

## **Olmstead Council Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, November 1, 2018 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Bureau of Senior Services, Charleston Town Center Mall

Attending: Elliott Birckhead, Angela Breeden, Marcus Canaday, Renee Chapman, Lesley Cottrell (phone), Ardella Cottrill, Jeannie Elkins, Joyce Floyd, Mark Fordyce, Nancy Fry, Susan Given, Amber Hinkle, Suzanne Messenger, Rebecca Nicholas (phone), Teresa McDonough (for Pat Nisbet), Kim Nuckles, Meredith Pride (phone), Jenni Sutherland, Richard Ward, Jim Womeldorff (phone), Vanessa VanGilder, Christin Dougherty, Marilyn Dougherty, Christina Mullins, Lynsay Frye and Danita Frye.

Chairperson Mark Fordyce chaired the meeting, which began at 10 a.m. Jeannie Elkins read the mission and vision statements.

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Members were welcomed and introductions were made.

### **Approval of August 2, 2018 meeting minutes**

Nancy notes that the date of the next meeting should have been November 1 rather than November 6. Ardella made a motion to approve the minutes with Nancy's correction and Joyce seconded it. The minutes were approved.

### **Public Forum**

No one from the public attended but Mark announced that he had a few copies of the book "The Un-Prescription for Autism: A Natural Approach for a Calmer, Happier, and More Focused Child" by Dr. Janet Lintala for anything who wanted them. He said that the book is available for free from her nonprofit if anyone else wants one.

### **Take Me Home WV Update**

Marcus Canaday gave an update on take Me Home WV. So far this calendar year there have been 50 transitions for a total of close to 400 since the inception of the program.

Approximately 200 people have successfully completed 360 days in the community. The goal for 2018 is 80 people. Marcus explained about the process for moving the demonstration program into the Aged and Disabled and Traumatic Brain Injury waivers. The policy manuals should be out for public comment soon. There will be a transition manager and 4 full time navigators and participants will have up to \$4,000 to assist them with transitions.

Marcus also gave an update on the sustainability plans. He explained about working with the WVU School of Public Health on the telemedicine pilot project which will be a 6-month

project. The plan is to do a pilot program for one year for 20-30 people transitioning out of nursing homes through the waiver. There will be an evaluation of the program after a year.

The online case management system is in its final stages of design and development. It should be launched in the middle of January and will run for one year. There will be 200-250 members working with providers and it will be evaluated at the end of one year.

Work has started again on the No Wrong Door initiative led by Lesley Cottrell at the Center for Excellence in Disabilities. Stakeholders have looked at the plan, which was written in 2015 and have broken into workgroups and have suggested specific actions and timelines. A report will be sent to the stakeholders and then decisions will be made about the next steps.

Take Me Home has also supported the Olmstead forums that were recently completed.

The staff of Take Me Home WV will continue to support people on the program ending in 2020 and will also support the waiver staff. The Advisory Council will meet on December 19.

## **Presentation**

Christina Mullins, the new commission of the Bureau for Behavioral Health, attended the meeting and talked about her new role. She gave some information about her background in the Office of Child and Maternal Health, Children with Special Health Care Needs, Tobacco prevention and her work in clinical psychology.

She explained the section that works with health facilities has been spun off and it its own office now – the Office of Health Facilities.

Christina is not working to narrow their focus and identify priorities. They have been focused on the substance use epidemic and recently got a \$28 million grant for two years. She spoke about the state opioid response grant which is focused on MAT (Medication Assisted Treatment). She also reported that there will be regional meetings around the state beginning next Monday for this grant.

She also spoke about mobile crisis unit programs, the Serious Emotional Disturbance waiver for children and children's mental health programs. She said she would like to focus on people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and stressed the importance of evidence-based initiatives and using data to demonstrate success.

She answered questions from Council members on various subjects including expanding school based mental health services, quick response teams, people in long term care who need mental health services and the lack of therapists and psychiatrists, especially for children. Other discussion was on ways to draw medical professionals to WV to work,

sending children out of state for services and babies being born with neonatal abstinence syndrome or substance exposed. Other topics were the new family first legislation and education and therapy for parents as well as children.

Christina provided her contact information for the group. Her email is Christina.R.Mullins@wv.gov. She is located at 350 Capitol Street, Room 350, Charleston, WV 25301 and her phone number is 304 356-4771.

### **Membership Update**

Ardella gave a membership report. Christen Dougherty is attending as the People First representative. We also have an application from Lynsey Frye from Paden City. Lynsey is a member of the WV Developmental Disabilities Council. Ardella make a motion to accept Lynsey as a member of the Council and Jeannie seconded it. The motion passed.

Two Council members, Manual Campos and Chrissy Cantley have not attended any meetings this year. Mark has contacted them twice with no response. Mark will send them letters that they are being removed from the Council and thanking them for their service and advising them that they are welcome to re-apply in the future if they are able to attend the meetings. We still have an opening for a housing person.

### **Legislative Priorities**

The 2018 Legislative Priorities were sent out to Council members ahead of time for review. There were no changed other than the date to be changed to 2019.

### **Transition and Diversion program**

Vanessa reported that in FY2018 the Transition and Diversion program serviced 162 people with 5 of those being transitions. There was \$202,590.94. There were 84 applications denied. For FY2019 there will be \$192,950 for the Transition and Diversion program.

Teresa shared a new resource called an uplift device that helps a person gets up from a seated position – similar to a lift chair. The cost is \$143 to \$343 and the website is [www.up-lift.com](http://www.up-lift.com).

Vanessa said that she currently has 42 applications totaling \$57,215.92, These include 25 lift chairs and 11 home modifications.

### **Revising the Olmstead Plan**

Julie Pratt, the facilitator for the Olmstead Forums came to the meeting to speak about the 16 events that took place in the previous 2 months. Julie worked with Leslie Stone to complete standalone forums, presentations at conferences and meetings, and focus groups.

Julie gave some statistics about the events and demographic from people who attended and filled out the survey. Those participating were asked questions about their ideal community,

what is working well and what things need to be improved. The items that were heard most were the shortage of capable, reliable personal assistance and staff, affordable accessible housing, waiting lists for housing services, lack of funding to help people with disabilities and those with low incomes and transportation. She asked Council members to be thinking what we could take on across disability groups. She will send out a survey soon to share with others with questions including an open-ended question at the end. All the work will be wrapped up by the end of the year.

Julie suggested starting with an overview of what we have learned and look at the plan to see what our priorities should be over the next year to three years. Vanessa said that she does have some funding in her budget that can be used for a facilitator.

Nancy made a motion to hire Julie to come back for a day to facilitate a session and Joyce seconded it. It was decided to use our next meeting date – February 7, 2018 – as the day to do this.

The only thing on the agenda for that meeting is election of officers and Mark requested that anyone interested in being an officer to think about it and let Vanessa know.

### **Open Discussion/Announcements**

Ardella announced that the WV Behavioral Health Planning Council has openings for families of children with serious emotional disturbance. They meet four times a year and there is reimbursement for families who travel.

Amber asked about the letter that was to be sent to the Bureau for Medical Services and others following the last meeting. Mark reported that the letter was sent to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Bureau for Medical Services and to the Governor but there was no response. Amber asked that the letter be sent out to all Council members.

Meeting dates were selected for 2019: February 7, May 2, August 1, and November 7

The meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 7, 2019.