

## **Olmstead Meeting Minutes**

### **August 1, 2019**

#### **Olmstead Mission Statement**

The mission of the Council is to develop and monitor the implementation of a plan to promote equal opportunities for people with disabilities to live, learn, work and participate in the most integrated setting in the community of their choice through West Virginia's compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

#### **Olmstead Vision Statement**

The vision of the Council is for all West Virginians with disabilities to live, learn, work and participate in the most integrated setting in the community of their choice.

#### **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

Mark Fordyce, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

#### **Attendance:**

Carissa Davis, Mark Fordyce, Joyce Floyd, Suzanne Messenger, Amber Hinkle, Teresa McDonough, Marcus Canaday, Ann McDaniel, Jeannie Elkins, Nancy Fry, Elliott Birkhead, Stephanie Thorn, Renee Chapman, Roy Herzbach, Steve Wiseman, Ardella Cottrill (phone), Lynsay Frye (phone), Jenni Sutherland (phone), Jim Womeldorff (phone), and Mark Drennan (phone)

#### **READING OF MISSION STATEMENT**

Stephanie Thorn read the mission Statement.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ann McDaniel made a motion to approve May 2019 minutes and Amber Hinkle seconded it with corrections to attendance. Motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC FORUM**

Mark mentioned the Fair Shake Network membership drive.

#### **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE-**

Carissa sent out the membership list by email prior to the meeting. Nancy requested an application to send to someone in the housing field. Ardella will send the membership committee list to Mark and Carissa. Steve mentioned clarifying member terms and Carissa will research that.

#### **TAKE ME HOME WV UPDATE**

Marcus Canaday gave us an update.

Demonstration Transition Program

- The 2019 calendar budget was approved at the end of June.
- MFP was extended for three months in January. CMS approved keeping in place the transition program changes that were effective January 1<sup>st</sup>.

- Re-starting of the demonstration program is retroactive to January 1<sup>st</sup>. Staff are in the process of obtaining informed consent to participate in the demonstration program from participants and collecting data.
- The same referral and qualifications process are in place.
- Legislation on reauthorizing MFP for five years is moving. If this legislation becomes law, participants will only have to be in an institution for 60 days instead of 90 days.

#### Sustainability Initiatives

- Telehealth Pilot
  - Funding was approved for the design and implementation of the telehealth program.
  - 30 people will be targeted for six months.
- Online Case Management Pilot
  - The pilot is in process and will be continuing for several more months.
- No Wrong Door
  - There is money in the budget to contract with WVU CED to provide program management and support staff to work with the steering committee to begin implementing little to no cost activities. An agreement is in process.

\*There are other initiatives regarding the direct care workforce, quality, and housing.

Roy asked about direct care workforce training and Marcus stated they are planning an information campaign, a job preview video, and information on supervision within the direct care agencies. Ann asked if strategies had been considered about wages. Marcus stated that strategies had not been considered but could be taken into consideration.

Lynsay stated that she lost her job because of the I/DD Waiver. Steve clarified that she lost her job because she worked for the service agency that supports her and the policy changed so billing for that support service is no longer allowed and working for the agency no longer meets the requirements for HCBS as competitive employment.

Nancy read an email from a co-worker regarding REM discontinuing services in the Eastern Panhandle.

#### **OLMSTEAD PLAN REVISION UPDATE**

Ann stated that comments need to be sent to the team and another meeting needs to be scheduled. The team will look at goal four regarding strengthening in-home services and wages of the direct service workforce. Mark requested comments be sent by Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### **TRANSITION AND DIVERSION PROGRAM**

- 205 Applications, 133 were approved, 72 were denied because they did not meet the imminent risk requirement, and 1 transition
- \$175,037 has been spent with an approximate balance of \$15,000

#### **New Business**

Travel Stipends – Mark explained that the travel stipends are overbudget. Clarification is needed to determine if those funds will come out of transition and diversion funds. Steve made a motion to

reimburse travel costs through whatever means necessary and Roy seconded the motion. Ardella requested that Carissa ask how this has been handled in the past. Motion carried.

Transition and Diversion - Suzanne suggested reviewing and refining the process of accessing transition and diversion funds. She presented a flyer from the WVATS newsletter with alternative items to lift chairs. Suzanne and Ardella discussed reviewing other states' applications and definition of imminent risk. Suzanne made a motion to review and refine the transition and diversion application process and Teresa seconded the motion. Motion carried. Marcus, Teresa, Roy, Suzanne, Mark, and Jeannie will be on the committee to review the process.

Roy and Suzanne stated that some outreach to facility staff may be needed so that they know transition funds may be available through Olmstead. Roy requested having a discussion during the next meeting.

Mark adjourned the meeting at 12:21 PM.

**Save the Date:** Remaining meeting date **November 7, 2019.**