

September 26, 2013

NDICC
September 26 and 27, 2013
Comfort Inn
Bismarck, ND

Approved as corrected 12.5.13

Present:

Jill Staudinger
Carol Brakel
Tammy Gallup-Millner (Thursday)
Holly English (Thursday)
Jacki Harasym
Shannon Grave
Nancy Skorheim
Holly Major
Moe Schroeder
Cassie Keller
Stephen Olson
Jennifer Barry (Thursday)
David Zimmerman (Friday)
JoLyn Wasem (Friday)

Staff:

Amanda Carlson
Roxane Romanick

Guest:

Steven Smith
Cheryl Hess

Topic: Minutes Review

Quorum could not be established at this time, so review of the 3.4.13 and 6.6.13 minutes will be tabled at this time.

Topic: Member News

Jacki Harasym reported that the funding for the local school districts from the McKinley Vento grant was distributed. Jacki reviewed the policy that any student that lacks permanent adequate housing is considered homeless the entire school year. This would apply for students who attend district-operated preschools as well.

Tammy Gallup-Millner reported that it is the 50th Anniversary of the Federal Newborn Screening program. Here are 2 links regarding this: <http://www.babysfirsttest.org/> and <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/news/resources/spotlight/Pages/092413-sept-newborn-screening.aspx>. Tammy reported that the Department of Health has met their legislative requirement of notifying hospitals that they are mandated to screen for congenital heart defects

September 26, 2013

in newborns. Tammy noted that the Department will be starting to work on the Needs Assessment for their renewal of the MCH-B block grant. This occurs every 5 years. Cheryl Hess, DD Council Director was present and provided an update on their recent granting rounds. The funding will assist with Parent-to-parent connections, communication awareness on DD, parent and individual leadership through Partners in Policymaking, funding for Capability Chronicles, affordable housing, peer advocacy, and promotion of disability awareness. Cheryl reported that they had recently sponsored a town hall for self-advocates and they are in the process of compiling the report from this.

Topic: NDICC Training – Steven Smith, Associate Director, Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education

Steven Smith provided training on ICC function and involvement. The training powerpoint is available upon request and has been shared with members.

Topic: Family Story

Dilcia and Fernando Conteras met with the NDICC to share the story of their involvement with the ND Early Intervention system. They moved to ND just over a year ago from Florida, but have family roots in Honduras. Their youngest daughter was diagnosed prenatally with Down syndrome prior to them moving and they shared the difficulties they encountered around receiving her diagnosis and then accessing care upon and after her birth. They shared that they have been very appreciative of the services in ND through Region VII Human Service Center and KIDS Early Intervention program. They also talked about how difficult it was sharing the news with their family because of how people with Down syndrome and disabilities are viewed in their home country of Honduras. Many thanks to Dilcia and Fernando for taking time to share their family story.

Topic: Elections

There was not quorum, so the recommendation was to send out the election decision to the membership via an email and a link to a survey monkey. Roxane will confirm with those on the ballot that they want to serve.

Topic: 2014 Calendar

The following dates were set for 2014:

Thursday, 1.16.14 10:00 – 4:00

Thursday, 3.6.14 1:00 – 5:00

Thursday, 6.5.14 8:30 – 5:00

Set Aside 9.10, 9.11. and 9.12 of 2014 – Joint Chairs will discuss specific agenda

Thursday, 12.4.14 1:00 – 5:00

Topic: Standing NDICC Agenda Items

Part C Budget Report

All of the 2011 Part C federal discretionary funds were expended as of August 31, 2013. We started spending 2012 funding in July last year. \$637,436 was paid out for direct services from our the 2011 grant. \$97,754 has been paid out in one month from the 2012 budget for direct services. Minot State has contracts for EP's for Region 1, 2, 4, and 5. The Right Track contracts end next Monday. Discussion about how the Experienced Parent budgets are distributed.

September 26, 2013

Amanda reported that currently there are 48 children whose parents have not chosen to apply for Medicaid or whom are not eligible to participate in Medicaid. These children are distributed across the state. The question was raised by a council member on whether there should be discussion about instituting a family participation fee. There was no consensus that this should be pursued. Amanda noted that a family participation fee does not generate a lot of money for the state. The question was asked by a council member on whether or not we have a number of individuals who are not citizens accessing ND Early Intervention. The answer is no. A council member asked whether or not we are at risk this year of honoring any contract amounts if the direct service # grows. Amanda reported that the state office has been making some adjustments. They will consider this in making changes to the experienced parent contracts. Administrative time has been reduced and there will be some cuts made to MTAC's contract. There were no council recommendations at this time.

NDICC Membership

All of the reappointments have been approved by the governor's office. There is one remaining position – the Region IV parent position. The Executive Committee recommended that a region have 3 months to fill a parent position. It was decided that Region IV would have until 12.31.13 to provide recommendation until the position would be opened up statewide.

DD Slots Report

Amanda reported that the Autism Waiver is at capacity at 30. The new waiver year starts 11.1.13. The traditional ID/DD waiver (which includes Infant Development services) has 386 remaining slots to last until 3.31.14 before reserve slots are accessed.

Traditional 386 open to last us through March 31, last year we were at 515 remaining slots at this time last year. Amanda added that last year there were only 11 open slots at the end of the waiver year prior to going to into reserve. Last year, North Dakota served 1262 total children in ND Early Intervention.

General Supervision

Of the finding letters issued January, 2013, the state has both prongs of all findings closed at this time. There continue to be several programs with Regional Action Plans to work on systemic issues.

Topic: Affordable Health Care Act

David Zimmerman provided a presentation on the Affordable Health Care Act (ACA). The membership will receive a copy of David's powerpoint. David referenced the Kaiser Family Foundation as being an unbiased source of information on the ACA. The health insurance marketplace is scheduled to open October 1st of this year. There is some confusion because the Medicare Drug Enrollment is also October 1st. North Dakota received a \$600,000 grant to develop navigators to assist with enrollment in to the marketplace. North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities has a part of this funding. There are three primary insurance companies in North Dakota – Blue Cross, Blue Shield of ND; Sanford; and Medica. David noted that the individual mandate (meaning everyone needs to have health insurance) was upheld in the Supreme Court. Individuals that choose not to have coverage will be assessed a "tax" when they file a return. The marketplace plans needed to include the Essential Health Benefits (EHB). States had to choose a model plan and ND chose the Sanford Health Plan. David noted that

September 26, 2013

there is coverage for habilitation services, but how that will be defined is unknown until the plans are opened up on the market on 10.1.13. The enrollment period for the marketplace will be October 1 – March 1.

Topic: Old Business

Review of NDICC Recommendations/Decisions – There was a discussion about Infant Development payments. There continue to be problems with remittance. There was discussion that training on error codes would still be good. Amanda noted that the new MMIS system (Medicaid billing system) will solve some of these problems, but probably won't see any roll-out until spring of 2014. It was noted that while providers have been remittance rates, they are spending massive time on submitting the billing. *Decision to have the EI Services Subcommittee discuss this process and submit recommendations by 1.1.14.*

Recommendation that Roxane send out the NDICC recommendations list to the NDICC, have them review it, and then submit any agenda items.

Topic: Discussion of the High Risk Eligibility Criteria for ND Early Intervention.

The list of high risk diagnosis was sent out ahead to council members and reviewed at this meeting. Below is a list of suggestions that were made:

- Update with DSM – V
- Remove heading of Adjustment Disorder and replace with DSM – V Diagnosis
- Suggestion to remove the language “Condition has not been corrected” – there was discussion about the fact, that the 2 remaining statements are all that is needed.
- Change “Complications of Prematurity” to “Complications at Birth”
- Suggestion to refer to Part B NCD language
- Summary:
 - Make change in headings
 - Look at other state practices
 - Get recommendations from the 2 work groups that are made of up Developmental Disabilities Program Administrators who are working on EI issues and Eligibility.

Agenda topics for December meeting:

- Panel discussion on aspects of ACA that affect children in EI and their families
- AAP Clinical Report on Medical Home and Early Intervention

Next meeting will be held Thursday, December 5, 2013 from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. via the Human Service Center polycom system. Council members are welcome to travel in to Bismarck for the meeting.