



AUTISM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

LEWIS CASS BUILDING

FRIDAY February 28, 2014

9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT	ORGANIZATION
Colleen Allen, Chairperson	Autism Alliance of Michigan
Audra Parsons (representing Rhonda Fossitt)	Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services
Diane Heinzelman	Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate School District
Elizabeth Knisely	Michigan Department of Community Health
Richard Wayne Fuqua	Western Michigan University
Stacie Rulison, Secretary	Autism Alliance of Michigan
Jane Turner	Michigan State University
Anthony Ianni	Autism Alliance of Michigan
Scott Gilman	Network 180
COUNCIL MEMBERS EXCUSED	ORGANIZATION
Mary Chaliman	Michigan Department of Human Services
Amy Matthews, Vice-Chairperson	Grand Valley State University
Rhonda Fossitt	Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services
Joanne Winkelman	Michigan Department of Education
MDCH STAFF PRESENT	ORGANIZATION
Morgan Aue-VanDenBerg	MDCH, Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Administration
Lynda Zeller	MDCH, Deputy Director, Bureau of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration
Lori Irish	MDCH, Division of Services to Children and Families
Lisa Grost	MDCH, Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Administration
Sheri Falvay	MDCH, Division of Services to Children and Families
Yasmina Bouraoui	MDCH, Developmental Disabilities Council
Vendela Collins,	MDCH, Executive Director, Developmental Disabilities Council



GUESTS PRESENT	ORGANIZATION
None	

ROLL CALL

A Roll Call of the Council members, MDCH staff, and guests was completed.

CALL TO ORDER

The Autism Council meeting was called to order by Chair Colleen Allen at 9:08 a.m. A quorum was present for the meeting.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MINUTES

Chair Colleen Allen called for a **MOTION** to approve the agenda of the February with the addition of MDE/MAESE updates on rule changes, Stacie Rulison made a **MOTION** to approve the agenda with addition, and it was seconded by Jane Turner. The **MOTION** carried. Colleen Allen called for a **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the January meeting. Scott Gilman made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes and it was seconded by Diane Heinzelman and Jane Turner. The **MOTION** carried.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Summary – Lisa Grost and Wayne Fuqua

The Board Certification Behavior Analyst licensure legislation was heard by the Health Policy Committee on December 5, 2013. Wayne Fuqua met with BCBS regarding the added clause requiring that LARA maintain a registry of behavior technicians with proof of an annual criminal background check. He is pursuing a follow up meeting with Senator Warren’s office.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

STANDING REPORTS

Autism Alliance of Michigan – Colleen Allen

Colleen Allen reported they are currently working on their annual Gala. It will be held April 26th, 2014 at DTE headquarters. This gala is the largest Autism fundraiser in the state. She also announced preliminary planning for an adult micro-business with partners from the Judson Center and Wayne State University.

Autism Alliance of Michigan – Stacie Rulison

Stacie Rulison reported on the collaboration of the Autism Alliance of Michigan and Wayne County Airport Authority. They are going to be partnering and training Delta Airlines at Detroit Airport. There will be families welcomed March 22, 9 AM-12 PM to simulate the process of airport arrival to flight.



Michigan State University - Jane Turner

Jane Turner reported on a presentation at Helen DeVos Hospital. She discussed the role of the primary care physician, what to do, how to make referrals, and sharing the PIHP/CMH map as a sample resource.

Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate School District- Diane Heinzelman

Diane Heinzelman reported back to the Council about the Service Coordination Presentation with Bryan Davey held on February 6, 2014 in Lansing. The attendees were able to network, share ideas, challenges, and look for ways for education, health care, and service professionals collaborate on coordinating essential services to students with ASD. She indicated it was a first step and stressed the importance of the two groups coming together.

Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services – Audra Parsons

Audra Parsons reported the Autism Fund has received claims totaling \$1, 019,016.17. Bryan Davey is assisting with codes on the claims submitted are approved autism services for the Autism Fund. She reported many families and self-funded companies are struggling with getting needed information from BCBS/TPA to be reimbursed by the Autism Fund.

Western Michigan University- Wayne Fuqua

Wayne Fuqua shared information on the Insurance panel session of multiple perspectives at the Behavior Analyst Association of Michigan (BAAM) Conference in February 2014.

Michigan Department of Community Health – Elizabeth Knisely

Elizabeth Knisely reported the Autism Program will be focusing on PIHP compliance site reviews for Centers of Medicaid and Medicare (CMS) for the 1915 (i) state plan amendment that provides ABA services for eligible children. They are scheduling site visits for all PIHPs this year and staff will be away from the office a few days each month. MDCH staff are also focusing a lot of time on assisting the PIHPs/CMHPs in benefit implementation, increasing service provider capacity, and quality programming. She indicated that 560 children have been approved to receive ABA through the Medicaid and MICHild Autism Benefit. Elizabeth Knisely reviewed information about MDCH partnering with Sunfield Center to provide 4 ADOS-2 free booster sessions across the state along with presentations held at the MACMHB February Conference. Sessions included – ASD Update including Medicaid Program; Hope Network; Medicaid Lessons and Challenges – Krista Kennedy, BCBA; and Autism Safety Training by AAoM and MDCH.

Autism Alliance of Michigan-Anthony Ianni

Anthony Ianni reported to the Council the Relentless Tour started in October 2013 is going well, and his is booked the rest of the school year. Anthony Ianni shared with the Council a story in the media out of Goodrich, MI where an 11 year old boy with ASD was stuck in a chair and videotaped



by his teacher. He plans to bring his anti-bullying message to Goodrich along with Sgt. Scott Schelke to help the divided community.

Network 180 CMH- Scott Gilman

Scott Gilman reported that Community Mental Health Program agencies are going through significant changes this year. CMH/PIHP's are reforming from 18 to 10 PIHP entities. Scott Gilman reported the PIHPs are trying to make changes as seamless as possible and limit the impact on the consumers. Scott also explained the PIHP/CMH's are actively preparing for Healthy Michigan (Medicaid Expansion) which is expected to serve between 470,000 to 500,000 individuals.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Early Identification Early Intervention Subcommittee - Jane Turner

Jane Turner reported the Screening and Evaluation Action Team is developing flow diagrams to illustrate the entry points of autism services and tools for families to utilize when interacting with insurance carriers. Jane Turner indicated these tool kits and algorithms will help individuals understand "how to get from one to the other".

Adult Service Subcommittee - Stacie Rulison

Stacie Rulison report the Adult Service Transition Action team is focusing on high level living arrangements and secondary transition. The Action Team is looking at how to create work/internships in the community based on an individual's specialized skill sets along with transportation. Stacie Rulison reported to the Council that transportation is essential and they are looking into what is available, what training is required (driver's license/ID cards), etc. and what is being provided in schools for driver's education. The Action Team is also surveying universities to find out the current accommodations for students with ASD to learn the needs for students pursuing higher education.

Education Subcommittee – Diane Heinzelman

Diane Heinzelman reported the Educational Action Teams have divided up into two groups, evidence based practices and evaluation. Diane Heinzelman indicated they are looking into a third group focused on collaboration between ABA and education. She reported there is a "solid" group of 20 members and they are meeting monthly.

Insurance Ad Hoc Committee - Colleen Allen

Colleen Allen reported this Committee met in January and meets again April 8, 2014. The Committee covered AAEC access, limitations on ABA, self-funded companies, and the BAAM panel discussion that occurred in February.

Crisis Management Ad-Hoc Committee – Scott Gilman

Scott Gilman reported the Committee is meeting monthly and is moving forward with a structured process focusing on "current reality and future visions". The goal of the Committee is to have a



product or “communications plan” of what families should expect as a system response along with giving families the facts of what they are entitled to, given the multiple funding systems. The next meeting is March 19, 2014.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Employment First Forum Update – Elizabeth Knisely

Elizabeth Knisely reported the BHDDA met with DD Council Staff and discussed Employment First Policy language. The BHDDA and DD Council policy recommendations are very similar. A draft of MDCH BHDDA Employment First policy recommendations was discussed and no amendments were suggested by the Council. Colleen Allen called for a **MOTION** to support the policy outline of Employment First in Michigan and principles and mission are consistent with the recommendations in the Autism State Plan. Stacie Rulison made the **MOTION**. Jane Turner seconded. The **MOTION** carried.

BCBA Legislation Licensure

This item was covered under legislative update.

NEW BUSINESS

Mental Health Commission Report-Lynda Zeller

Lynda Zeller reported that the Mental Health Commission report outlines 59 recommendations that had 100% percent consensus from the Commission members. There is \$15 million in the proposed 2015 budget and the Commission will determine how the funding will be allocated toward the objectives. Lynda Zeller stated the Autism Council could make recommendations for the Commission on priorities aligning with the ASD state plan formally or informally through Lisa Grost. Lisa Grost shared with the Council the 2 recommendations in the report that align with the ASD State Plan recommendations. The Recommendations states:

1. Ensure that public school “educational services and supports” are a priority in the next phase of implementation of the Autism Spectrum Disorder State Plan by working with the leadership of the Autism Council, the Department of Community Health and the Department of Education. The goal of this partnership is to develop work plans (including objectives, activities, and deliverables) gather information, conduct needs assessments, trainings, and develop resources.
2. Adopt a statewide policy, either through legislation and/or executive order, on employment that honors the choices and goals of the individual and includes a variety of appropriate options to achieve those goals. It is also recommended that the State of Michigan be a leader in adopting these employment practices within state government.

OCALI Meeting-Colleen Allen, Stacie Rulison, and Jane Turner

Colleen Allen reported an overview of the history, various state structures, and topics discussed at the 2014 National Leadership Summit in February held as a pre-workshop of the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence (OCALI).



Autism Alliance of Michigan Navigation Center Proposal – Stacie Rulison

Stacie Rulison and Colleen Allen reviewed AAOM's Navigation Center Proposal with the Council and answered questions. Acknowledging a conflict of interest in their roles at AAOM Colleen Allen, Stacie Rulison, Anthony Ianni, and Amy Matthews (board member) abstained from voting on the AAoM Navigation Center Proposal. Scott Gilman called for a MOTION to support the general concept in the AAoM Navigation Center Proposal as being consistent with the recommendations in the ASD State Plan. Jane Turner seconded. There was not a quorum present to vote on this proposal in person and will be done electronically. Lisa Grost will facilitate the electronic vote.

Autism Council Subcommittee Process-Colleen Allen

The Autism Council decided to change the current process of applications and review for subcommittees. The new process will be an individual can apply at any time. The chairs of the committees will conduct an annual review of new members in June and analyze commitment of current members for the next year. The form on the website will be updated by MDCH Autism Program Staff. Applications submitted to MDCH will be entered onto a spreadsheet and forwarded to the Chairs as they are submitted to MDCH.

Autism Council Operations-Colleen Allen

The Autism Council decided to look into other groups standard practices of operation to develop an Autism Council Operations Manual that could be available on the website and would outline the process, including orientation for new members. Lisa Grost is looking into other Council guidelines and Lori Irish offered to look into two options. Lisa Grost reported they will target Fall 2014 for completion.

MARSE-Changes in rules for Special Education-Diane Heinzelman

Diane Heinzelman reported that the rules are reviewed on a regular basis and out for public comment. The Michigan Department of Education has a list of the proposed rule changes on their website at: http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6530_6598-321773--,00.html The website also includes videos explaining the proposed rule changes and electronic public comment cards that can be submitted. The public comment period will end on March 13, 2014 at 5 p.m. The Office of Special Education will be collecting public comment through three methods: online, public hearings, and written.

Public Hearings

- March 10, 2014; 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.; Detroit School of Arts; 123 Sheldon Street; Detroit, MI 48201.
- March 10, 2014; 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.; Lansing Community College West Campus; 5708 Cornerstone Drive; Lansing, MI 48917

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:23 p.m.



NEXT MEETING

Colleen Allen requested changing the April 25, 2014 Autism Council meeting to another day. Lisa Grost will facilitate this proposed change of a meeting date.