
The Michigan Autism Council



AUTISM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Lewis Cass Building

Friday, December 18, 2015

9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT	ORGANIZATION, REPRESENTATION
Colleen Allen	Autism Alliance of Michigan, Non-profit Organization serving those with ASD
Mary Chaliman	Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Jeff DeLay	Detroit-Wayne Mental Health Authority, Pre-Paid Inpatient Health Plans
Wayne Fuqua	Western Michigan University, State Universities
Diane Heinzelman, Chairperson	Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate School District, Intermediate School Districts and Local Schools
Anthony Ianni	Michigan Department of Civil Rights, ASD Community (Self- advocate)
Cathy Kirby	Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services
Stacie Rulison, Secretary (by phone)	ASD Community (Parent)
Jane Turner	Michigan State University, Medical Centers/ Health Care Providers
Joanne Winkelman	Michigan Department of Education
Amy Matthews, Vice-Chairperson	Grand Valley State University, State-funded Initiatives
George Mellos	Hawthorn Center, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
MDHHS STAFF PRESENT	MDHHS ORGANIZATION
Hailey DuBreuil	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Section
Brie Elsasser	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Section
James Grant	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Section
Lisa Grost	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Section
Rachel Rick	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Section
Morgan VanDenBerg	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Section
GUESTS PRESENT	ORGANIZATION
Scott Barry	Centria Healthcare
Emily Bongard	Community Mental Health of Central Michigan
Nicole Dwyer	Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority
Barb Groom	Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties
Rick Lowenstein	Centria Healthcare
Pat Miller	Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties
Barb Mund	Community Mental Health of Central Michigan
Denise Wiswell	Community Mental Health of Central Michigan

CALL TO ORDER

The Autism Council meeting was called to order by Chair Diane Heinzelman at 9:05 A.M. A quorum was present for the meeting.

ROLL CALL

A roll call of Council members, MDHHS staff, and guests was completed.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Chair Diane Heinzelman called for a **MOTION** to approve the October minutes. Mary Chaliman made a **MOTION** to approve the October minutes. Amy Matthews **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION** carried.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Lisa Grost reported progress on the BCBA licensure legislation. Senator Warren has yet to introduce the legislation; however, Karla Ruest, MDHHS legislative liaison, continues to coordinate with Senator Warren on the efforts.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Scott Barry, CEO of Centria Healthcare, shared information about Centria's current contracts with commercial insurers and Community Mental Health Agencies including the services provided and Centria's locations throughout the state of Michigan. Scott discussed concerns surrounding staffing and rates related to the Behavioral Health Treatment policy released for public comment on December 2, 2015.

Pat Miller of Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties shared concerns related to the Behavioral Health Treatment policy released for public comment on December 2, 2015. Pat discussed concerns with administering the ADOS every year due to test-retest reliability. She also suggested that MDHHS conduct a survey on characteristics of Applied Behavior Analysis providers.

MEDICAID BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TREATMENT/APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS POLICY UPDATE

Lisa Grost, Brie Elsasser, and Morgan VanDenBerg presented on the Behavioral Health Treatment (BHT) policy, including Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), effective January 1, 2016. The presentation can be accessed online at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/autism/BHT-ABA_Services_PP_Presentation_510150_7.pdf?20160112095030. In addition to discussing clarification of the policy, Council members discussed concerns surrounding diagnostic providers, supervision requirements and rates. The BHT/ABA policy will remain a standing agenda item for the next few Autism Council meetings as an opportunity for members to provide ongoing comments.

STANDING REPORTS

Chair Diane Heinzelman reported on dissemination of the Education-based Evaluation document developed by the Autism Council. Two trainings on the document will be provided to the Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education (MAASE) in 2016.

Amy Matthews reported on the START (Statewide Autism Resources and Training) Project highlighting the Regional Collaborative Networks (RCN) as partners throughout the state. There are 17 RCNs statewide that meet monthly with representative from START and meet twice per year as a whole. The annual START conference will be held on May 2, 2016 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing for their 15 year celebration.

Jeff DeLay reported community education on the BHT/ABA policy will begin in April in Wayne County. Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority hopes to add 50 children per month to the expanding services and indicates it will be a challenge for PIHPs serving a large number of children to resume or begin ABA services.

Cathy Kirby reported the Autism Coverage Fund was depleted in November 2015. More than \$2M in claims are pending after the funding ran out. If additional funds are allocated to the Autism Coverage Fund, the pending claims will be paid in the order they were received. Council members discussed the impact on self-insured companies that have adopted autism coverage moving forward.

Wayne Fuqua reported the Association for Behavior Analysis International is holding their 10th Annual Autism Conference on January 18-20, 2016 in New Orleans, LA. The Behavior Analysis Association of Michigan (BAAM) 2016 Convention will be held on February 18-19, 2016 at Eastern Michigan University. Wayne also discussed the collaboration between several universities in Michigan to apply for a competitive LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities) grant through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The request for proposals was released earlier in the month and the deadline for proposals is February 5, 2016. HRSA will fund 43 programs with \$500,000 per year for 5 years.

George Mellos reported on Hawthorn Center indicating at all times 1/3 – 1/2 of the children admitted are not neurotypical. The Children's Behavioral Action Team continues to monitor half of the non-neurotypical children at Hawthorn. Efforts are underway at Hawthorn to look at the national standards project to review different models of service to better treat this population.

Joanne Winkelman reported the Michigan Department of Education is looking at improving transition in schools to go beyond compliance and aim at results.

Jane Turner reported on the Early Childhood ASD/DD HRSA grant. They are training primary care practices on screening and referrals. The Michigan Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics has completed all trainings for 2015 under this grant.

Mary Chaliman reported the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services held their first annual safety conference on December 14, 2015. The conference was aimed toward children's protective services and foster care staff and 400-500 workers attended. Three presentations over the course of the day were focused on autism. Mary also reported the department is working toward a June 2016 roll out date for Care Connect 360 to become available to staff working in the field. Care Connect 360 allows staff to have access to information such as chronic conditions, claims, medications, encounter data, school based services, etc.

Colleen Allen reported the Autism Alliance of Michigan will hold their annual Gala on April 16, 2016 and community walk on July 30.

Lisa Grost reported the Autism Program has hired a new Data Analyst, James Grant. Lisa also provided a written update to attendees on Autism Program efforts that align with the Michigan ASD State Plan.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 2015 ASD State Plan Report:
Amy Matthews reported the 2015 ASD State Plan Report was finalized and submitted to the Governor's office and Director Lyon by Lisa Grost.
- MDHHS Autism Website Resources:
Hailey DuBreuil updated Council members on the recent changes to the MDHHS Autism Program website.
- Draft BCBA Licensure Talking Points Discussion:

Wayne Fuqua presented the talking points he developed for Legislators regarding legislation to license Board Certified Behavior Analysts. Wayne will collect suggestions from Council members and distribute by February 15, 2016.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Early Childhood Committee**
The Early Childhood Committee has been working separately in workgroups. Efforts have been surrounding how to get information to families and integration and participation within communities.
- **Child and Youth Committee**
The Child and Youth Committee met as a whole earlier in the month. The focus of the meeting was on coordination of efforts around the state and information dissemination. The committee is in the process of developing an action plan for future work.
- **Adult Committee**
The Adult Committee has been focusing on family engagement. They are looking to collaborate with additional individuals and agencies to explore public and private systems and how they impact families.
- **Insurance Committee & Priorities**
The Insurance Committee met earlier in the month as a whole committee. Over the course of the past year, the committee has been working through initiatives in smaller workgroups. Priorities moving forward include exploring AMA codes, transitions, BCBA licensure and reimbursement for direct care when challenging behaviors are present.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:02 P.M. The next Autism Council meeting will be on **February 26, 2016** in the **Lewis Cass 5th floor Large Conference Room**.

ACTION ITEMS

Activity/Outcome	Who	By When	Comments	Status
Review Autism Council documents posted on the MDHHS Autism website. Identify and make necessary updates to reflect the new BHT/ABA policy.	MDHHS Autism Program Staff	February 26, 2016	•	
Collect suggestions for the BCBA licensure talking points and send updated version to Autism Council members.	Wayne Fuqua	February 15, 2016	•	
Develop an ad hoc committee to clarify and differentiate provider qualifications and scope of practice across systems	Diane, Amy, Colleen	February 26, 2016	•	