

## **Olmstead Meeting Minutes**

### **May 7, 2020**

#### **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**

Steve Wiseman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

#### **Attendance:**

Carissa Davis, Steve Wiseman, Mark Fordyce, Ardella Cottrill, Joyce Floyd, Esther Hupp, Amber Hinkle, Liz Ford, Lynsay Frye, Rich Ward, Marcus Canaday, Susan Given, Ann McDaniel, Sally Blackburn, Angie Breeden, Marcus Canaday, Elliott Birkhead, Suzanne Messenger, Nancy Fry, Paul Smith, Willis McCollam, and Teresa McDonough

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

Mark read the mission Statement.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mark made a motion to approve February 2020 minutes and Ann seconded the motion and the motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC FORUM**

None

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

Marcus gave an update. Marcus sent a written report prior to the meeting that was sent to Council Members. Referrals, intakes, participants in the pipeline, and transitions have decreased from the January through April 2018 timeframe for the January through April 2020 timeframe (2019 data was not used due to the program being in transition).

Referrals, intakes, and transitions are still being processed, although the process has slowed some. Video and photographs are being used to conduct home assessments. Information has been shared with nursing facilities stressing that the program is still available.

The 2020 budget was approved, and funds are available to support the Incident Management System and an Outreach Coordinator Position. There is a new demonstration service in

addition to waiver community transition services. Participants can access \$2,500 for home accessibility adaptations.

The Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) has approved three additional services throughout the emergency declaration for the pandemic. The services provide equipment for telehealth/telemedicine, Internet service, and stocking participants' food pantries. iPads provided for telehealth can be used to address social isolation.

#### Sustainability Initiatives

- Telehealth Pilot
  - There are currently five participants. Funds have been requested from CMS to expand the deadline to participate and that has been approved.
- No Wrong Door
  - Contract is finalized and the Program Manager Position has been posted.

Sally asked if the telehealth equipment will come out of the original budget or will there be new funds. Marcus stated he believed they could be absorbed under to current budget due to the decreased transitions. Marcus said that CMS has given flexibility for the Program during pandemic and Take Me Home is being flexible when possible on a case-by-case basis. Steve asked if the equipment would need to be returned and Internet service will end. Marcus said that the equipment will not be returned, but Internet service will end once the emergency declaration ends.

#### **OTHER OLMSTEAD RELATED UPDATES FROM MEMBERS**

Elliott stated that Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMSHA) has not delayed funding opportunities. Reapplication for SOR (State Opioid Response) funding is in process and due May 19<sup>th</sup>. This time the funding includes both opioid and stimulant abuse and is for two years. The formula has been adjusted to reflect opioid deaths in a state. West Virginia is equivalent to a state the size of Michigan.

Elliott also mentioned that a Legislative Rule is out for public comment regarding Recovery Residences. This establishes criteria for certification for Recovery Residences. National Alliance of Recovery Residence (NARR) standards are being used. This is a voluntary certification process, so not every Recovery Residence has to be recognized by NARR, but they will need to be recognized to receive funding and referrals.

Ann stated that the State Plan for Independent Living is out for public comment. Comments need to be submitted by the end of the day.

#### **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

Members are still needed. The Membership Committee recommended Cara Price for membership. Ardella made a motion to accept Cara's application on behalf of the Membership Committee – Mark seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Steve stated that there are vacancies on the Executive Committee. Two people will be elected at the next Council meeting. Names can be sent to Ardella or Carissa.

### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Steve reviewed the update that was sent to Council Members prior to the meeting. Ann McDaniel and Christy Black provided the updates used to compile the update sent to Council Members. Ann mentioned the budget bill and that funding was included to clear the Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Waiver (I/DD) Waiver waitlist and that programs didn't get cut. There are concerns about budget cuts related to the pandemic. Angie asked about individuals living in Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IIDs) and clearing the waitlist, are people in those facilities considered waitlisted and will they be moved out. Steve said there had to be an application and they are not automatically on the waitlist. Susan has had conversations with individuals living in ICF/IIDS who got waiver slots and they don't want to move, and she's worried they are giving up slots without really knowing what they need. She also mentioned encouraging BMS to make sure all ICF residents have waiver applications. DHHR guardians also need to be aware of what waiver means. Steve said we need to address the roadblocks. Senate Bill 575 is about the development of new ICF facilities for people transitioning kids back from out-of-state and for people in some of the state facilities and they were automatically put on the waitlist. A meeting of the advisory committee was cancelled and has not been rescheduled.

### **TRANSITION AND DIVERSION PROGRAM**

- Startup budget was \$192,950.00 - \$96,179.03 spent
- 59 Approved – 4 Transitions
- 21 Denied
- 21 applications to be reviewed

A revision to the application was discussed and the revised application was sent to Council Members prior to the meeting.

### **Old Business**

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

The update was submitted to DHHR, they made revisions and members of the Olmstead Council provided feedback. The update is now with DHHR General Counsel to submit to the Governor's Office. Carissa will follow up

#### **Annual Workplan**

Carissa drafted a Workplan and sent it to Council Members. The Executive Committee will work on the plan.

### **New Business**

#### **Pandemic Information**

Ann mentioned the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) partners call that takes place every Monday at 2:00 p.m. The information is focused on people with disabilities.

Steve mentioned the Centers for Independent Living (CILs) and Aging and Disability Resource Networks (ADRN) have new resources available. Sally said they are still waiting to hear about the No Wrong Door grant proposal. Willis said the CILs have received funds through the CARES Act to expend through 2021. Ann stated that the funds were backdated to January 20<sup>th</sup>.

Steve asked about Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Ann said the CILs and West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation Services have ordered PPE, but it will not arrive for several weeks. Willis stated the Northern West Virginia Center for Independent Living had some emergency kits available for consumers. Steve said that WVATS has amped up sanitization of equipment. He asked Amber about providers and PPE. Amber said that some providers have not been able to get PPE and have advised clients to go live with family due to lack of PPE and/or staff. Amber's agency was able to get PPE, but the price has increased. There have been some issues with staff entering homes. Angie asked about getting gloves. Mark said to ask the county health department. Mark's agency has done well with staffing and PPE, but he anticipates issues in the future. Angie said she hasn't had many concerns about PPE, but there are concerns about people becoming isolated and finances. Amber asked Ann about FEMA prioritizing home and community-based services getting PPE. Susan said that a FEMA representative stated that they were not involved with PPE. Ann, Steve, and Suzanne discussed PPE training. Suzanne stated that Ombudsman are not currently entering facilities and have not attempted to get PPE. Susan mentioned OSHA training regarding opening offices.

### **Announcements**

Nancy – Legal Aid is putting together trainings on client rights and looking at mental health psychiatric advanced directives.

Steve – Social Role Valorization trainings will take place online. The Mountain State Conference on Disabilities will take place in September. The People First Conference and summer day program will be done virtually. The Civil Rights Summit will be rescheduled.

Ann – the Youth Leadership Forum (open to 16 – 21-year-olds) will be held in June 2021. WVSU is working on a program for students with developmental disabilities. Steve said WVU also has a program and the Autism Training Center has on campus workshops and that is becoming a virtual experience.

Nancy made a motion to adjourn. Steve adjourned the meeting without objection at 11:55 AM.

**Save the Date:** Next meeting date **August 6, 2020.**