service may not want to do the goal because it's not their goal.
 - People in service start to doubt their decision-making ability.
 - People don't want to speak up because they will get labelled difficult or a troublemaker.
 - Direct Care staff are reluctant to advocate for the person for fear of retaliation.
 - People don't know what they can ask for in their plan.
 - Providers feel pressure to change goals every few years even though the person may want to continue with it.

- A person may be told their goal is not appropriate (ex. dyeing their hair different colors).
 - Putting CAPS on services may not be person centered.
 - By the time a person's goals are approved and implemented it may no longer be what the person wants to do. Need more flexibility.
3. Discussion on CMS requirements for a person's goals versus the DDS Standards, the team's interpretation, actual practice, etc. Christina will distribute the CMS language regarding the ISP.
 4. Agreement from members that the system needs to be more person centered.
 5. Lengthy discussion on the lack of mental health services available to people on the DD Waiver. This is a huge problem and will be referred to the full ACQ. HSD is very aware of this issue and will continue to follow up with MCO's. A recommendation to have a person on the Behavioral health Collaborative to represent I/DD concerns will be provided to the full ACQ.
 6. The hot topic grid was reviewed. There was a discussion on including nursing and healthcare coordination as a separate topic area but after much discussion this will be put in the parking lot for the Standards work.
 7. The process for gathering input on the topic areas was reviewed. In addition to the Focus Groups, self-advocates and families are being outreached through the Roswell People First meeting on Sept. 20 and the Albuquerque People First meeting on Oct. 2. There is also a Remote Town Hall on Oct. 30.
 8. All info gathered will be funneled back to the Steering Comm. for discussion. The Steering Comm. will then make recommendations to DDS and HSD regarding the DD Waiver application.
 9. The Focus Group agenda was reviewed, no suggestions made.
 10. Discussion on the most effective method to ensure equal representation of different viewpoints for the Focus Groups. Agreement that each person/agency represented on the Steering Comm. will be responsible to either attend themselves or have a representative from their constituency at each Focus Group. It is the expectation that each member of the Focus Group will be knowledgeable and come prepared to speak to the specific topics being addressed. It is hoped that Steering Comm members will solicit feedback from their colleagues so they can share this during the Focus Groups. Co-chairs will send out a document with topic area summaries prior to the Focus Groups so Focus Group members can prepare beforehand.

11. Members are encouraged to also solicit written feedback from their various constituencies on the specific topic areas.

12. The Remote Town Hall PowerPoint was reviewed; no suggestions were offered but members are encouraged to let the co-chairs know if you have any ideas/recommendations.

13. Next meeting dates:

October 9, 10:00-12:30 at the Bank of the West on Central and San Mateo

November 13, 10:00-12:30 at the Bank of the West on Central and San Mateo

December 11, 10:00-12:30 at DDPC on 625 Silver Ave. SW Suite 100

Parking Lot:

- Provider meeting to discuss best practices on real person-centered planning and how it works. Members that have expertise in this could share their experiences on how to shift mindsets, business models, etc.
- Nursing and healthcare coordination specific to people with behavioral health needs to be explored during the Standards work.
- There is concern about implementing a new Supports Waiver with the existing provider network.

Action Items:

- Steering Comm. co-chairs will email ACQ regarding our concerns about the lack of mental health services available for people on the DD Waiver and also request a representative from the I/DD area to be on the Behavioral Health Collaborative.
- Co-chairs will distribute the CMS language regarding the ISP and the Advocate Listening Questions for the People First meetings.