


Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
Division of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
Meeting Minutes

	Meeting	IDD Advisory Council (DDAC) Meeting
	Date	Wednesday, April 24, 2024
	Time	10:00 am – 11:50 am
	Location	WebEx
	Call-in Number	+1-415-655-0002, access code 2330 934 4024

Chair Bruce Lindemann called the meeting to order. Council members Riad Akhras, Nanditha Isaac, Julie Kable, Heidi Moore, Caroline Chandler, Shanekia Graham, Gina DiPolito, June DiPolito, Twana King, Shane Wellman, Gina DiPolito, June DiPolito, Ryan Whitmire, Pauline Shaw and Andrea Ford were present. A quorum was established.

Council members Heather Daily, Mira Stallings, and Twana King were absent.

Staff members Ron Wakefield, Lori Campbell, Allen Morgan, Jennifer Dunn, Ron Singleton, Christine Gudgin, Robert Bell and Tawanda Scales were in attendance.

Others present were Rena Harris, Clementine Rivers, Deborah Conway, Josette Akhras, and Sunshine Queen

Council approved the minutes of the January 24, 2024, meeting and the agenda for the current meeting.

DBHDD IDD Programmatic Updates

Ron Wakefield discussed that Commissioner Tanner is making adjustments for staffing patterns and has laid out expectations for responsibilities of staff as things move toward a regional process. He stated that DBHDD would be taking lessons learned from the past. The first step in reorganization was appointing Deputy Assistant Commissioners, Allen Morgan (Regions 1, 2, 3) and Jennifer Dunn (Region 4, 5, 6). The process for naming Regional Coordinators has begun with Region 3 being Jeff Thompson and Region 6 being Valonia Baldwin. Tawanda Scales was introduced as Admissions Manager.

Advised that the DCH Board meets next month for Rate Study approval.

Discussed waivers and anticipates 500 waivers for FY25. Stated that there were 100 new waivers funded and historically, 400 people leave waiver services annually due to attrition.

Response to the three pilot programs for DSP Certification has been favorable. The enrollment was increased to 900 people from the initial 600. Funding was allocated to pay \$6,200 instead of \$5,000.

Shared there will be new additional CRA options for those individuals with severe needs. The proposal has been sent to CMS for approval. This will be a “game changer” to meet the needs of most severe.

Work continues to be done on the IDD Planning List. DBHDD is utilizing a third party to guide this process. The voice of the DDAC will be important in the process.

Committed to following up on DBHDD & DCH not using the same set of fingerprints.

Tawanda Scales informed the group that as of March 31, 2024, a total of 574 Waivers had been awarded. operational changes have been made to the regional structure. He and Jennifer Dunn have been appointed as Deputy Commissioners to Commissioner Tanner. Allen will provide oversight to Regions 1, 2 and 3 with Jennifer Dunn providing oversight to Regions 4, 5, and 6.

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Ron Singleton provided an update on IDD Connects – Preventing ISP from submitting and DBHDD is working closely with Carelon; there have been unexpected delays. SMS – Annual Funding amount, Field Offices review requests, determinations if there is a reason to exceed and the extra unit request is verified by Central Office. Therapy Services – CMS requires submission of claims in a certain way. The most common issues are speech therapy and occupational therapy. Modifiers need to be used.

Heidi Moore is to send specific issues to Robert Bell and Ron Singleton for assistance with resolution.

Robert Bell provided an update regarding the criminal background checks and access to finger printing sites by individuals in Participant Directed Services. Expects the new system to be problematic as GBI changes providers in June.

Council Member Updates (Self-advocates, Family & Participant Directed, Providers)

Bruce Lindemann expressed appreciation for Jeff Thompsom and his dedication to DDAC and wished him well in his new role.

Pauline Shaw expressed interest in the House Bill that will impact Child Support for individuals with IDD.

Nanditha Isaac and *Gina DiPolito* encouraged everyone to participate in Uniting for Change and share links to virtual meetings.

New Business

Bruce Lindemann requested meeting dates for fiscal year 2025.

Public Comment

No public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50am.

FY 2025 Council Meetings

- July 24, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

X

Caroline S. Chandler
DDAC Secretary