

External Program Review Committee (EPRC) minutes

Date of meeting: August 6, 2020

DSD liaison: Stacie Enders, Linda Wolford and Ari Dionisopoulos

Type: Whole committee

Location: Remote only due to the COVID-19 health pandemic

Attendees: Kim Frost, Dan Baker, Jodi Greenstein, Laura Daire, Mary Piggott, Melanie Eidsmoe, Mike Boston, Stacy Danov, Liz Harri, Tatiana Kerestesh, Stephanie Schaefer

Not present: Danielle Bishop, Lindsay Nash, Susie Haben

Agenda items

Public comments

There were no public comments during this meeting.

Vote

Those in favor of approving the July 2020 meeting minutes:

- Melanie Eidsmoe: yes
- Dan Baker: yes
- Stacy Danov: yes
- Mary Piggott: abstain
- Liz Harri: yes
- Tatiana Kerestesh: yes
- Stephanie Schaefer: yes
- Jodi Greenstein: yes
- Kim Frost: yes
- Laura Daire: yes
- Mike Boston: yes

Updates to share

- The [employee recruitment and retention toolkit](#) has been published.
- The quality of life questionnaire the committee worked on in June is being reviewed by people receiving services and family members. After their review, edits will be made and then it will move on to publishing.
- The first DHS presentation on intervention services will be conducted at the end of this month. More information about future trainings will be provided on a later date.

- DHS is currently reviewing applications for innovation grants to support unique ideas for addressing the workforce shortage.
- DHS has started receiving data on the number of people entering nursing homes due to lack of in-home caregivers. This is one action step in the workforce shortage workplan. DHS is working on this plan with other agencies. Workplan details will be shared at the next EPRC whole committee meeting.
- Both subcommittees provided updates.

Discussion

- The committee discussed problems or questions people had related to Covid-19 and the [Positive Supports Rule, Minn. R. 9544](#).
 - Crisis services: Content for the waiver reimagine project was sent out for public comment, and it included the option to offer crisis 15 minute services remotely after January 1, 2021.
 - A free course will be offered on August 24 about balancing rights and safety during Covid-19.
- What is going well? What should we change? What have we learned?
 - Despite Covid-19, we are still functioning and getting our jobs done.
 - More people are starting to get used to changes related to Covid-19 and are finding ways to cope.