

Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities
Quarterly Council Meeting
January 10-11, 2019
Atlanta, Georgia
MINUTES

Present: Christine Clark, Tom Connelly, Mark Crenshaw (CLD), Brian Dowd, Vivianna Fernandez, Parker Glick, Teresa Heard, Debbie Hibben, Nandi Issac, Charlie Miller (GVRA), Heidi Moore, Evan Nodvin, Mitzi Proffitt, Madeline Petrone, Renee Pruitt (GAO), Zo Stoneman.

I. Welcome

Mitzi Proffitt opened the meeting with announcements including

- April Council meeting is April 18-19 at the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta.
- She encouraged each Council member attend at least one of the advocacy days.
- Ms. Proffitt reported on GCDD's involvement in SuperFest that will take place on February 2 (the day before the Super Bowl) and will be held at the Georgia State University Football Practice Field. This is an opportunity for children with disabilities to participate in football and cheerleading skills development and a scrimmage.

II. Member Sharing

Members shared the following:

- Christine Clark is doing a Public Service Announcement with Georgians for a Healthy Future around contacting your legislator on Medicaid related issues.
- IHDD is preparing to celebrate its 50th year
- Vivianna Fernandez has a new job working for CDC on Univision
- CLD is preparing to celebrate its 10th year

III. Legislative Update

Dawn Alford and Hanna Rosenfeld presented on the GCDD legislative agenda and what has been happening under the Gold Dome. There has been discussion about organ transplants and expanding beyond organs to other treatments. There have been a number of study committees from last year that are reporting out. One recommended moving implementation and oversight of the NOW/COMP Waivers to the Department of Community Health. Council members had a lengthy discussion about this recommendation and the majority of Council members opposed moving the NOW/COMP Waivers to DCH.

IV. Employment First Council

Charlie Miller gave an update on the Employment First Council. He reported that the new Director of Vocational Rehabilitation is Christine Flemming and the new Director of WIOA implementation is Julia O'Connor. Mr. Miller reported that the Employment First Council met for the first time on December 5 and will be voting on a Vice-Chairperson. He hopes to report next meeting on the Developmental Disabilities Memorandum of Understanding with GVRA and the Fulton Council and VGVA Memorandum of Understanding.

V. Media Training

Devika Roa led Council members in a media training to better develop the GCDD message.

Friday January 1, 2019

I. Old Business

a. Consent Agenda Issues

The items on the consent agenda are:

- Minutes from the October meeting,
- Quarterly Program Report
- Quarterly Financial Report
- Funding for 2019 Projects

Nandi Issac made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda. Tom Connelly seconded the motion. The GCDD members unanimously approved the consent agenda.

Heidi Moore made a motion to adopt the Legislative Agenda with its changes. Nandi Issac seconded the motion. The GCDD members unanimously approved the legislative agenda for 2019.

II. Medicaid Update

Brian Dowd reported on the following updates to the Medicaid program:

- Home and Community Based Transition Plan. DCH has received provisional approval for their plan. They need to resurvey providers and got a 92% response rate. They will send out the revised plan for public comment and then that will be submitted to Centers for Medicaid and Medicare.
- Electronic Verification: DCH hopes to announce the vendor in February and start in March. There will be a one month pilot in metro and rural counties and then a soft launch. DCH has accepted public comment throughout implementation on the agency website.
- Kate Beckett Renewal: Level of care determination will be every 2 to 3 years but eligibility requirement is every year.

III. Federal Legislative Update

Alison Barkoff provided an update about what is happening on the national level and what is happening in Georgia that has a national perspective.

IV. Appreciative Inquiry

Kate Brady led a discussion about what Appreciative Inquiry is and how we can use it.

V. DBHDD Update

Ron Wakefield gave an update on what is happening at the Department for people with developmental disabilities. Here were the issues discussed:

- January 1 – implementation of blended mobile crisis
- State Plan for Autism crisis services. The Department has hired people and are building a team.
- DBHDD is working on response time by stems and using the STAR process.
- They will issue an RFP on in-home crisis and crisis homes
- Waiting List: There are two waiting list and its based on the most complex needs. There is a waiting list for the COMP Waiver and one for the NOW Waiver. There is a multi-year plan to address the waiting list but the Department had to figure out who was actually on the list in order to deal with real

numbers. They are streamlining the process so people can get services faster. One area they are working on is family support and will offer training so people can receive assistance. In addition, the Department has centralized decision making with planning list navigators in each field office.

- Employment: Employment Express is being rolled out as a way to fund employment. GVRA does the first stages, including job development and then send names to DBHDD to start the eligibility process. There is funding for over 400 people. In addition, DBHDD has contract with WISE to guide supported employment in Georgia.

VI. **Meeting Evaluation**

Members had a chance to comment on the meeting and make recommendations for future meetings.

VII. **Adjourn**