

DDC SYSTEMS ADVOCACY WORKGROUP

January 18, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Workgroup Members Present: Tarra Hollins (chair), Anthony Nash, Courtney Ward, Diana Zottman, Janice Tornow (OSPI), Katie Mirkovich (DSHS/DVR), Lisa Yanagida (DSHS/AL TSA), Maggie Craughan, Mark Westenhaver (HCA), Mike Raymond, Than Kirkpatrick

Guests: Betty Schwieterman (DRW), Peter Tassoni (Commerce),

Staff: Donna Patrick, Ed Holen, Stephanie McCormick (support)

The meeting was called to order by chair Tarra Hollins. Introductions were made and there were no adjustments to the agenda.

VOTE: Approve the September workgroup meeting minutes. Moved by Anthony and seconded by Mike. Passed unanimously.

Project Updates:

DD Ombuds Program

Betty Schwieterman told the Workgroup about the organizing work done so far to set up the new DD Ombuds Program in Washington State. They have staff, a website and toll free number so they can help people solve problems with systems. They are visiting people in various living situations and coordinating with other ombuds' programs.

Advocacy Partnership Project

Staff summarized the purpose and activities of the Council-funded Advocacy Partnership Project with the Arc of Washington State. The history of the project is the desire to build grass roots advocacy for developmental disabilities around the state. The Project Coordinator shared extensive materials developed by the project at the July workgroup meeting.

Big Picture Work Plan

Ed reviewed activities in the Objectives on Community of Practice (CoP).

The Front Door Project is a partnership between the Developmental Disabilities Administration and the DD Council/Community of Practice. It is designed to help individuals and families more easily access the DD system. There has been great success in Snohomish County over the last few years. This year we are expanding this effort to three sites in Eastern Washington: Ellensburg, Spokane and the Tri Cities. The local partners are the local Informing Families Coordinators in those areas. The efforts there will focus on bringing DDA Eligibility staff to meetings with families. The DD Eligibility staff will have on-line access to the DD database to see if a person is already a client or seems to begin the eligibility process. Instead of sending people to the eligibility door of DDA, it is bringing the eligibility door to the people. In addition, the local coordinators will arrange to bring representations of other services to the table where families are meetings. This can include schools, DDA case managers, DVR staff, etc.

Community Guides/Community Engagement Providers: The DDC is using CoP tools to train potential providers of community guides and community engagement providers. These two waiver services could greatly increase the ability of a person to live a more meaningful life. There are five workshops coming up: February 22 (Mt Vernon), March 8 (Spokane), March 15 (Vancouver), March 22 (Tri Cities) and March 29 (Olympia). All workshops are from 10am to 3pm. Linda West of the Program Managers of this effort. Please contact Linda if you are interested.

Ed also indicated that he would like to develop a group of bi-lingual community guides and community engagement providers. If anyone has ideas let him know.

The Workgroup asked staff to bring to the April meeting some examples of what Community Guides/Community Engagement providers do and how they help people.

Informing Families: One focus of Informing Families this year is out reach to cultural communities. We are contracting with three new local Informing Families coordinators to work with Spanish speaking families in Yakima Valley, Somali families in Seattle/King County and Vietnamese families in Seattle King County.

No Paid Services Case load: The Developmental Disabilities Administration has enrolled about 6,500 people on the new IFS Waiver, which is near capacity. DDA is also finding between 600 and 700 new people a month eligible for DDA. This means that some will go onto the No Paid Services caseload. Ed has begun discussions with DDA staff on the idea of creating a tool (contents to be developed) that could be given to people when they are referred to the No Paid Services Case Load. If members have ideas let Ed Holen. In addition, Ed is working with Life Span Respite staff from DSHS to explore developing some ideas for the No Paid Services Caseload to think about un-paid respite ideas.

Traumatic Brain Injury in the Department of Corrections

Dr. Mark Harniss from the UW told the group about their project to develop awareness and training on traumatic brain injury in correctional facilities.

Consumer IP Employer Guide

At 11:30, the workgroups combined to hear Nathan Loose talk about the IP Employer Guide he has developed.

Summary for Council Report

- Work Group Work Plan activities
- Project updates
- TBI presentation
- Employer Guide presentation

Next Meeting Agenda - April meeting

- Present some stories and examples of how community guides and engagement coordinators can work with people to increase engagement in their communities.
- Information and discussion about RHC's, whether in a workgroup or the full Council
- Definitions: the unserved, the waiting list, no paid services caseload, no wrong door
- A discussion of how to get good information out to people

With that, the meeting was adjourned.