



DDSD Advisory Council on Quality (ACQ) Meeting Notes February 9, 2023 FINAL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lisa Blue (Co-chair), Daniel Ekman (Co-chair), Lily Martinez, Stevie Bass, Dan De Paula, Tracy Perry, Angelique Tafoya, April Spaulding, Jessica Gutierrez, Gabriela Ramos, Peggy O'Neill, Crystal Garcia, Cynthia Chavez, Sandy Skaar, Roel Adamson, Judy Sena and Valerie Dewbre

MEMBERS ABSENT

Elisheva Levin, Laura Matthews, Siri Guru Nam Khalsa, Christine Bragg

STATE AGENCY NON-VOTING PARTNERS PRESENT

Amira Rasheed

STATE AGENCIES PRESENT

Jason Cornwell, Mark Kolman, Scott Doan, Dominic Jaramillo, Iris Clevenger, Marie Velasco, Nicole Hernandez, Evangeline Yanez, Anysia Fernandez, Deanna DeHerrera, Elaine Hill, Jennifer Rodriguez, Lindsay Sloan, Vashad Frink, Jennifer Jones, Victoria Herrera, Renee Valerio, Angie Brooks, Teresa Larson, Selina Leyba, Melanie Buenviaje

GUESTS

Tim Gardner, Jim Copeland, Steve Wrigley, Pam Stafford, Evonne Romero, Shannon, Angela Ortega, Sandy Otter, Jacqueline Mares, Kate Nash, Ann Marie Parmenter, Peter Crespín, Jacob Patterson, Robert Kegal, Scott Good, Dana Howarth, Adrienne Smith, Susan Forbes, Ruth F., Denise Balderas, Selma Dodson, Matthew Molina, Janelle Torres-Groover, Karen Garcia, Krystal Ortiz

ACQ ADMINISTRATOR

Wendy Corry

WELCOME/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Introductions will be made by printing name and agency in the chat box. A reminder everyone is invited to participate during Public Comment periods but otherwise the discussions are for ACQ members. ACQ BOD members, please list this on ZOOM with your name (not just in the chat) so the ACQ co-chairs can easily identify BOD members.
- A reminder that the ACQ is a safe, respectful place for all. Please direct all comments to the issues, not about specific individuals.
- The ACQ is seeking a Direct Care Professional to serve on the ACQ. Please spread the word.

- If you have any concerns you want to bring to the attention of the ACQ Exec. Comm. please contact any ACQ Exec. Comm. member (Daniel Ekman (daniel.ekman@ddc.nm.gov), Lisa Blue (tblue11@comcast.net), Tracy Perry (tracy@directtherapyservices.com), Marc Kolman (Marc.Kolman@doh.nm.gov) or Wendy Corry (wendy@corryconsulting.com)

MEET AND GREET IN BREAK-OUT ROOMS

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 2022

- Lisa Blue moved to approve the minutes with amendments. Crystal Garcia seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Public Comments are recorded through ZOOM and are available through the ACQ website at <https://www.nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/coco/acq/>.

DDSD’S DIRECTOR’S UPDATE: JASON CORNWELL

- Jason Cornwell presented Update on the Direct Support Staff/Caregiver Shortage bills, COVID – 19, the vaccine, the DD Rate Study updates, etc.
- The PowerPoint presentation as well as detailed information on COVID data is attached.

BOD MEMBERSHIP STATUS: WENDY CORRY

- The nominees approved at the December ACQ meeting have been submitted to the Governor’s Office. The Governor’s Office has reached out to all nominees and the paperwork is in process.
- An Executive Committee position is available, we will wait until new members are approved before choosing a new Executive Committee member.
- The next open BOD memberships will come up in June of 2023.

ACQ MEMBER ORIENTATION

- The next annual orientation will be Thursday, April 13 from 1:30 -3:00, following the ACQ meeting.

PRESENTATION ON THE DRAFT ACQ BY-LAWS REVISIONS: DANIEL EKMAN

- Discussion on the draft by-law revisions that were distributed to all Interested Parties prior to the ACQ meeting.
- We are waiting on a response from the Attorney General’s Office on the applicability of the Open Meetings Act to the ACQ.
- Further discussion and a vote on the by-laws were tabled to the next meeting so a clean copy of the draft by-laws which incorporate the changes from the Feb. ACQ meeting can be distributed.
- Motion made by Daniel Ekman to table the vote until the April ACQ meeting, Lisa Blue seconded and approved unanimously.

MI VIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MVAC) UPDATE-STEVE BASS/MVAC REP AND ELAINE HILL/DDSD

- The MVAC recently filled all their member positions! However, one member just resigned so there is now one open position.
- The new MVAC chairperson has been working closely with state staff to help MVAC function more smoothly.
- MVAC requests improved coordination with the Managed Care Organizations (MCO's) regarding the initial appointment of care coordination.
- Discussion on the possibility of providing Employee of Record (EOR) through an EOR agency.
- MVAC is creating workgroups on 1) the Vineland Assessment 2) supporting Mi Via employment with funding other than the Waiver funding and 3) involvement in developing an effective grievance process.
- MVAC requested assistance to obtain a ZOOM account since some of their meetings are now held in the evenings to accommodate members schedules.
- The report from DDS is attached.

STATUS OF THE ACQ RATE STUDY/PROVIDER CAPACITY COMM.

- This was covered in the DDS Director's report.

PALCO/ELECTRONIC VISIT VERIFICATION (EVV) update- MELANIE BUENVIAJE/HSD

- HSD is continuing with the current timeline for PALCO implementation.
- HSD is recruiting volunteers for the EVV pilot. Please contact Deanna DeHerrera at deanna.DeHerrera@hsd.nm.gov if you are interested.
- Participants and all employees will be in the PALCO connect system and use sheet for budget request system.
- Money network cards for Mi Via participants is a supplement to how self-directed participants can pay for goods or services. ACQ members expressed appreciation for this new process which offers increased flexibility.
- Money network cards is an alternative that might be put into place as early as March/April.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

- Discussion was held regarding the Vineland Assessment.
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) requires all states to utilize a standardized assessment tool for all waivers.
- DDS stated that NO individual budgets will be impacted by the implementation of the Vineland Assessment.

POSITIVE STORIES:

- Tony's Allstars (a self-advocacy group in Roswell who Crystal Garcia represents on the ACQ), is planning their annual self-advocacy conference.
- A mother reported that her daughter "has really moved through amazing goal posts and as a result of utilizing all of the assessment data through Mi Via, she was able to meet with Princess Eugenia in London to assist in advocating against human trafficking!"
- "Yesterday was a historic day for services for people with I/DD because of all of the parties working together". Providers, advocates, family members, etc. are united in pushing for legislation to improve direct support professional/caregivers' status.
- Please check out the January Mi Via newsletter – "I am always amazed by the talent of our participants. The February newsletter on its way and we are working to get a Spanish translation with every publication."
<https://www.nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/pgsv/sdw/publications/>

ADJOURNMENT:

- Meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm

NEXT MEETING: April 13, 2023