

North Star Day Services Work Group Meeting Minutes

09 June 2021

Attendees

- Lance Morehouse –Sherwood Community Services (Lake Stevens), Parent, has lot of experience with systems
- Priya Jayadev – Clallam Mosaic
- Kyle Matheson – North Seattle, With People First for >40 years, now as King County Advisor
- Diana Stadden - Arc of WA, Parent of 3 kids, one with autism
- Mike Raymond – State President of People First
- Margaret-Lee Thompson – Parent Advocate
- Courtney Williams – Director, Community Employment Alliance
- Brian Nichols – DD Program Manager for Spokane County, been doing this work since 1981
- Jeremy Norden-Paul – Executive Director, DD Council
- John Lemus – Advocacy Coordinator, AtWork!
- Chris Brandt – AtWork!, Parent of son with schizophrenia
- Stacy Dym – Executive Director, Arc of WA, Sibling
- Scott Livengood – Alpha Supported Living Services
- Holly Woo – Deputy Division Director for King County DD & Early Childhood Supports Division, also representing the Association of County & Human Services
- Francie Peltier – Parent, Representative of parent group Parents for Better Lives in Pierce & Kitsap counties
- Tracie Hoppis – Parent, Lead Parent to Parent state network, Work @ Children’s Village in Yakima
- Courtney Thom – SAIL, Self-advocate, Special Olympics
- Krista Millhoffer – Program Administrator, People First of WA
- Lucas Dorman – Self-advocate
- Christine Magnuson – Case Manager, DDA, Mt Vernon office
- Linda Hyatt – Parent, Sibling (who was at Fircrest)
- Tracy Turner – People First Chapter President for Everett, Self-advocate, Parent



- Magdalena Ruiz – Advocacy & Civic Engagement Dept. @ Open Doors for Multicultural Families
- Hodan Mohamed – Parent, Washington Multicultural Services Link
- Corina Radford – DD Coordinator Okanagon County, Parent
- Kelley Nesbitt – Parent, Co-advocate with son, Kitsap County, Member of Families for Better Lives advocacy group
- Adrienne Stuart – Developmental Disability Council, Parent, Sibling

Joined after introductions

- Ky Ly
- Christine Magnuson
- Arzu Forough – Washington Autism Alliance

Word Cloud Exercise

- Examples of Day Services from large North Star group discussions
 - Respite
 - Job foundations/Pre-employment services
 - Transition
 - Community Inclusion
 - Community Engagement
 - Employment
 - Recreation
 - Summer Camp
 - Music Therapy
 - Adult Day Health
- Options
 - Services that are already available and could be enhanced
 - New services that other states have
 - Could be service that doesn't exist currently

Open Discussion

- Transportation is a concern for accessing day services – job, recreation or community living
 - Including access across county lines
- Recreation services that are inclusive is important



- Cost of services is a concern esp. if don't qualify for DD \$
- Some of the broad categories represent a lot of things when drill down
- What more do we need to know about priorities that are existing services, e.g. access issues
- Concern about funding cuts resulting from employment
 - Should not lose supports because want to try employment
- Major barrier – personal care provision during other services, financial disincentive for personal care agencies in that billing is only possible when providing direct support leading to extensive unbillable hours
- Issue: Cannot access Adult Day Health & Employment at same time
 - Day services through Long Term Care
 - Waiver through DDA
- Possible Option:
 - System where each person is given a set number of hours based on their needs & desires. The individual (+/- care giver) then decides how the hours would be used in the employment and day services realm. There would be a menu of options that support the individual's day and the individual decides what services are needed on any given day so long as it is within the set limit.
- Employment First state allows us to allow every individual to explore employment
- Things to do in community during non-employed times is a challenge
- Need to have healthy balance – a full life
 - Critical for state to understand that it is not either-or, employment or other parts of life experience
- Idea of who can work has expanded but should not mean that it's employment only, need a full life
 - Provide supports for a full meaningful life in the community
- Employment is funded at a higher rate and Community Inclusion is funded at a lower rate
- Other states allow people to choose, employment or community inclusion
- Priority: Receiving more than one service at a time
- Families and support people have been trained to believe that individual that they care for is unable to work –
 - They push the individual out of employment and into community activities instead



- People deserve to live, work and recreate in their community as they choose, when they
- Max Higbee Center is a good model and should be set up in other counties (<https://maxhigbeecenter.org/>)
- Practical obstacles with employment
 - Sometimes requires parent giving up their job to enable
- Community Inclusion is isolating – does not allow for her to go hang out with peer group or self-advocates
 - Assumes ability to fully integrate with individuals who do not have DD
 - Need to revisit this
- A lot of people are left out and are “invisible.” – vendor and employment provider will not take on these cases
- There is only one avenue for day services, if that does not work then have a problem
- want and how they want
- Congregate settings are a problem – this is often what happens when individuals get out of school
 - Individuals going from one segregated setting (special ed) to another segregated setting (day service center)
 - Does not end up being person centered
 - People First Clubs – advocate, educate and celebrate in their community with people of their choosing



...



Clallam Mosaic, 301 Lopez Ave, Port Angeles, WA 98362
360.681.8642 • info@clallammosaic.org • www.clallammosaic.org

