

Olmstead Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 3, 2017 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Bureau of Senior Services, Charleston Town Center Mall

Attending: Beth Morrison (for Elliott Birckhead), Marcus Canaday, Lesley Cottrell (phone) Ardella Cottrill, Jeannie Elkins, Joyce Floyd, Mark Fordyce, Laura Friend (phone), Nancy Fry, Amber Hinkle, Roy Herzbach, Regina Mayolo, Ann McDaniel, Luann Summers (for Pat Nisbet), Kim Nuckles, Suzanne Messenger, Rebecca Nicholas, Meredith Pride (phone), Carissa Shirley, Richard Stonestreet, Jenni Sutherland, Richard Ward, Jim Cremeans (for Steve Wiseman), and Vanessa VanGilder.

Chairperson Mark Fordyce chaired the meeting, which began at 10:02 a.m. Regina Mayolo read the mission statement.

Welcome and Introductions

Members were welcomed and introductions were made.

Approval of February 2, 2017 meeting minutes

Ann made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting and Ardella seconded it. The motion passed.

Public Forum

No one from the public was in attendance.

Membership Update

Melissa Southall has been contacted about a representative from People First and they reported that they have someone in mind but they have not gotten back with us about who that person is. Several applications have been sent out to fill the people with disabilities/family member seats but none have been returned yet. There are still three vacancies for people with disabilities or family members.

Take Me Home WV Update

Marcus reported that as of Tuesday (August 1) there have been 45 transitions this calendar year. There have been a few since Tuesday so the count may be 47 or 48 as of today. The target is 80 for this calendar year. Last year there were 78 transitions.

The Take Me Home pilot program was to end for transitions at the end of 2017 but it has been extended for 6 months due to delays in the state and federal budgets. There was enough

money left in the grant in services to extend the program for 6 months. Transitions will end at the end of June 2018 and people will continue to be supported for one year.

Work is continuing on transition services and the online case management system pilot for the Aged and Disabled Waiver. There will be 30-40 providers and case managers who will be testing the system. There will be a one year pilot and then the program will be evaluated. The Center for Medicaid and Medicare will do an informal review of the pilot.

The telehealth program is not moving along as quickly but there will be two upcoming webinars and there is 10 hours of technical assistance available to help develop the pilot.

Esther is working on a draft solicitation for the housing registry and Incident Management System is working on provider testing.

Transition and Diversion program

Vanessa updated the Council on issues with the transition and diversion program including projects not being finished in a timely manner, questions about people actually being at imminent risk and communication issues with case managers and social workers.

It was suggested that a time limit be put on projects that all projects must be completed within 90 days except for good cause. If projects are not completed within 90 days there must be written communication as to why. We also need to come up with language about a restriction of pocketing the rest of the money. There was also discussion of the need to monitor the projects and suggestions were made about how to do this considering the lack of funding for travel. Collaborations with other agencies was also suggested.

Following discussion, Vanessa was directed to contact people who are involved in similar programs such as Unmet Needs, Family Support and TBI, to find out what their guidelines are.

For those projects for this fiscal year that are not completed, letters will be sent out with a return date of September 1, advising them that if the projects are not completed in a timely manner, they may not get paid.

Other discussion included keeping imminent risk in mind, asking for a prescription, using a sliding scale and asking for denials from other programs.

It was also suggested to have a working group to look at policy changes and members of that group will be Joyce, Roy and Jan Derry, if she is available.

Revising the Olmstead Plan

At the May meeting it was suggested to have public forums concerning Olmstead around the state. The intent was to receive input to revise the current Olmstead Plan. Vanessa has been told that the Department of Justice is here working on the finding about children being out of state and that the forums are on hold at this time. The Council decided to write a letter asking why it is a problem for the forums to be held and to request that the Olmstead Council be allowed to go on with the forums.

Ann made a motion to write the letter and Nancy seconded it. Mark will write the letter to Kathy Lawson, the Inspector General, requesting that the Olmstead Council be allowed to go on with the forums, pending approval from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The motion was approved with Marcus Canaday and Suzanne Messenger abstaining.

Open Discussion/Announcements

Ann announced that Disability Rights of West Virginia is doing guardianship trainings. Shawna White is the contact person. Nancy Fry added that she is also a trainer and can be contacted.

The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 2, 2017 at 10 a.m. at the Bureau of Senior Services at the Town Center Mall.